



New report on international higher education rankings

Media invitation to the launch and presentation of the EUA Review of international university rankings (Brussels, Belgium 17 June 2011)

Universities are increasingly confronted by a plethora of ranking and classification initiatives – both at the national and international level. While many university leaders have reservations about rankings, their methodologies and criteria, there is a growing recognition that such initiatives are here to stay. Research has also shown that, despite their acknowledged shortcomings, rankings are having an increasing impact on university decision-making and activities.

This is why the European University Association has been carrying out a comprehensive analysis of major international university rankings with the aim of publishing the first EUA 'Review of international higher education rankings'.

This new report will be launched and presented to university leaders at a special one-day seminar taking place in Brussels on 17 June. This event will also be a platform for an open debate on ranking methodologies and their various strengths and weaknesses in order to improve future practice and to look at alternative approaches to enhancing transparency.

The new EUA report will include a major analysis of the approximately 10 international rankings including the Shanghai Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU); Times Higher Education World University Ranking; US News & World Report in cooperation with Quac

quarelli Symonds; Leiden Ranking- Leiden University, The Netherlands; CHE University Ranking - Centre for Higher Education Development/Die Zeit, Germany; Assessment of Higher Education Learning Outcomes (AHELO) – OECD; and the Webometrics Ranking of World Universities – Cybermetrics lab, Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales, Spain. The report will assess their methodology and will also offer some potential ways to improve rankings together with some guidance for universities about how to deal with rankings.

Please note that prior registration is necessary for journalists as the number of places is limited. To register, please send an email to andrew.miller@eua.be

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