



ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Fourth International Workshop on Higher Education Reforms Dublin, September 1 – 2, 2007

Changing students - Changing universities: Developments and policies

This series of International Workshops on University Reforms brings together researchers and policy makers interested or involved with different dimensions of change and reform in higher education. Previous workshops in this series have taken place in Vancouver (University of British Columbia), Vienna (University of Klagenfurt), and Tokyo (University of Tsukuba). The fourth workshop will take place in Dublin, September 1-2, 2007, organized back to back with the Annual Conference of the Consortium of Higher Education Researchers in Europe (CHER – August 30-Sept 1). The Workshop will be hosted by Dublin City University, the youngest and most innovative of the three public universities in Dublin.

Higher education reforms are triggered by a number of factors, both external and internal, including economic globalization and the emergence of markets for higher education, the changing relationship between universities and the state, the move from 'mass' to 'universal' higher education, the commercialization of university research, and the call for greater institutional autonomy, efficiency and accountability. The earlier workshops focused on several of these themes.

The Dublin Workshop will concentrate on the implications of these developments for the interests of the key participants in, and primary clients of, higher education: students and prospective students. The Workshop will particularly focus on developments and policies, both governmental and institutional, that aim at (1) widening access to degree studies and innovating curricula, (2) improving teaching and learning conditions for students to acquire relevant knowledge and skills and complete their studies, and (3) evaluating teaching methods, management and outcomes.

There are several sub-themes:

- policies for widening access to universities
- the changing nature of the student body
- access policies and support for non-traditional students
- policies, programs and support for international students
- policies to advance lifelong learning
- policies for teaching innovation
- policies and practice of teaching evaluation
- research on student retention, completion and satisfaction
- developments in graduate studies.

Papers and panels are invited to address these or other related themes. Proposals of between approximately 400 (for papers) and 800 words (for panels) are to be sent by or before March 31, 2007 to the Joint Chair of the Organizational Committee, Professor Hans Schuetze (hans.schuetze@ubc.ca). Presenters will be notified by April 15 if their proposal has been accepted.

As with the earlier workshops, the number of participants will be limited to a maximum of 45 participants in order to allow for a thorough exchange and discussion.

Organizational Committee:

Professor Maria Slowey, Vice-President for Learning Innovation, Dublin City University
(Joint Chair)

Professor Hans G. Schuetze, University of British Columbia (Joint Chair)

Professor Tom Collins, National University of Ireland, Maynooth

Dr Elsa Hackl, University of Vienna

Dr Mark Morgan, St.Patrick's College, Dublin

Professor Gareth Parry, University of Sheffield

Professor Antony Welch, University of Sydney

Professor Andrae Wolter, Technical University of Dresden

Professor Shinichi Yamamoto, University of Hiroshima