

## MEETING

### UNICA “UNIVERSITY, CULTURE AND THE CITY” CORE GROUP

**Vrije Universiteit Brussel, 29-30 August 2018**

## PROGRAMME

**Chair of the meeting:** Prof. Antonio RENDAS, Member of the UNICA Steering Committee, former Rector of Universidade NOVA de Lisboa

Wednesday, 29 August 2018	
Venue: Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Pleinlaan 9, Meeting room Weber (1 <sup>st</sup> floor)	
13:00 – 13:30	<i>Sandwich lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome by UNICA</li> <li>• Tour de table</li> <li>• State of play of the UNICA University, Culture and the City Working Group</li> </ul>
14:00 – 15:00	<i>VUB Strategic Plan and projects having links with the city</i> , by Chris BEIRENS, Strategy & Policy Officer, Vrije Universiteit Brussel and Lynn TYTGAT, Coordinator weKONEKT.brussels, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
15:00 – 15:30	<i>The CoLab initiative promoted by Universidade Nova de Lisboa and Almada Municipality</i> , by João Mario GRILO, Chair of the UNICA University, Culture and the City Working Group, Universidade Nova de Lisboa
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00 – 16:15	<b>Caroline PAUWELS, Rector of Vrije Universiteit Brussel, joins the meeting</b>
16:15 – 17:00	<p><i>King’s College Vision 2029: strategy and initiatives to be a civic university at the heart of London</i>, by Ruth HOGARTH, Director, Cultural Partnerships &amp; Enquiry, King’s College London</p> <p>Chenine BHATHENA, Creative Director for Coventry’s year as UK City of Culture 2021, former Senior Culture Manager at the Mayor of London</p>
17:00 – 17:30	<p><b>Q&amp;A and Conclusions Day 1</b></p> <p>Chaired by Antonio Rendas, former Rector Universidade NOVA de Lisboa and Member of the UNICA Steering Committee</p>

<b>17:30</b>	<i>Transfer of the participants to Molenbeek</i>
<b>18:15 – 20:00</b>	Guided tour of Molenbeek with Eric CORIJN, COSMOPOLIS, Centre for Urban Research, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
<b>20:00</b>	<i>Dinner at Les Filles</i>

## Thursday, 30 August 2018

**Venue: Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Pleinlaan 9, Meeting room Weber (1st floor)**

<b>09:30 – 09:45</b>	Welcome coffee
<b>09:45 – 10:00</b>	Welcome and introduction to the 2 <sup>nd</sup> day by Antonio RENDAS, Member of the UNICA Steering Committee, former Rector of Universidade NOVA de Lisboa
<b>10:00 – 10:30</b>	<i>The interconnected FabLabs<sup>1</sup></i> , by Abdellah TOUHAFI, Director of RAPPTOR research lab, VUB; initiator and coordinator of the interconnected FabLabs
<b>10:30 – 11:00</b>	<i>The project Usquare.brussels<sup>2</sup></i> , by Martin CASIER, Project Coordinator, Université libre de Bruxelles - Vrije Universiteit Brussel
<b>11:00 – 11:20</b>	Q&A and discussion
<b>11:20 – 12:20</b>	Transfer of the participants to the site of the new Usquare.brussels district & guided visit to the former barracks
<b>12:20 - 13:45</b>	Transfer of the participants to the VUB Campus & lunch at the VUB Restaurant
<b>14:00 – 14:20</b>	Joost VAESSEN and Serge JAUMAIN, Brussels Studies Institute
<b>14:20 – 15:20</b>	<b>VUB and ULB experiences followed by Q&amp;A</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The KultuurKaffee</i>, by Jade CORBEY and Lieselotte VANEECKHAUTE</li> <li>• <i>The VUB project “Edulab”</i>, by Prof. Wendy VAN DEN BROECK</li> <li>• Carmen Mazijn, Coordinator internationalization, VUB Student Council</li> <li>• <i>Exhibition “The Art of Difference - Scientific responses to disability, appropriations and individual expertise through art” (Bozar, 20/06 – 26/08 2018)</i>, by Nathalie LEVY, Exhibition Manager, ULB Culture, Université libre de Bruxelles</li> <li>• <i>Intersectional Challenges in Afro-European Communities</i>, by Elisabeth Bekers, Prof. of British and Postcolonial Literature, Vrije Universiteit Brussel</li> </ul>
<b>15:20 – 15:40</b>	Q&A and contributions from the Members of the Core Group
<b>15:40 – 16:00</b>	Conclusions & action plan, by João Mario GRILO and Antonio RENDAS (Cooperation with Almada & Lisbon, UNICA University, Culture and the City Meeting 2019, etc.)

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.fablab-brussels.be/fablab/>

<sup>2</sup> **Usquare.brussel** is a new Brussels district that will be open, diverse and dynamic, urban and welcoming, university-centred and international, sustainable and innovative. The new district will be created on the 3.85-hectare site of the former gendarmerie school in Ixelles. Usquare.brussels will thus involve the conversion of a barracks – an enclosed military complex from the early 20th century – into an open and diverse living space fit for the 21st century: not a campus, but a genuine new part of the city. <http://usquare.brussels/en>