

Press statement: 15 April 2011

## Professor Maria Helena Nazaré (Portugal) elected as next President of the European University Association (2012-2015)

## EUA members also elect 5 new members to serve on Board

**Friday 15th April.** The European University Association (EUA) is pleased to announce that its members have elected Professor Maria Helena Nazaré (Portugal) as its President elect. Professor Nazaré takes over from current EUA President, Professor Jean-Marc Rapp, **in March 2012**.

Professor Nazaré (who will be the first female President of the Association) was one of two candidates in the election together with Professor Lauritz Holm-Nielsen (Denmark). More than 300 members voted in a very close election held during the EUA Annual Meeting at Aarhus University in Denmark.

Professor Nazaré, former Rector of the University of Aveiro, will serve for three years (2012-2015) as the new President of EUA, an organisation that represents more than 800 universities and 34 national rectors' conference across Europe.

At the EUA Annual Conference in Aarhus, its members have also also elected five EUA Board members to replace the outgoing members and to serve for a period of four years (2011 – 2015). They are:

- Esther Giménez-Salinas, Rector of Ramon Llull University, Barcelona, Spain
- Vaclav Hampl, Rector of the Charles University, Czech Republic
- Lauritz Holm-Nielsen, Rector of the Aarhus University, Denmark (\*reelected)
- Kristin Ingolfsdottir, Rector of the University of Iceland
- Margret Wintermantel, President of the German Rectors' Conference, Germany (\*reelected)

The elected candidates will join current board members David Drewry (UK), Jean-Pierre Finance (France), and Giuseppe Silvestri (Italy), together with the current EUA President Jean-Marc Rapp (and President-elect Professor Nazaré).

Ends.

A photo of Professor Nazaré is available from Andrew Miller (please see contact details below).

The European University Association, as the representative organisation of both the European universities and the national rectors' conferences, is the main voice of the higher education community in Europe. EUA's mission is to promote the development of a coherent system of European higher education and research.

For further information, please contact:

Andrew Miller, tel Mobile/GSM: +32 473 748 785
email: andrew.miller@eua.be
You can also visit our website at www.eua.be

Notes for editors:

□ The EUA President is elected for three years and is not eligible for re-election. The President's task is to lead and represent the Association for all activities during this period. She/He thus chairs the various statutory bodies (including the Board and the Council) that are responsible for developing, endorsing and implementing the various policies of the association.
☐ A short biography of Professor Nazaré is available here:
Maria Helena Nazaré began her academic career in Mozambique lecturing at the University Eduardo Mondlane in 1973. Before her special interest in Physics was to take her to the University of Aveiro in Portugal, where she served as Rector, she spent three years working on her PhD at King's College London, graduating in 1978. In 1986, she took up leadership of the research group in Spectroscopy of Semiconductors in the Department of Physics at the University of Aveiro, working with national and international funded research projects and has publishing over 70 articles in scientific journals.
She has participated actively in decision-making, whether it be as President of the departmental scientific and pedagogical commissions (positions she held on various occasions between 1978 and 1988) or as Head of Department between 1978 and 1980 and again between 1988 and 1990. In 1990 she was made Vice-President of the University of Aveiro Scientific Commission and in 1991, Vice-Rector of the University, a position she held until 1998. She was elected Rector of the University of Aveiro from 2002-2010 and became a EUA Board member in March 2009.
□ The EUA <b>Board</b> comprises eight current or former rectors, and the EUA President (and President-elect). It is responsible for developing the Association's policy and work programme and for its implementation together with the Secretary General. Board members serve for a period of four years (four new members are elected every two years)