

UNICA 25TH ANNIVERSARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SEMINAR "THE ROLE & IMPACT OF UNIVERSITY NETWORKS IN THE 21ST CENTURY"

Université libre de Bruxelles and Vrije Universiteit Brussel

16 October 2015



BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS

Hosting Universities:

Sultan T. ABU-ORABI, Secretary General, Association of Arab Universities (AARU)

Prof. Sultan Abu-Orabi obtained his PhD in Organic Chemistry from the University of Michigan, USA. He currently serves as Secretary General of the Association of Arab Universities which has its headquarters in Amman, Jordan. He is former President of Yarmouk University, Jordan's second largest public university, Irbid National University, and Tafila Technical University. He is also President of the Jordanian Chemical Society and Secretary General of the Arab Union of Chemists. He has received several research fellowships and awards and published over fifty papers throughout his career spanning twenty-six years.



JOÃO CARAÇA, Director of the Science Department of the Gulbenkian Foundation

João Caraça obtained the D. Phil. in Nuclear Physics at the University of Oxford (1973) and the Agregação in Physics at the University of Lisbon (1974). He is Director of the Delegation in France of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation. He has been Director of the Science Department of the Foundation since 1988. He integrates the Steering Committee of the European Forum on Philanthropy and Research. As Full Professor of Science and Technology Policy at the Instituto Superior de Economia e Gestão of the Universidade de Lisboa he coordinated the M.Sc. Course on Economics and Management of Science, Technology and Innovation. He has been member of EFFLA (the European Forum of Forward-Looking Activities). He was member of the Governing Board of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology – EIT from 2008 to 2012. He was also President of the Advisory Board of the Portuguese Business Association for Innovation – COTEC (2003-2011). João Caraça was Science Adviser of the President of the Portuguese Republic from 1996 to 2006 and has published over 180 scientific papers. His main interests are in science and innovation policies and in prospective studies.



Jean CHAMBAZ, President of Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Member of the EUA Board

Jean Chambaz has served as president at University Pierre and Marie Curie (UPMC), Paris from March 2012. MD by training, he was awarded a doctorate in sciences at UPMC in 1988. After a post-doctoral fellowship at Boston University, he was hired as professor at UPMC in 1992. He is currently professor of cell biology at the Faculty of Medicine Pierre and Marie Curie. In



1999, he created a research unit in the field of intestinal metabolism, which merged in 2007 into the Research Center of Cordeliers.

Jean Chambaz was elected at a scientific committee (1990-1994) and at the scientific council of the French national health agency INSERM (1995-1998), and served as adviser at the biology and medicine department of the research direction at the French ministry in charge of research and higher education (1998, 2000-2022). He served as Vice-President for Research (2008-2011) and for Ways and Means (2011-2012) at UPMC. In the field of doctoral education, he created and headed successively a doctoral school in physiology (2001-2005) and the Institute of Doctoral Training at UPMC, which awards about 700 doctorates a year (2005-2008). He was the first chair of the Council for Doctoral Education (CDE) launched by the European University Association (2008-2011). Since 2015, he has been Member of the EUA Board.

Eric CORIJN, Professor in Social and Cultural Geography (Vrije Universiteit Brussel), Vice-Chair of the Brussels Studies Institute



Eric Corijn is Professor (Em.) in Social and Cultural Geography at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and author of over 200 publications. He obtained his PhD in Social Sciences from the University of Tilburg. He is former Coordinator of "4Cities", a UNICA-Euromaster in Urban Studies with the UNICA Member Universities from Brussels, Vienna, Copenhagen and Madrid. He taught at the Universities of Deusto (Bilbao-Spain), Tilburg (The Netherlands), Antwerp (Belgium), Vesalius College-Brussels (Belgium), at the Catedra Unesco de Politiques Culturals I Cooperacio at the University of Girona (Spain). He is currently Vice-Chair of the Brussels Studies Institute.

Jean-Pierre DE GREVE, Honorary Vice-Rector for International Policy, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, former Member of the UNICA Steering Committee



Jean-Pierre De Greve is Professor (Em.) in Astrophysics and former Vice-Rector for International Relations of Vrije Universiteit Brussel. He was Chair of the VUB Department of Physics (2006-2009) and faculty coordinator for Student Mobility (2006-2009). From 2000 to 2006, he assumed the function of Dean of Vesalius College. He served as Belgian member of the NATO Science Committee (1994-1999), Open University Validation Board UK (1999-2001), Scientific Council of the Royal Observatory of Belgium (1995-2003, Chairman since 1998), and the UNICA Steering Committee (2012-2013). He is also past

President of IAU Commission 47, and since 2008, Director of the International School for Young Astronomers.

Eva EGRON-POLAK, Secretary General, International Association of Universities (IAU)



Educated in the Czech Republic, Canada and France, Eva Egron-Polak studied French Literature, Political Science and International Political Economy. During nearly 20 years at the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) she has held several senior positions including Vice President, International, prior to becoming the Secretary General of IAU in 2002. At IAU, an independent, global association of universities and organisations of higher education institutions based at UNESCO in Paris, Eva Egron-Polak is involved in various policy issues in higher education – internationalization, equitable access to and success, higher education for sustainable development, issues of ethics, academic values and higher education’s responsibility to society. She is a member of the Magna Charta Observatory Council, and serves on many committees and expert advisory groups.

Christian JOURQUIN, Chief Executive Officer of Solvay 2006-2012, President of Brussels University Alliance



Christian Jourquin is a businessman and former Chief Executive Officer of Solvay, a global chemical and pharmaceutical company. He graduated in Commercial Engineering from the Solvay Business School of the Université Libre de Bruxelles (Brussels, Belgium) and completed the International Senior Management Program of the Harvard Business School (USA).

He started his professional career at Solvay in 1971 as an Attaché to the Finance Department of Solvay at the Italian Headquarters in Milan. Between 1980 and 1990, he managed Solvay Duphar in the Netherlands, which represented a large part of the international pharmaceutical activities of Solvay. Between 1990 and 1996, he worked for Solvay at the Iberian peninsula (Spain and Portugal), Solvay Interox in 1996 and the Processing Sector of the Group from 1997 to 2000. He was General Manager of the Chemicals Sector at Solvay SA until 30 April 2006 and from 2006 to 2012 he served as Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Executive Committee of Solvay SA. He is currently President of Administrative Board of the Brussels University Alliance.

Dorothy KELLY, Chair of Board, Coimbra Group, Vice-Rector of the University of Granada

Dorothy Kelly is Chair of the Executive Board of the Coimbra Group of Universities and Vice-Rector for International Relations and Development Cooperation at the University of Granada (Spain). She obtained her doctorate in Translation from the University of Granada (Spain) and has been Senior lecturer in Translation at the University of Granada since 1981. She is author of many publications in the field of translator training, including "A Handbook for Translator Trainers", St Jerome (2005), and a founding editor of the International Journal "The Interpreter and Translator Trainer", the only indexed journal devoted specifically to translator education. Her main research interests are translator training, directionality in translation and intercultural competence, interests which she has combined over the years with intense international activity, coordinating international mobility and joint degree programmes, as well as studies into the impact of mobility on intercultural competence and the learning environment. She was a member of the European Master's in Translation Expert Group appointed by the Directorate General for Translation at the European Commission. As Vice-Rector she was a member of Spain's national Bologna Experts Team until 2013.



Markus LAITINEN, Vice-President and President-Elect, European Association for International Education (EAIE)

Markus Laitinen is Head of International Affairs at the University of Helsinki, Finland, and has worked for the University in various roles related to internationalisation since 1993. He is also a graduate of the same university and holds a Master's in Social Sciences (major in Political Science). During his career Markus has gained experience in international student advising, programme management, international admissions, policy advice and strategic management of internationalisation. As part of his current position he has taken an active interest in international university rankings, transnational education, strategic networks and university partnerships. Markus has been a long-serving member of the UNICA International Relations Officer Group. In 2014, he was elected EAIE Vice-President.



Sijboldt NOORDA, President of the Association for Academic Cooperation (ACA), President of the Magna Charta Observatory

Dr Sijbolt Noorda is President of Magna Charta Observatory, Bologna, and Academic Cooperation Association, Brussels. He is a former president of the Dutch Association of Research Universities and president emeritus of Universiteit van Amsterdam (member of UNICA).



Dr Noorda writes and lectures on teaching and learning in Higher Education, about ideals and practices of internationalisation, on core values and on governance issues in HEIs. He regularly reviews individual universities and national systems. In Germany he is a long time reviewer in the HRK Internationalisierungsaudit, a member of the international advisory board of Freie University Berlin and of University Tübingen, as well as a member of Akkreditierungsrat.

Safi SABUNI, President, Erasmus Student Network

Safi Sabuni is the President of Europe's biggest network of student organisations, Erasmus Student Network (ESN). Safi has a degree in PR and Peace and Development Studies from Linnaeus University in Sweden. Her studies took her to Chennai, Kampala and Brussels. As an active volunteer of ESN for the past 4 years she is an advocate for inclusive and accessible student mobility, intercultural learning and non-formal education among other important causes.



Brigitta SCHÜTT, Vice-President, Freie Universität Berlin

Brigitta Schütt is professor of Physical Geography at the Freie Universität Berlin. Her current research focuses on the analysis of present and (pre-)historical human-environment relations. The aim of the reconstruction of paleo-environments is the reconstruction of the habitat of earlier cultures, the assessment of site conditions, and the assessment of the impact of settlement activity on landscape balance and geomorphologic processes. Schütt also conducts applied research on soil erosion and watershed management. The regional focus of this work is in the dry belt of the Ancient World (Mediterranean, North and East Africa, Central and East Asia).



Due to their extensive networking especially to Africa and Central and East Asia she is regularly working as a reviewer for the German Research Foundation (DFG) , the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Volkswagen Foundation. Since 2012 she has been a member of the Leopoldina and a member of the Commission for Geomorphology of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences. Since 2010, Brigitta Schütt is Vice President of Freie Universität Berlin with the responsibility for geosciences, mathematics / computer science, physics , research, sustainability topics in research and teaching and gender equality.

Rossana SILVA, Executive Director, Coimbra Group of Brazilian Universities



Rossana Valéria de Souza e Silva (PhD), Professor at the University of Brasilia (UnB), is the Executive Director of the Coimbra Group of Brazilian Universities (CGBU), Doctor in Education Sciences in the University of Campinas – UNICAMP - and Post Doc in University of Paris 8. She is one of the founding members of International Degree Programme (PLI, in Portuguese), which is managed and sponsored by Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES). The Programme provides double degrees for Brazilian students who are studying abroad. Rossana Valéria de Souza e Silva is the Brazilian General Coordinator of the Programme of Alliances for Education and Training (PAEC-OEA-GCUB), which is designed for post-graduate students from the member countries of the Organization of American States (OAS). She is also member of the Commission d'Experts de l'Agence universitaire de la Francophonie and Alternate Vice-president for the Unión de Universidades de América Latina y el Caribe (UDUAL). Rossana Valéria de Souza e Silva collaborates with projects focused on the internationalisation of the Brazilian universities, developed by Brazilian Ministries of Foreign Relations (MRE) and of Education (MEC). She participates in official missions aimed at the internationalization of higher education organized by the Brazilian government and by foreign institutions.

Thijs VERBEURGT, Policy Advisor - International Relations, Ghent University



Thijs Verbeurgt studied Eastern European Languages and Cultures at Ghent University and was a student representative at different levels. In 2012, he started working at the International Relations Office of Ghent University as part-time Project Manager of the EU funded Expanding Opportunities – ExpandO project and part-time Policy Advisor commissioned with drafting the integrated policy plan for internationalisation, Ghent University's strategic plan in this field for 2014-2018. In the framework of this plan, he was also closely involved in the development of specific action concerning quality of international cooperation and increasing outgoing student mobility numbers. After the approval of Integrated Policy Plan for Internationalisation, he was appointed

Policy Advisor for Internationalisation responsible for the implementation under the Academic Director for Internationalisation.

Lesley WILSON, Secretary General, European University Association (EUA)

Lesley Wilson was educated at the Universities of Glasgow and Strasbourg and also has an honorary doctorate from the Université Pierre et Marie Curie in Paris. She joined the European University Association (EUA) at its creation in 2001 and took over as Secretary General in 2002. In 2008 she was closely involved in establishing EUA's Council for Doctoral Education (CDE) that supports the development of doctoral education and training in European universities. Prior to joining the EUA she held a number of senior posts in higher education and research management in various European and international organisations including the European Commission, where she was Director of Strategic Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation at the European Training Foundation in Turin (1999-2001), and UNESCO where she was Director of their European Centre for Higher Education, based in Bucharest, from 1995 - 1999. Before that she was Head of Policy at the European Science Foundation and also contributed to the development of EU education programmes through involvement in the launch phase of ERASMUS and as of 1990 as the Director of the newly established EC TEMPUS Office in Brussels. Her early career was spent in the German Science Council in Cologne. In 2012 Lesley Wilson was awarded the Ordre national du Mérite for her services to higher education and research in France.



Stavros A. ZENIOS, UNICA President

Stavros A. Zenios is former Rector of the University of Cyprus and currently serving a second four-year term as President of UNICA. He studied Mathematics at University of London, Electrical Engineering at the Higher Technical Institute in Cyprus, and Engineering Management Systems at Princeton University, receiving a doctorate in 1986. He published more than 150 scholarly articles in some of the leading journals in the fields of finance, management science and operations research. His specialisation is financial risk management. He was a tenured Associate Professor at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, and held visiting appointments at MIT (USA), University of Haifa (IL), Athens University of Economics and Management (GR), University of Bergamo (IT), and Universidad San Andres (AR). He lectures extensively internationally. He worked as a consultant for the World Bank and several financial institutions in the USA, Switzerland, Italy and Cyprus. He is a Board Member of the Central Bank of Cyprus.

