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ECIU Student Wing Meeting

Twelve delegates from student unions around Europe participated in the spring meeting of the ECIU SW.

Student representatives from various ECIU universities (Barcelona, Strathclyde, Twente, Aalborg, Aveiro and Linköping) came together in Glasgow to discuss issues concerning the student wing. Agenda topics were e.g. the upcoming executive board meeting, the SW year plan and marketing plan and Adam Taylor and Rose-Marie Barbeau informed the participants about the ongoing work within the ECIU PR group. Included was also a presentation about the new ECIU website, which was thoroughly discussed during the two-day meeting. The SW looks forward to the launch of the new website and is excited about the opportunities it will provide.

The SW delegates had time to share inspiring thoughts about student union organisations and future projects such as an ECIU case competition and apart from the more formal meeting the SW also enjoyed a tour of the Student Union House at Strathclyde University which was provided by the hosts Colin and Thomasena.

Reporting from Glasgow: Kathleen Kwapisz and Louise Alstermark, Student delegates from Linköping University



ECIU Student Wing representatives at the Student Wing meeting in Glasgow, University of Strathclyde, May 2007.

Please mail articles or other input for the next ECIU newsletter to: saskia.hansen@strath.ac.uk

The next edition will be published in September. Deadline for submitting articles: **1 September 2007.**

PROPOSED LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2007 – 2008

Introduction

Today's higher education sector is a complex, global arena in which institutions, coming from different backgrounds, compete for the best students and staff. The institutions are localized, challenged by a broader political context and in need for a clear profile and strategy. In this context at the end of the last century the European Consortium of Innovative Universities took shape.

In an early stage of their co-operation ECIU adopted a Leadership Development Programme, knowing that staff is by far the most important asset of knowledge institutes and aiming to establish a cohort of individuals who understand the European dimension of higher Education. ECIU is appreciative of the innovative culture in the partner universities, and will form a self-reinforcing network of persons who will maintain and grow the entrepreneurial spirit of the participating universities.

This proposed programme is building on success of the past programmes, with already established aims and objectives agreed by the ECIU Board. There are also improvements based on experience and feedback. The most recent programme was a clear success with very positive feedback from participants

Programme Goals and Objectives

To contribute to leadership development at the participating ECIU universities by providing a structured learning experience for a group of selected leaders/

potential leaders. The programme enables participants:

- To reflect on the particular characteristics and challenges of leadership and strategic management in the university context
- To develop personal leadership qualities and skills
- To work in a multi-national project team focused on an issue of strategic importance to a participating ECIU institution
- To deepen their knowledge of important policy developments in European Higher Education
- To further develop the ECIU network in higher education
- To learn by sharing and comparing experiences across ECIU universities and different higher education systems

The programme consists is action-centred and consists of three workshops:

- Twente: 10-12 October 2007
- Aalborg: 13-15 February 2008
- April: 23-24 April 2008

Much more information about the programme can be obtained from the programme website on: <http://www.smg.utwente.nl/eciu/>

If you are interested in nominating staff or in attending, please consult your ECIU Local Coordinator or ECIU Executive Board member for details about nominations procedures within your institution.

The European Leadership Development Programme was a great opportunity to meet and get to know interesting people dealing with similar problems and issues in their work lives.

The programme gave rise to stimulating debates and discussions and course content was inspiring. The cross-cultural project work on university strategy was very fruitful

Malene Gram, 2006-07 Participant



*Malene Gram, Associate Professor,
Aalborg University*

More student mobility... through Twinning Programmes

Twin programmes are a new form of exchange within the ECIU, making better use of the variety of programme offers within the Consortium. The main idea is to identify a number of programmes in the same discipline, but with different, complementary specialisations. Students would start at their home institution and, preferably in the second part of their study, would have the opportunity to follow a pre-designed programme at another ECIU institution. This would add to their home programme and prior agreements would ensure that there would be full credit recognition for the programme taken at the hosting institution.

As a structured form of exchange, this form of mobility should be included as a compulsory part of the home curriculum. Furthermore, the arrangements made would be suitable for groups of students and

not simply individuals.

Target Group and duration

The target group would be students in programmes that have identified as “twin programmes”, which can be both at the bachelor and postgraduate level.

The duration can vary from the light mode of 1-3 weeks (e.g. in the summer or during lecture-free periods) or a more intense mode of 3-6 months.

Next steps

Staff with an interest in pursuing the development of twinning programmes should contact Ms Janine Rebel, j.w.rebel@student.utwente.nl

ECIU EU Funding Working Group

Following the recent discussion at the ECIU Executive Board meeting at Southern Federal University in Rostov, Russia, about opportunities for EU Funding, the ECIU Executive Board have set up a small working group that will explore the funding opportunities in more depth.

The Group is chaired by Martin Gregory from Strathclyde and other members are Anke Kohl from Twente, Patricia Montano from Technologico de Monterrey and Saskia L Hansen from the ECIU Secretariat.

The Group will look into the Lifelong Learning Programme as the first port of call and will look into opportunities for achieving funding for future ECIU activities e.g. in the field of organisational development, staff and student exchange and networking in the fields of problem-based learning.

For any further information, please contact the ECIU Secretary: saskia.hansen@strath.ac.uk



EU Applications

Different ECIU institutions have taken part in three EU proposals for European funding:

- By the end of April, an application was submitted for the European Network Transforming Intra-university Collaborative Exchange (ENTICE) under the Transversal call. Aveiro, Autonoma in Barcelona, Dortmund, Strathclyde and Twente took part.
- By the end of April, a third ECIU joint masters programme proposal was submitted under the Erasmus Mundus call. The joint masters programme, which has been worked up by Aalborg, Hamburg University of Technology (TUHH) and Strathclyde, carries the name of Global Innovation Management.
- Politecnico di Torino, TUHH, Linköping and Southern Federal University submitted a project proposal under Erasmus Mundus Action 4 by the end of May.

ECIU Project News in Brief

Pyeongtaek University

Twente, Dortmund, TUHH, Aalborg and Linköping received visits by Prof Kim and Prof Cha, delegates from Pyongtaek University in South Korea. The reason behind the visit is the recently signed Memorandum of Understanding whereby a number of ECIU institutions have expressed an interest in working with PTU in developing activities in the areas of logistics, leadership and business.

Implementing active learning-material

TUHH and Tecnológico de Monterrey are in the process of exploring the effect of translating learning material. Interesting initial observations have been made and it looks like students that are taught in English receive better results than comparable groups taught in the native language. Further trials will be conducted to assess the validity of these early findings.

Supporting Assessment of Programming Assignments

SFU in Rostov and the TUHH have developed various tools that will help support the assessment of students working on various software tasks. The project is almost finished and the tools that

have been developed as part of this process will be available online for interested ECIU staff and students. Each ECIU member and partner institution will be given a license allowing for the registration of 1000 students each to use the tools and additional information on the website. Please check <http://ptaskbook.com> for more information.

Entrepreneurship Research

The project has been extended as both Swinburne, Dortmund and TUHH asked for data about their students to be included as well. The final project report which outlines how entrepreneurial students at the supposedly entrepreneurial ECIU institutions actually are.

DIFUSE

This knowledge exchange project is well underway and all deadlines for reporting to the European Commission have been met. The project management group is meeting at the University of Strathclyde for a workshop and will make use of this opportunity to also assess progress to date.

ECIU General Meeting at Southern Federal University

On 24-25 May, representatives from the various ECIU member and partner institutions met in Rostov on Don for the ECIU's combined Annual General Meeting and six-monthly Executive Board meeting. The General Meeting provided an opportunity for an introduction by Rektor Zakharevitch to the new Southern Federal University, which is a merger between several universities in the Rostov region including the former Rostov State University.

The rest of the meeting was dedicated to presentations and discussion about accreditation and quality assurance activities and included input by Vice-Chancellor Ian Young from Swinburne about Australia's approach to the Bologna process, and Rector Finn Kjaersdam from Aalborg.



Entertainment by SFU students at the General Meeting dinner

Swinburne wins \$2.5 million for Learning & Teaching

Swinburne's excellence in learning and teaching has been recognised with the award of \$2.5 million under the Australian Federal Government's Learning and Teaching Performance Fund (LTPF) for 2007.

The Fund was established to reward excellence in teaching of undergraduate students. Swinburne's business courses featured in the top tier Band A1 and Swinburne's humanities and design courses in the top tier Band A2.

This year's funding builds on Swinburne's outstanding performance in the first round when it was ranked in the top five universities in Australia for learning and teaching quality and allocated \$3.82 million.

Money received from the first round of the Learning and Teaching Performance Fund last year was used to enhance teaching quality across the University and the latest funds will again be used to boost the learning and teaching experience for Swinburne students.

Australian Government Endorses Research Quality Framework

The Australian Government will implement a Research Quality Framework (RQF) with the objective of "strengthening the assessment of research carried out in Australia" as indicated by the Minister for Education, Science & Training, Hon. Julie Bishop.

According to Minister Bishop, the RQF, an Australian Government initiative to formulate a world's best practice framework for evaluating research and the impact of research, will ensure public funding is being invested in research which will deliver real benefits to the wider community. "The RQF is an important reform for Australian research as it will boost the production of high quality and high impact research and will give Australian researchers greater capacity to compete on the international stage," Minister Bishop said.

Preparatory work and trialing will continue in 2007, with data collection in 2008 and funding implementation in 2009. Minister Bishop established an RQF Reference Committee on 20 February 2007. This Committee, which includes representatives from industry, government and the research sector, will provide advice on pertinent RQF matters during the first cycle of RQF, including the development of RQF specifications, the moderation and validation process, and the development of an RQF Information Management System which will support data-gathering and assessment processes. The Australian government has undertaken to provide \$87.3 million to implement the RQF, \$42 million of which will be provided directly to universities for data gathering and pre-implementation trials.

Swinburne's Partnership with Northeastern University, Boston

Under a landmark agreement signed in 2006, Swinburne University of Technology and Northeastern University (Boston, USA) will offer combined courses in Melbourne. Northeastern is the fourth-largest private university in the USA, is recognised by Forbes business magazine as one of the USA's top 5 entrepreneurial universities and has recently been ranked in the country's top 100 institutions by the *U.S. News and World Report*.

Swinburne and Northeastern will offer combined programs ranging from postgraduate degrees through to short courses. The universities will initially offer dual master degrees under the banner of the Global Leadership Program, with the first intake occurring in February 2007. The Global Leadership Program enables students to obtain two master degrees in two years – either a Master of Business (International Business) or Master of Accounting from Swinburne and a Master of Science in Leadership from Northeastern.

"I believe this is the first time that students will be able to study for Australian and American qualifications at the same place anywhere in the world. From 2007, Swinburne will offer two joint master degrees with the US half of the degrees to be taught by Northeastern academics flown out to Swinburne for short lecturing stints. Students get to have an Australian degree taught by Australians, and they also get a North American degree taught the way it is in the US," Vice Chancellor, Professor Ian Young, said.

"We see this as the first step in a broader range of joint programs the universities can offer together, initially here in Australia but long-term in the United States as well."

A Northeastern Study Centre has been established at Swinburne's Hawthorn campus to manage the partnership between the two universities and provide information and support to prospective and enrolled students about the combined courses.

AAU-engineer honoured with Talent Award

Merely three years upon completing his studies at Aalborg University, civil engineer Anders Nyborg, has received a highly noted award for his work. The Danish Windmill Industry has granted him its Talent Award 2007 for achieving marvellous results within his field.

At the Faculty of Engineering, Science and Medicine at Aalborg University, Dean Frede Blaabjerg is quite proud. Former student at Department of Electronic Systems, Anders Nyborg, has received an award somewhat unusual for his young age. Only three years after graduating as a civil engineer, Anders Nyborg has become manager of a department at world-renowned Vestas Wind Systems in Randers, Denmark. Currently, at the age of 28, he is the manager of 20 employees in the so-called LAC-group (Loads, Aerodynamic and Control).

He was chosen above four other candidates to receive the Talent Award because he at a very young age has become manager of a department where he has created excellent results over a short period of time. Moreover, this particular department demands a high degree of technical skills, and in so managing the department successfully, Anders Nyborg has shown that he has great potential, says Jørgen Mygind, member of the jury behind the Talent Award. "It is a difficult job, but Anders has shown that he can do it", Mr. Mygind adds.

The Talent Award was introduced by the Danish Windmill Industry last year. The winner is presented with an educational programme in innovation sponsored by the DIEU A/S (The Danish Leadership Institute).

As he received the award presented to him by Flemming Hansen, Danish Minister for Transport and Energy, Anders Nyborg himself is proud that he has been chosen, but he awards much of his success to working in a field of great prospects: "Vesta's great expansion has given me opportunities which demand a large responsibility, and hence, I have been shown a great deal of trust", he says.

While Anders Nyborg still sees himself as new in the business, it is worth noticing that the Talent Award is given on grounds of special talent in developing new technology, products or management as well as great potential for a strong career in the windmill industry.

Renewed Energy Programmes at AAU



Picture: Morten Brunbjerg

Dean Frede Blaabjerg is pleased to see a former AAU-student being given such honour. "We [AAU, red.] are a large-scale supplier of employees to the windmill industry and its development departments", he says. "By 550 last year, we have trained a record number of civil engineers, and our expectations are high for the coming years. In addition, our energy programmes are undergoing vast enhancements which will also contribute to strengthen AAU's position", Mr. Blaabjerg adds. Hence, it does not come as a complete surprise to the Dean that a former AAU-student has won such a prestigious award.

The renewed energy programmes at AAU are aimed at energy efficiency and the preservation of our environment. Thus, AAU is en route to establishing itself as a frontrunner in the energy field.

Tine Tindal, Aalborg University

University of Aveiro is the first Portuguese university in Second Life

Owner of an island in the most famous virtual 3D environment, the Second Life (SL), the University of Aveiro (UA) became the first Portuguese university to be present in this parallel universe. The University is now part of the group of 70 universities and other educational organizations like Harvard Law School, Colorado Tech, Princeton or the Ohio University, present in this virtual world.

The buildings of this new university were constructed by five students of the classes of New Technologies of Communication, integrated in the project «second.ua». The project was launched in May 24th with the presence of Robin Harper, vice-president of Linden Labs, the company responsible for the creation of the Second Life.

The team of students and professors involved in this pioneer project hope to explore educational and institutional potentialities of this virtual world to promote the participation of a wider audience in events and initiatives of the University, privileging the social contact with the residents of the SL, as well as to provide information about the services and the products offered by the institution.

The social contact between the University and the 5 million users registered in the whole world (40 thousand in Portugal) can be very much privileged. The responsible professors for the project, Carlos Santos, Pedro Almeida and Luís Pedro believe “that this new extension of the UA will allow the promotion of issues focused on lessons, in a more informal way, helping the contact between people in different places, as well as the creation of e-learning sessions on specific disciplines.»

There are six different areas created and available for the avatars (the name of the users inside the Second Life): the *InfoZone*, the *Second Caffé*, the *Aularium*, the *Auditorium*, the *Showroom* and the *Scriptorium*.

The *InfoZone* is the main door of this virtual space of the UA, functioning as a reception desk for virtual welcome. The *Second Caffé* is the playful zone. People can talk in this informal environment, can listen to some music and, in some special occasions, they may even enjoy small concerts.

One of the most important structures of this project is the *Aularium*. In this zone there is a set of

three rooms with 50 places each that can be used for lessons purposes. These rooms are equipped with audio, video and slideshow technologies that can be integrated in the academic activities.

The *Auditorium* is reserved for lectures, meetings or conferences, for an audience of 150 spectators. The *Showroom* is the place where scientific researches, articles, reports, projects, and other relevant works accomplished by the academic community can be presented. The *Scriptorium* is a small meeting room reserved for small appoints only.

With its own currency, the Linden dollar (L\$) that can be really converted into true dollars, the Second Life gives us the opportunity to explore a set of businesses through the creation of objects, the construction of property and the development of accessories for the avatars, as well as to work for others avatars, and much more.

Companies like IBM, Toyota, Warner Bros., Nokia, Nike and Reuters have already opened an office in this new virtual environment especially to train their employees, to promote meetings and to sell their products and services. Sweden, for example, even keeps an embassy to clarify doubts and supply information about the country.

According to some statistics of November 2006, the equivalent to more than a half of a million dollar is put into motion every day inside this virtual world.



Life in Second Life

Quo Vadis Glycerin?

Great amounts are accruing in the process of producing biodiesel – and have to be utilized.

Until 2010 the European Union intends to increase the production of biodiesel to about eight millions tons a year. But the putative eco-fuel involves a problem largely unknown. Per ton biodiesel 100 kilogram glycerin – in itself a valuable raw material – are accruing. That means that with eight million tons biodiesel in Germany alone, approximately 800,000 tons of glycerin are produced. But currently the world annual requirements only amount to 500,000 tons and the traditional scope of application in the cosmetics, food, luxury food and pharmaceutical industry are widely exploited. As neither disposal nor final deposition is an alternative, the question is: what to do with the raw material glycerin? At the Department of Biochemical and Chemical Engineering of Universität Dortmund, a team of scientists around Prof. Dr. rer. Nat. Arno Behr is looking for alternatives to use the immense glycerin surplus in an economic way. With the support of the Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection and the industrial partner Cognis Oleochemicals the scientists want to develop processes to find new fields of application for this raw material.

With four projects they pursue two different methods of resolution. In the first two projects glycerin is used in synthesis reactions. With suitable catalysts like gold or palladium the oxidation creates a variety of interesting chemical fine products like, for example, oxalic acid. With the carbonylization the glycerin – the catalytic reaction with carbon monoxide – the Dortmund chemical engineers strive for the synthesis of succinic and glutar acid which can be used to produce plastics.

The two other projects are based on common processes. Here the scientists try to improve these processes to be able to selectively fall back on the desired end products:

Glycerin telomere are produced by means of a catalytic reaction of glycerin with butadiene. These substances have a high potential for the synthesis of tensides, the main components of detergents. As different products can arise from the glycerin telomerization, the Dortmund scientists try to selectively produce certain tenside raw materials with the help of catalysis and process engineering.

The glycerin oligomerisation also is an approved process. For example, glycerin oligomere are used in the cosmetics and food industry. These reactions can produce a number of different oligomere. But the short-chain oligomere are the ones that are of special economic interest. Therefore the Dortmund chemical engineers are looking for suitable catalysts to produce them selectively. The scientists' goal with regard to all products is to develop processes in the laboratory in such a way that they can be used on a large technical scale without any problems.

“For that purpose the reactions take place in so called mini-plants”, explains project manager Prof. Arno Behr. “They are virtually miniature chemical plants but with all the characteristics of a big production plant”.

By Ole Lünnehan, Dortmund

Lab-on-a-chip monitors the effect of medication

Monitoring the effect of medication on cancer cells can now take place before treatment and outside of the body, using a special microfluidic chip developed by the Lab-on-a-Chip group of the MESA+ Institute for Nanotechnology. According to scientist Floor Wolbers, this enables doctors to choose the most efficient type and dose of medication, targeted at a specific type of cancer cell.

The new 'apoptosis chip' opens up new possibilities in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer. Just a limited number of cells is required for the analysis, without the need of an operative biopsy. An individual cell can now be monitored when medication is added. Cell culture of millions of cells, with risk of cellular modification, is not necessary using this new method. The chip itself can be made of a relatively cheap and disposable material and meets the high standards of medical use. which is a common hormone treatment. This clearly shows the specific nature of treatment and dose, and on-chip monitoring will enable a fast comparison of different cell types and cytostatics. Read more on the University of Twente's website: <http://www.utwente.nl/en/>

New research appointment for Swinburne

Following an extensive international search, Professor Andrew Flitman has been appointed Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) at Swinburne University of Technology. He will officially join the university in July.

Currently the Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology at Deakin University, Professor Flitman has played a major leadership role in advancing the faculty's research and teaching performance. Prior to his appointment at Deakin, Professor Flitman was Head of the School of Business Systems at Monash, and has extensive experience working as a management consultant for Deloitte in London and Price Waterhouse in Melbourne. His own research focuses on the application of quantitative and computational tools to high-level business issues, such as strategic planning, financial engineering, and mergers and acquisitions.

He is also a Fellow of the United Kingdom Operational Research Society (ORS) which aims to promote and develop scientific approaches to management issues.



Professor Andrew Flitman

Professor Flitman will bring a wealth of management experience, high level leadership skills and extensive knowledge of the sector to his new role at Swinburne.

UNESCO chair in PBL at Aalborg University

UNESCO has chosen Aalborg University as host for the UNESCO Chair in Problem Based Learning in Engineering Education and has appointed Professor Anette Kolmos to head up the activities on the basis of her extensive experience of the interplay between education, research and enterprise. A UNESCO Chair would typically be used for the appointment of a professor only, but Aalborg has chosen to establish a larger organisation surrounding the award of the Chair to provide the best possible infrastructure and support for the work on Problem Based Learning. An immediate action is the creation of a global network of researchers, developers and lecturers within the field of Problem and Project Based Learning. (PBL) "It is a great honour that UNESCO has selected Aalborg to host the prestigious UNESCO Chair and we see this as a clear recognition of Aalborg's strengths and expertise within this area", Anette Kolmos comments.

The global network on PBL will be developed through a virtual network with online databases on PBL. Aalborg will furthermore host a major

UNESCO conference in September 2007 which will be the first in a row of conferences and workshops on the topic. Professor Kolmos furthermore aspires for Aalborg to be a strong player in offering other activities in the field of PBL e.g. continuous professional development, research and consultancy.



Prof Anette Kolmos, Aalborg University

ECIU benchmarking arena for Knowledge Transfer

For a long period of time Linköping University has worked with a broad set of activities related to knowledge transfer and commercialisation. These efforts will now be further reinforced through a major grant approved by The Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems (VINNOVA). The funding will allow Linköping University to take a position as a leading actor for regional growth.

We are convinced that learning from others is a fruitful way of improving our work. We therefore propose the set-up of an ECIU benchmarking arena for the learning and improving process of knowledge transfer and commercialisation, premised on three assumptions:

1. that a research-intensive university must be effective in knowledge transfer, not only for the potential monetary gains, but also in order to attract and retain the best and brightest faculty;
2. that competence in university-industry/society knowledge transfer is an increasingly important asset in regional economic development;

3. that a forum for information and recommendations about best practices, strategies, policies, and programs will bring in fresh approaches to improvements in performance.

The aim of this benchmarking initiative is to construct comparable activity and output ratios, and to evaluate and develop effective structures for knowledge transfer and commercialisation.

We invite all interested members for further discussions, and are prepared to cover costs for meeting expenses and project management over an initial two-year period. For further information please contact:

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Aalborg University offers ECIU partners the use of its Klitgaarden Refugium

The Rector at Aalborg University Finn Kjaersdam is happy to announce that an agreement has been set in place so that members of staff from ECIU institutions can use "Refugiet Klitgaarden". This is a property partly owned by Aalborg University in the sea resort of Skagen and can be used by researchers and artists that need a quiet time to work on research papers, theses or publications.

Klitgaarden's season – for single workers as well as for groups of workers – begins in early January and ends in the middle of December. „Refugieophold“, i.e. working in peaceful, tranquil surroundings, in periods of up to a week or more, are primarily meant for single workers. „Symposieophold“ are meant for groups of workers from Universities, university-like institutions, artistic societies etc, of up to twenty people, usually with a duration of a couple of days.

The house used to be one of the Danish Royal Family's summer residences and is a beautiful place situated in the most fantastic natural surroundings. The house has 14 bedrooms and all meals are included with the price of the room - and the price is very reasonable to allow research staff the opportunity to make use of the place. More information is available via email to: info@klitgaarden.dk.

Public consultation about the European Research Area

The European Commission has published a Green Paper about “The European Research Area: New Perspectives” and an associated public consultation to take stock as to where Europe is in terms of the creation of the European Research Area (ERA). The European Commission has made progress in terms of the ERA as evidenced by the establishment of the EU Research Framework Programme, the European Research Council, the future European Institute of Technology, the European Technology Platforms, the broad-based innovation strategy, Structural Funds, but there is still quite a bit of fragmentation in the European public research base.

In looking ahead, the Green Paper identifies the main features of a fully realised ERA:

- 1) An adequate flow of competent researchers
- 2) World-class research infrastructures
- 3) Excellent research institutions
- 4) Effective knowledge sharing
- 5) Well-coordinated research programmes and priorities
- 6) A wide opening of the European Research Area to the world

Key questions are asked, which can be answered in full as part of the consultation:

- 1) Are these the essential elements that the European Research Area should provide? Are there other elements which should be taken into account in the vision?
- 2) What should be the roles of EU, national and regional policies to establish such a European Research Area and take best advantage of the European dimension in the context of globalisation and national and regional specialisation?
- 3) What EU initiatives could best leverage overall public and private efforts to realise the vision?

A series of more specific questions are then asked about the 6 main features identified for the ERA.

Anyone with an interest in the Green Paper and the Consultation about the future of the European Research Area can find further information on:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/index_en.html

inventing our future together

European
Research
Area

European Institute of Technology

ResearchResearch have reported that the future of the European Institute of Technology has been thrown into doubt once again after plans to finance its 305 million euro (£237m) budget from heading 1A of the EU budget, which includes Framework 7, were effectively abandoned late last month.

Funding for the EIT has been a contentious issue and concern has been expressed from the day the idea of the EIT was born to avoid removing funding from the European Research Council and the 7th Framework Programme to pay for the EIT. The Commission’s proposal has then been to fund the EIT from the unallocated funds of heading 1 A (a €300m reserve for emergencies). However, the European Parliament, the UK and a number of other European countries have argued against this funding stream.

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ECIU Annual Report 2006

The ECIU Annual Report 2006 is available at <http://www.eciu.org/newsletter/ECIU%20Annual%20Report%202006.pdf>

ECIU Members & Partners

Aalborg Universitet, Denmark

www.aau.dk

Universidade de Aveiro, Portugal

www.ua.pt

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain

www.uab.es

Université de Technologie de Compiègne, France

www.utc.fr

Universität Dortmund, Germany

www.uni-dortmund.de

Technische Universität Hamburg-Harburg,

Germany

www.tu-harburg.de

Linköpings Universitet, Sweden

www.liu.se

University of Strathclyde, United Kingdom

www.strath.ac.uk

Politecnico di Torino, Italy

www.polito.it

Universiteit Twente, The Netherlands

www.utwente.nl

University of Warwick, United Kingdom

www.warwick.ac.uk

Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico

www.itesm.mx

Southern Federal University, Russia (formerly Rostov State University)

www.mis.rsu.ru/foreign

Swinburne University of Technology, Australia

www.swin.edu.au

Conferences

- 17-21 June 2007 13th International Conference on Thinking, Linköpings
- 21-23 June 2007 European Computing and Philosophy Conference, Twente
- 6-7 September, Science for Sustainable development Conference, Linköping

ECIU Activities

A number of project meetings or seminars have taken or will take place over the coming months:

- ECIU Marketing and Communications Workshop, 28-29 June, Dortmund
- ECIU-PTU Steering Committee, 12 July, Schiphol
- ECIU Leadership Development workshop, 10-12 October 2007
- ECIU Board Strategic Session on the European Commission, 31 October, Twente
- ECIU 10th Anniversary and Executive Board meeting, 31 October—2 November, Twente
- ECIU Leadership Development alumni meeting, 4-7 November, Aalborg
- A series of meetings under the umbrella of the ECIU Graduate School

Please read more about the ECIU and these activities on the website: www.eciu.org

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