

2019 EUA-CDE ANNUAL MEETING

The societal dimension of doctoral education

Hosted by University of Brescia
12-14 June 2019 | Brescia, Italy

Draft programme as of 15 May 2019

Doctoral candidates contribute to society in very different ways. Their research generates the insights necessary to address urgent present and future challenges. They follow a wide array of careers in and outside of academia, connecting these different sectors and serving as a bridge between academia and other parts of society. In addition, through numerous partnerships and outreach activities, doctoral schools actively engage with other stakeholders within and outside of universities. This societal dimension of doctoral education is also becoming increasingly important since demands for universities to show their impact have grown in the last couple of years.

The 2019 Annual Meeting explores the many aspects involved in the larger social contribution of doctoral candidates and doctoral schools and their exchange with various sectors of society. Set within the broader context of the engagement of universities with partners in other sectors, the meeting will explore a variety of related topics such as the contribution of doctoral education to reaching the Sustainable Development Goals, the opportunities and challenges of science communication, inter-sectoral mobility and collaboration, career development, skill development for addressing global challenges, and societal impact and outreach.

The EUA Council for Doctoral Education (EUA-CDE) invites academic leaders, heads of doctoral schools, doctoral education professionals, early career researchers and everybody interested in the area of doctoral education from Europe and beyond to its 2019 Annual Meeting to reflect on the doctoral education structures, policies and practices that facilitate the societal dimension of the contribution made by doctoral education and the exchanges between doctoral candidates and other sectors of society.

For more information on the registration process, please follow [this link](#).

Wednesday 12 June 2019

11:00 – 16:30 Italian universities pre-conference *(delivered in Italian)*

The event is intended as an occasion of overview and discussion on the current status, challenges and opportunities for doctoral education in Italy, hosting panelists, speakers and attendees from institutions, universities and non-academic field. More information is available [here](#).

15:00 – 16:30 Pre-meeting Workshop I: Promoting your doctoral school or programme via social media - *Number of participants limited*

Social media has become increasingly important in the external communication of doctoral education. While some doctoral schools and programmes maintain their own twitter, LinkedIn or Facebook accounts, others contribute to their institutional channels. Additionally, some consciously abstain from any social media activity. In addition to sharing their experiences, participants in this workshop will discuss opportunities, possible pitfalls and how to embed social media in a broader communication strategy.

- Christel Vacelet, Director for Communications, Public affairs and Membership, European University Association

15:00 – 16:30 Pre-meeting Workshop II: New to doctoral education - *Number of participants limited*

This pre-meeting workshop welcomes new participants to doctoral education. It introduces newcomers to policies and good practices aimed at further developing doctoral education in their respective institutions.

- Nicholas C Vella, Director of the Doctoral School, University of Malta, Malta
- Hans-Joachim Bungartz, Graduate Dean, Technical University of Munich, Germany, EUA-CDE Steering Committee

16:30 – 17:00 Coffee break

17:00 – 18:45 Special event: Promoting doctoral education in South Africa

EUA is a partner of the [YEBO! Project](#), which focuses on developing the internationalisation of doctoral education in South African universities. A delegation of South African university leaders will participate in the Annual Meeting, in particular in a special event open to the whole EUA-CDE community. It will feature an overview of doctoral education in South Africa; current opportunities there for European universities; and future perspectives for the internationalisation of doctoral education in South Africa. More information is available [here](#).

18:45 – 20:00 Welcome reception

Thursday 13 June 2019

09:30 – 10:15 Welcome coffee

10:15 – 10:45 Welcome address

- Marco Bussetti, Minister of Education, University and Research, Italy [TBC]
- Maurizio Tira, Rector, University of Brescia, Italy
- Luke Georghiou, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Chair

10:45 – 12:15 Plenary Session I

The sustainable development goals (SDGs) form an ambitious catalogue of 17 goals that aim at reaching a sustainable development of the planet. They take equal account of all three dimensions of sustainability — social, environmental and economic. The SDGs have become increasingly important for the missions of universities and provide opportunities for early-career researchers. This panel will explore the role of SDGs in doctoral education and how early-career researchers can be prepared to actively deal with the global challenges that lie ahead.

Keynote: Contribution of doctoral education to reaching the SDG

- Jeffrey D. Sachs, Director of the Earth Institute and University Professor, Columbia University, USA [via video-conference]

Panel discussion:

- Aleksandra Kanjuo Mrčela, Head of the Doctoral School, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, EUA-CDE Steering Committee
- Tomas Enrique Leon Sicard, Professor, DAAD SDG Graduate School, Programa de Apoyo a la Formación Doctoral, National University of Colombia
- Francesco Castelli, Rector's Delegate for Cooperation and Development, UNESCO Chair on "Training and empowering human resources for health development in resource-limited countries", University of Brescia, Italy

Chair: Luke Georghiou, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Chair

12:15 – 13:45 Group photo, followed by lunch

13:45 – 15:15 Parallel Session I – see page 8

- A. Developing new skills for future challenges

Doctoral final examinations: Relevance to new skills and future challenges

Pam Denicolo, University of Surrey, United Kingdom

Dawn Duke, University of Surrey, United Kingdom

Chair: Paolo Biscari, EUA-CDE Steering Committee member

- B. Societal engagement of doctoral candidates

Higher education cultures, doctoral researcher well-being and the public good: a sociological approach

Rosemary Deem, Royal Holloway University of London, United Kingdom

Fitness for Purpose: Preparing doctoral candidates for societal engagement and inclusivity

Sandra Hasanefendic, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands

Adrian Verkleij, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands

Chair: Aleksandra Kanjuo Mrčela, EUA-CDE Steering Committee member

C. Communicating research to the society

Communicating high-impact research through innovative formats

Catherine Vancsok, University of Liège, Belgium

Chair: Edwin Constable, EUA-CDE Steering Committee member

D. Intersectoral mobility

Success in the relation of companies and universities: Endowed Chairs

Carmen Gallardo Cruz, Seville University, Spain

Chair: Timo Korkeamäki, EUA-CDE Steering Committee member

15:15 – 15:45 Coffee break

15:45 – 16:15 The CDE 2018/2019

- Luke Georghiou, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Chair
- Alexander Hasgall, Head EUA-CDE

16:15 – 17:30 Plenary Session II**Inter-sectoral mobility for doctorate holders: a two-way street?**

Doctorate holders are qualified for a variety of career options in different sectors and often serve as a “bridge” between academia and society. However, the transition from academia to other sectors, and vice versa, remains challenging. How can universities work together with other sectors to smooth the transition and reach the full potential of such collaboration?

- Janet Metcalfe, Head of Vitae, UK
- Monika Beer, Director of Helmholtz Graduate School Environmental Health, Neuherberg, Germany
- Philippe Lutz, Head of the Doctoral College, University of Bourgogne Franche-Comté, France

Chair: Murat Özgören, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Member

19:00 – 20:00 Reception City Hall

Hosted by Emilio Del Bono, Mayor of Brescia

20:00 – 22:30 Dinner

Friday 14 June 2019

09:00 – 10:30 Plenary Session III

Societal impact and societal responsibility of doctoral education

Through their research and future career, doctoral candidates impact society in different ways. During this session, these different ways are discussed and the influence of the “impact” agenda on early-career researchers critically evaluated.

- Francesc Xavier Grau, Secretary of Universities and Research, Generalitat de Catalunya; former Rector University Rovira i Virgili, Tarragona, Spain
- Eva Hnatkova, President Eurodoc, Doctoral Candidate, Tomas Bata University in Zlín, Czech Republic
- Claire Morel, Head of Unit, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), European Commission

Chair: Lidia Borrell-Damian, Director for Research and Innovation, European University Association

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30 Parallel Session II – see page 8

A. Developing skills for current societal challenges

Innovative skills development as core challenge and task for the societal dimension of doctoral education

Helmut Brentel, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

Doctoral education for the future - identifying the drivers and needs for development

Maija Urponen, University of Helsinki, Finland

Chair: Murat Özgören, EUA-CDE Steering Committee member

B. Intersectoral mobility

Doctoral graduates in society: Case studies of enterprising researchers

Dawn Duke, University of Surrey, United Kingdom

James Armstrong, University of Surrey, United Kingdom

Clare Wunderly, University of Surrey, United Kingdom

The role of doctoral degree holders in society and how their skills are valued by employers

Andrea Dünschede, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

Chair: Hans-Joachim Bungartz, EUA-CDE Steering Committee member

C. Doctoral education: a tool for the development of internationalisation

Irish National Guidelines for collaborative research degree programmes

Maria Pramaggiore, Maynooth University, Ireland

Marie Murphy, Maynooth University, Ireland

Strengthening doctoral education in Africa: societal demands and the impact of DAAD programmes

Sebastian Sperlich, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Germany

Chair: Mossadek Talby, EUA-CDE Steering Committee member

D. Initiatives to support intersectoral mobility during and after a doctorate

International Research Training Groups funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG)

Astrid Evers, German Research Foundation, Germany

Stimulating and supporting intersectoral mobility during and after a PhD: from funding to competences?

Stefanie Kerkhofs, Hasselt University, Belgium

Ilse Van Damme, Hasselt University, Belgium

Chair: Martine Rahier, EUA Vice-President and ex-officio EUA Board member

12:30 – 13:45 Lunch

13:45 – 15:00 Plenary Session IV

Communicating doctoral research and doctoral education

Communication plays an increasingly important role for doctoral schools. In addition to supporting the training of doctoral candidates in communication skills, institutions themselves are more actively communicating their research to society. This includes new formats like “science slams” or “my thesis in 180 seconds” competitions, but also an increasing presence of doctoral schools on twitter and other social media. This plenary session will explore the different aspects of communication within doctoral education.

- Claudine Leysinger, Head of Graduate Campus, University of Zurich, Switzerland
- Chris Waiting, Chief Executive, [The Conversation](#)
- Martin Delguste, Doctoral Candidate, Université catholique du Louvain, Belgian winner of the “ma thèse en 180 secondes” contest

Chair: Alexander Hasgall, Head EUA-CDE

15:00 – 15:30 **Closing session**

- Luke Georghiou, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Chair
- Vittorio Ferrari, Rector's Delegate for research quality management and postgraduate studies, University of Brescia, Italy
- Invitation to the 2020 Thematic Workshop by the Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgia
- Invitation to the 2020 Annual Meeting by the University of Manchester, UK

15:30 – 16:00 Farewell reception

16:00 Brescia City Tour

PARALLEL SESSIONS

Please note that not all authors listed may be present at the session.

SESSION I – THURSDAY 13 JUNE

I.A: Developing new skills for future challenges

• Doctoral final examinations: Relevance to new skills and future challenges

Authors:

Pam Denicolo, University of Surrey, United Kingdom

Dawn Duke, University of Surrey, United Kingdom

The rapid evolution of doctoral programmes intended to produce skilled, versatile researchers to address future challenges has not been matched by parallel development in the final examination processes. We raise challenging questions about how they could be adapted to provide transparent evidence of successful candidates' worth to key stakeholders.

I.B: Societal engagement of doctoral candidates

• Higher education cultures, doctoral researcher well-being and the public good: a sociological approach

Author:

Rosemary Deem, Royal Holloway University of London, United Kingdom

The presentation examines dominant cultures in European higher education which affect doctoral researcher mental health. It argues that we could improve doctoral researcher well-being by focusing on doctoral education for public good. This could include being a public intellectual, translating academic knowledge, contributing to school-learning or engaging with community education.

• Fitness for purpose: Preparing doctoral candidates for societal engagement and inclusivity

Authors:

Sandra Hasanefendic, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands

Adrian Verkleij, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands

Frans Snijders, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands

In this contribution, we highlight the elements of a PhD lifecycle at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam which stimulate doctoral candidates' societal engagement. First, we emphasise the relevance of a structured PhD trajectory rather than a loose research trajectory, and then we show how we embed Bridging Programmes, Online Career Training, and Structured Aurora Mobility within such a PhD trajectory. Finally, we present these three elements which promote societal engagement, stimulate inclusion in doctoral education and help prepare our doctoral candidates for increasingly competitive academic and non-academic labour markets.

I.C: Communicating research to the society

• Communicating high-impact research through innovative formats

Authors:

Catherine Vancsok, University of Liège, Belgium

Isabelle Halleux, University of Liège, Belgium

Research papers with high scores are usually out of reach for the general public. The University of Liège specialises in decoding and disseminating the content of top articles to different public audiences and stakeholders by using unconventional innovative formats. This contribution will present the most recent creation of ULiège: a research outcome placemat for restaurants.

I.D: Intersectoral mobility

• Success in the relation of companies and universities: Endowed Chairs

Author:

Carmen Gallardo Cruz, Seville University, Spain

The presentation will focus on the Strategic Research Plan to leverage the development of the doctoral thesis in companies, the activities of USEmprende, which boosts the entrepreneurship capacity of all members of the university, and the Endowed Chairs. The University of Seville has 31 chairs in different areas, including science, engineering and humanities, promoting topics of interest for the economy and society.

SESSION II – FRIDAY 14 JUNE

II.A: Developing skills for current societal challenges

• Innovative skills development as core challenge and task for the societal dimension of doctoral education

Author:

Helmut Brentel, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

The presentation and interactive exercise will explore the extraordinary skills and competences urgently needed to identify and overcome the current challenges and threats of our societies. These skills and competences strengthen the role and responsibility of doctoral education and supervision at its core societal interface, endowing and training the next generations of young researchers and supervisors.

• Doctoral education for the future — identifying the drivers and needs for development

Author:

Maija Urponen, University of Helsinki, Finland

How are current megatrends such as climate change, globalisation and digitalisation affecting doctoral education and the skills needed for successful doctoral careers both inside and outside academia? The presentation will introduce two collective methods for identifying these development needs at the University of Helsinki and offer their preliminary results for discussion.

II.B: Intersectoral mobility

• Doctoral graduates in society: Case studies of enterprising researchers

Authors:

Dawn Duke, University of Surrey, United Kingdom

Pam Denicolo, University of Surrey, United Kingdom

Clare Wunderly, University of Surrey, United Kingdom

James Armstrong, University of Surrey, United Kingdom

The majority of doctoral graduates find satisfying careers in a wide variety of sectors outside of academia. However, there is little understanding of how the doctorate prepares graduates for these careers. We present case studies of doctoral alumni, highlighting how doctoral skills are translated to adapt to different sectors.

• The role of doctoral degree holders in society and how their skills are valued by employers

Author:

Andrea Dünschede, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

The ultimate goal of a doctorate has always been to become a professor. However, a career outside academia should not be considered second-best. Doctorate holders working outside universities contribute research-based knowledge and skills: they are valuable employees and able to make a difference in many sectors of society.

II.C: Doctoral education: a tool for the development of internationalisation

• Irish National Guidelines for collaborative research degree programmes

Authors:

Maria Pramaggiore, Maynooth University, Ireland

Marie Murphy, Maynooth University, Ireland

In this contribution, we discuss Collaborative Research Degree Programmes (CRDP) in Ireland. Each Irish university has the authority to develop collaborative research programmes, but their use of differing terminology and approaches to programme development has led to confusion and duplication of effort across the sector. Consequently, the Irish Universities Association's Deans of Graduate Studies group initiated a review process of CRDPs in 2018.

• Strengthening doctoral education in Africa: societal demands and the impact of DAAD programmes

Author:

Sebastian Sperlich, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Germany

With the presentation of a British Council and DAAD co-funded study and two DAAD practical examples the current state of PhD capacities in Sub-Saharan Africa will be explored, current challenges will be highlighted and recommendations for further improvement will be made.

II.D: Initiatives to support intersectoral mobility during and after a doctorate

• International Research Training Groups funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG)

Author:

Astrid Evers, German Research Foundation, Germany

Research Training Groups (RTGs) funded by DFG (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft or German Research Foundation) combine innovative research and structured training of doctoral candidates. Societal Impact is not a central factor in DFGs science-based and excellence-driven evaluation processes. However, intersectoral mobility, public outreach and teaching of new skills that are crucial also beyond academia are important aspects in the training and career development of researchers and therefore strongly encouraged within this programme. The specific measures used in the individual RTGs varies greatly between disciplines and follows a strict bottom-up approach.

• Stimulating and supporting intersectoral mobility during and after a PhD: from funding to competences?

Authors:

Stefanie Kerkhofs, Hasselt University, Belgium

Ilse Van Damme, Hasselt University, Belgium

Nele Nivelde, Hasselt University, Belgium

Hasselt University stimulates intersectoral mobility by providing earmarked funding and organising activities with non-academic partners. The presentation focuses on four initiatives: a 'civic' PhD fund, intersectoral mobility grants, mock job interviews and a competency framework.