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Welcome

2017 will be an important and intense year for the Utrecht Network and you will find signs of the forthcoming activities in this issue.

The Network is celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2017, an anniversary which comes in the same year as the celebrations of 30 years of the Erasmus Programme. To celebrate the 30th Anniversary, Rectors of member institutions will attend a meeting in Hull to discuss the theme of global citizenship and employability in an interconnected (and evolving) world.

After a period of dialogue with the Brazilian Network REARI-RJ, an inter-network agreement for the exchange of students and internationalisation activities has been signed.

The collaboration with the AEN and MAUI Networks fruitfully continues after many years of successful cooperation. The global outlook of the Network is also represented by the developments in the EARSUMUS+ IMPALA project which is organising its first training week in Cape Town with significant contributions from members of the Utrecht Network.



The Utrecht Network in Rio!

The Utrecht Network has demonstrated once again that it is a European Network with a global outlook by signing a student exchange agreement with Brazil's REARI-RJ Network – a Network of thirteen Higher Education institutions in the State of Rio de Janeiro.

The agreement, which was recently signed by the Presidents of both Networks, establishes a mobility programme where students from universities within both Networks can apply for a one or two semester exchange at a partner university. Exchange students will pay tuition fees at their home university and will remain enrolled at their home university. Transcripts of subjects, credits and grades will be exchanged between the home and host universities. Francesco Girotti, President of the Utrecht Network states 'This new partnership represents the first step in the creation of a long lasting cooperation between the two networks. It demonstrates the willingness and enthusiasm of the Utrecht Network members to create new learning opportunities for their students and academics'.

The first exchanges will take place during the 2017/2018 academic year. The Utrecht Network Co-ordinator will be Ana Isabel Ferreira from the University

of Coimbra. Ana Isabel will build on the significant links and expertise the University of Coimbra already has in working with Brazilian partners. The Co-ordinator for REARI-RJ will be Livia Maria de Freitas Reis Teixeira from the Fluminense Federal University in Rio de Janeiro. Both Ana Isabel and Livia will be present at the 2017 Utrecht Network Rectors meeting and AGM in Hull.

Cristina Russi, President of REARI-RJ, highlights the importance of this agreement to both Networks, noting that 'This agreement will allow, in the first instance, the exchange of students from partner universities of both networks. It meets one of the objectives of REARI-RJ, of promoting integration of people and institutions in the global scenario'.

For further information about the agreement please contact Ana Isabel Ferreira, Utrecht Network (anisabel@uc.pt) or Livia Maria de Freitas Reis Teixeira, REARI-RJ (liviareis@id.uff.br).

Utrecht Network and REARI-RJ colleagues at the 2016 FAUBAI Conference



Celebrating 30 years of the Utrecht Network

The Utrecht Network celebrates its 30th Anniversary during 2017. To mark the occasion a Rectors meeting is being held in April. The meeting, in Hull, celebrates the Network's significant achievements over the past 30 years, and looks ahead to future successes.

The theme of the Rectors meeting is 'Global citizenship and employability in an interconnected world'. The focus will be the work that member universities and the Utrecht Network are doing to equip students and researchers for today's rapidly changing environment. The meeting will also discuss how member universities engage with civil society. The keynote speaker at the meeting will be Tim Macmillan, a founder of companies in both the US and the UK, who will provide an industry perspective, looking in particular at competencies for global employability. This will be followed by a panel session, during which Utrecht Network Rectors will reflect on the role of Higher Education in this interconnected world.

During the meeting, the Utrecht Network Award will be presented to Patricia De Clopper from the University of Antwerp, in recognition of her dedication and commitment to the Network over the past 30 years. Patricia was one of the founding members of the Network and throughout her working life she has shown unstinting commitment to the Utrecht Network. Patricia has served the Network on Working Groups, Task Forces and the Steering Committee. Representing the Network on the Academic Committee of the Network's oldest and most successful Summer Schools, Patricia managed to create a prominent brand for the Network in the field of short term programmes.



The meeting will give Rectors and members the opportunity to take advantage of the main strength of our Network – building links and relationships between members.

3rd Annual Research Managers Staff Training Workshop moves to Czech Republic



The success of, and feedback from, the previous two workshops has demonstrated that there is an appetite for this type of event. The workshop provides a unique opportunity for a manageable group of international research support staff to get together and create a really productive learning experience, covering topical issues of effective grant support and exchange of best practice.

The research managers will have the opportunity to design the programme according to their specific needs and invite an external speakers to give a talk on the chosen topic. This year's programme will tackle challenges of engaging and motivating researchers to increasingly participate in H2020, productive and relevant project support services, preparation and facilitating Open Science as well accessing non-EU

The research management and grant support staff across UN will get together for the 3rd annual Staff Training Workshop hosted by Masaryk University between 20 – 22 June 2017.

funding. The aspiration for the workshop is to make this event engaging, relevant and practical experience through interactive presentations, productive discussions and best practice exchange.

The organisation of the 3rd annual Research Managers Staff Training Workshop in Brno is funded by the Utrecht Network and is open to research management and administration staff across the Utrecht Network.

For more information about the Research Managers Workshop please contact Eva Ptácková
Ptackova@rect.muni.cz.

News on the IMPALA Project



Training was held in Cape Town from 20–24 March 2017 on the following topics: Internationalisation of the Curriculum, Organisation of Summer Schools, Writing and Managing EU projects for Education and Research, and Mobility toolkit.

The trainers were recruited from the European and the South African partner universities. Additional experts were invited as well. In October 2016, a call for expression of interest, was circulated to Utrecht Network members. Nine applications were received. The Universities of Antwerp, Bologna and Graz are full partners in the project in this own right. In order to design a coherent training programme, the selection of the candidates was undertaken by the relevant working group. Finally four Utrecht Network members were accepted. The four South African universities each sent 20 participants to the training.

A new call for interest will be opened to invite trainers for the second phase of the project. Members will be asked to contribute to the practical development of the workshop sessions, to be held during 25 – 29 September 2017 in South Africa.

For further information please contact for the Utrecht Network: Patricia De Clopper (patricia.declopper@uantwerpen.be)

	MONDAY 20/03	TUESDAY 21/03	WEDNESDAY 22/03	THURSDAY 23/03
WG1: Strategy/site visits	Morning: Preparatory meeting for the site visits to European			
WG2: Short term programmes and Summer Schools		Internationalisation of Higher Education Best Practices & Theoretical framework & Paneldiscussion <i>Fiona Hunter, Sabine Pendl, Christian Hirt, Wessel Meijer, Piet Van Hove, Jon Rubin, Ana Beaven, Bernd Wachter</i>	Rationale for the Summer School: defining aims and goals related to the University's profile and strategic ambitions <i>Jeroen Torenbeek, Inez Meurs, Hlulani Mabasa</i>	Marketing and Recruitment: target groups, marketing and communication, student recruitment <i>Jeroen Torenbeek, Inez Meurs, Hlulani Mabasa</i>
WG3: Internationalization of the Curriculum		Afternoon: Theory & Policy Welcome, Opening Plenary & Panel discussion <i>Fiona Hunter, VC CPUT, Chief Mabizela, Nico Jooste, Leolyn Jackson</i>	From Theory to Practice: Strategies for Change <i>Iris Vernekohl, Patricia De Clopper, Bianca Roseaux, Desiree Scholtz, Johannes Themane, Annette Lansink, Willie Chinyamurindi</i>	Collaborative Online International Learning and Intercultural Competences <i>Jon Rubin, Ana Beaven</i>
WG5: Mobility Toolkit			Internationalization in Higher Education <i>Sabine Pendl, Wessel Meijer, Carmela Tanzillo</i>	Incoming Staff and Student Mobility <i>Sabine Pendl, Wessel Meijer, Christian Hirt, Anja Hoffman, Samuel Takalani Mashau</i>
WG4: Project writing and management		Set up effective Organisation for Project Design and Management <i>Filippo Sartor, Livia Mercatelli, Valentina Manzato, Martina Chylkova, Merle Hodges, Segun Obadire</i>	Dealing with International Funding <i>Filippo Sartor, Livia Mercatelli, Valentina Manzato, Martina Chylkova, Merle Hodges, Segun Obadire</i>	Planning next steps: Project Writing and Need Analysis of Specific needs at Institutional Level <i>Filippo Sartor, Livia Mercatelli, Valentina Manzato, Martina Chylkova, Merle Hodges, Segun Obadire</i>

Welcome to Matthew Lockaby, MAUI Exchange Coordinator

As the new MAUI exchange coordinator, I am excited to work with all of you in the Utrecht Network to promote and expand the collaboration between our two consortia. I am proud to be taking over the good work of my predecessor, Liz Shabani, and I look forward to building on the relationships and processes she helped develop.



I started work at the University of Missouri—St. Louis (UMSL) in September 2016, where I am the international exchange coordinator as well as the MAUI exchange coordinator. I have already had the chance to meet many of you by email, and I appreciate both the warm welcome I have received and your collective patience as I have learned my new role.

The administrative side of student mobility is somewhat new to me, but I have long been a passionate participant in and advocate for education abroad and student mobility.

Before coming to UMSL I was an instructor at the University of Virginia's College at Wise, a small public liberal arts college where I taught German language, literature, and film. While there I worked closely with our incoming and outgoing exchange students.

I also have an MA in German from the University of Virginia, and I have had the opportunity to participate in a number of exchange programs in Germany. As an undergraduate I did a semester exchange in Regensburg and later a summer program in Berlin that led me to stay there for a year of internships and graduate school applications. Through graduate student exchanges, I taught for two years at German universities, including one year at Utrecht Network partner, Ruhr-Universität Bochum.

Most recently, I was also able to accompany my wife for a year as she participated in a graduate exchange in Paris. During these periods abroad I took advantage of the opportunity to travel widely in Europe, and I relished the chance to meet new people and experience other cultures. Most of my experience with student mobility comes, therefore, from the perspective of a student, but I am excited now to use this experience to facilitate student mobility.

I am originally from Chattanooga, Tennessee, in the southeastern part of the US, and until moving to St. Louis I had lived primarily in Tennessee and Virginia. While I am new to the Midwest, I have quickly fallen in love with St. Louis and the region, and I am happy to help students or staff from our partners find out more about the opportunities at UMSL and all the MAUI partner schools.

In closing, I want to assure all our Utrecht Network partners that we at MAUI remain committed to student mobility and international exchange. I believe that among its many virtues, student mobility is a potent force to increase global awareness, tolerance, and connection. I look forward to working with all of you to protect and expand the wonderful opportunity our students have to learn from one another and experience life in different parts of the world.

Focus on MAUI

The Utrecht Network, through its links with the MAUI Network (Mid-America Universities International), offers its students the opportunity to apply for placements in the USA. The arrangement with the MAUI Network is a reciprocal one and in return Utrecht Network member institutions offer study placements to MAUI students.

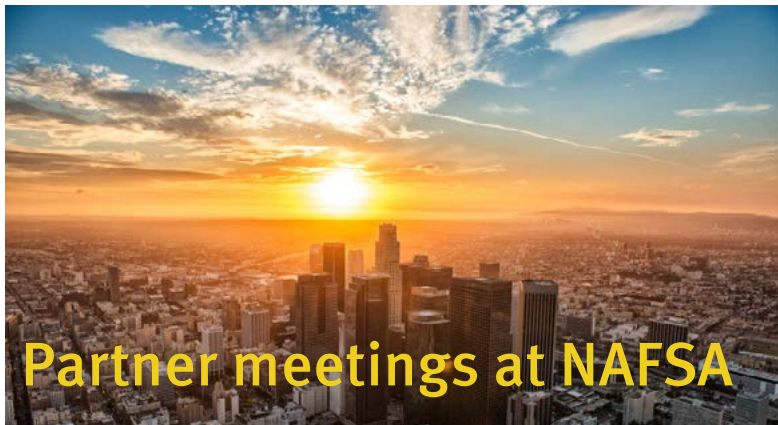
We continue our series, focusing on the members of the MAUI Network with a look at Texas Tech University (Lubbock, Texas). As a public research university, Texas Tech advances knowledge through innovative and creative teaching, research and scholarship. The university is dedicated to student

success by preparing learners to be ethical leaders for a diverse and globally competitive workforce and is committed to enhancing the cultural and economic development of the state, nation and world. Texas Tech has roughly 36,000 students, large enough to provide amazing facilities and great academics, but small enough to focus on each student individually. It ranks in the Top 25 of US institutions that produce the most graduates sought after by employers, according to the Wall Street Journal. Texas Tech is also the second largest contiguous campus in the United States, at almost 8 square kilometers. Texas Tech has 18 on-campus residence

halls with abundant off-campus housing as well. With 25 active international student associations and Lubbock's only water park (featuring a lazy river, diving board, Jacuzzi, water volleyball court and water basketball court) there are plenty of activities for students.

Lubbock, Texas is the home of Buddy Holly, rock-and-roll legend. It is also home to the largest contiguous cotton-growing region in the world, and a town consisting only of prairie dogs! Lubbock offers art shows year round including music, sculpture and ballet. Lubbock was ranked 11th among the best cities for college students in a small, metropolitan area.

NEWSinbrief



Partner meetings at NAFSA

The NAFSA conference this year is taking place from 28 May–2 June in Los Angeles, California, USA. Both AEN and MAUI will be hosting networking events with Utrecht Network partners.

Further details on both the AEN and MAUI events will be sent to members when available.

Contact

For further information about the Utrecht Network, please contact:

Fiona Miller, Executive Secretariat
Utrecht Network
c/o The University of Hull
Hull, HU6 7RX, UK

info@utrecht-network.org
www.utrecht-network.org

Utrecht Network – Stakeholder in the REALISE project

REALISE (Realising the potential of the international mobility of staff in Higher Education) is a Strategic Partnership that aims at improving the implementation and recognition of staff mobility, in order to maximize its impact on both individuals and institutions.

There are ten partner universities including Utrecht Network members, the Universities of Coimbra and Ljubljana.

In its role as a stakeholder the Utrecht Network will disseminate the project events and results.



www.utrecht-network.org



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