



Press Release – 6 December 2011

**EUA Council for Doctoral Education announces new Chair and Steering Committee**

*Professor David Gani (University of Strathclyde, UK) elected as Chair*

*together with four new members*

The European University Association (EUA) is pleased to announce that its board has elected five new members for the Steering Committee of the EUA Council for Doctoral Education (EUA-CDE), including a new Chair, Professor David Gani (Deputy Principal, University of Strathclyde, UK).

Professor Gani takes over the role of Chair from Professor Jean Chambaz (Université Pierre et Marie Curie) who has held this post since EUA-CDE was created in 2008.

“The selection process has been very challenging”, says EUA Secretary General Lesley Wilson, “we have had 46 applications from 19 different countries, and the candidates were of an astounding quality. We interpret this interest as recognition of the leading role that EUA-CDE plays in shaping the future of doctoral education, and we are excited to have been able to put together such an excellent and diverse team.”

“I am delighted to be joining the EUA Council for Doctoral Education as Chair of the Steering Committee,” says Professor David Gani. “The appointment will allow me to fulfil my own passionate ambitions of raising the quality and support mechanisms for doctoral training and early career researchers on a broader European platform”, he says, adding that “researcher development, lies at the core of European aspirations to raise its competitiveness”.

With 207 members in 36 countries, EUA-CDE is the largest and most comprehensive organisation dedicated to doctoral education in Europe. It organises events for universities to develop professional management of doctoral education, promotes best practices and engages in a continuous dialogue with other stakeholders. The Steering Committee is responsible for developing these activities as well as representing EUA-CDE in Europe and beyond.

The composition of the Steering Committee is:

- Chair: David Gani, Deputy Principal for External Affairs & Advancement, University of Strathclyde (Chair – *new member*)
- M. Teresa Anguera, Vice-Rector for Teaching and Science Policy, University of Barcelona (*new member*)
- Lucienne Blessing, Vice-Rector for Research, University of Luxembourg (*new member*)
- Frank Bremmer, Vice-Rector for Research, University of Marburg (*new member*)
- Melita Kovacevic, Vice-Rector for Science and Technology, University of Zagreb
- Mary McNamara, Head of Graduate Research Programmes, Dublin Institute of Technology (*new member*)
- Berit Rokne, Deputy Rector, University of Bergen
- Giuseppe Silvestri, former Rector, University of Palermo (ex-officio EUA-Board)

- Ends -

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**Notes to editors:**

The mission of the EUA Council for Doctoral Education (EUA-CDE), an integral part of the European University Association, is to contribute to the development, advancement and improvement of doctoral education and research training in Europe. With more than 200 members, EUA-CDE fulfils its mission through the organisation of conferences, training seminars and other events on topics of interest to its members, the commissioning of research and analyses, advocacy, the provision of information and the dissemination of good practice. It also provides policy advice to the EUA on new trends and developments in relation to doctoral programmes and research training in Europe. [www.eua.be/cde](http://www.eua.be/cde)