



Go8 REPRESENTED AT EUROPE'S LARGEST INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Go8 staff attended the 21st European Association for International Education (EAIE) conference held in Madrid last month. Titled *Connecting continents*, the conference, which is the biggest of its kind in Europe, attracted over 3600 participants from 80 countries.



The Go8 maintained its presence at a booth which attracted a great deal of interest from institutions seeking partners for cooperation. As in previous years, the Go8 hosted a reception for selected partner universities. With a plethora of workshops and seminars on offer, the EAIE conference offers Go8 participants diverse opportunities to stay abreast of the latest developments in international education.

The next EAIE conference will take place in Nantes, France, in September 2010.

CHINA SCHOLARSHIP COUNCIL DELEGATION VISITS AUSTRALIA

A high-level delegation of the China Scholarship Council (CSC) led by Dr Liu Jinghui, Secretary-General and President, visited the Go8 secretariat in September.

The CSC is a non-profit institution affiliated with China's Ministry of Education which provides financial assistance to Chinese citizens studying abroad and to foreign students studying in China. Through scholarship funding it aims to develop educational, scientific and cultural exchanges as well as economic and trade cooperation between China and other countries.

The Go8 and the CSC discussed the development of the cooperation between the Go8 and China's leading research universities known as the C9 as well as ways of increasing the number of CSC sponsored students in Australia.

Go8 SPONSORS AUSTRALASIAN RESEARCH MANAGEMENT SOCIETY CONFERENCE

The Go8 sponsored the 2009 annual conference of the Australasian Research Management Society (ARMS) held in Christchurch from 15–18 September 2009.

The conference, *Evolution of Research Management*, attracted over 370 delegates involved in research management from across Australia and New Zealand. Principal speakers included Dr Wayne Mapp, the New Zealand Minister of Research, Science and Technology, the Vice-Chancellors of the University of Canterbury and Massey University as well as Professor Margaret Sheil, CEO of the Australian Research Council.

The conference examined the funding directions of research, science and technology in New Zealand including funding for the Crown Research Institutes and for universities and ways of stimulating industry research funding. It also focused on ways of measuring research excellence including the ARC's Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) and the New Zealand Research Performance-Based Fund (PBRF), providing professional development for research managers and how research managers support researchers.

Go8 LOTE COMMITMENT

As part of its ongoing commitment to maintaining teaching and research in Languages Other Than English (LOTE), the Go8 is currently surveying its member universities about the use of technology in LOTE delivery.

The survey will form part of the Go8's efforts to ensure the sustainability of a broad range of languages. The Go8 universities deliver courses in all 29 languages currently taught at tertiary level in Australia. See the Go8 website for further information on current Go8 LOTE incentives. www.go8.edu.au

The Go8's survey is timely as a recent Australian Academy of the Humanities report recommended the need for a more detailed study of the uses of technology in LOTE delivery. The report, *Beginners' LOTE in Australian Universities: An Audit Survey and Analysis (2008)* concluded that "there would be value in an

information exchange such that language departments and schools would be more aware of what others were doing and thereby could perhaps share ideas and materials more readily".

A better knowledge of language learning and increased use of technology will expand access to LOTEs as well as increase the capacity of academic staff for research, for supervising research students, and for teaching more advanced units of study.

The Go8 survey of modern and classical languages will be conducted late in 2009, with results becoming available early in 2010.

For more information about this survey, contact Alan Mackay, Director, Information Strategy, or Helen Montesin, Manager, Information and Analysis in the Go8 Office.

EXTENDED DEADLINE FOR L'AQUILA FELLOWSHIPS

Earlier this year the Go8 announced it will offer up to eight scholarships to early career researchers in the Italian city of L'Aquila to help them continue their research in Australia while the University of L'Aquila is rebuilt.

In the aftermath of the April 2009 earthquake in L'Aquila which claimed nearly 300 lives and left thousands injured, the university has virtually shut down. Fifty five of those who died were from the university's 23,000-strong student body.

The scholarships will be administered through the Association for Research between Italy and Australasia (ARIA) and applications will be assessed by an expert panel.

In recognition of the difficulties faced by L'Aquila residents, many of whom have lost their homes, the application deadline has been extended to 31 October 2009. Eligible researchers are those currently enrolled in a research degree at the University of L'Aquila or full-time staff of the university. Preference will be given to PhD students and early career researchers.

For further information and to download an application form visit: www.go8.edu.au

DEADLINE FOR Go8 FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS

A reminder that applications for next year's annual Go8 European Fellowships are open until 30 October 2009.

Eight Fellowships are awarded each year to early career researchers from Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria and Croatia. Applications must be supported by an academic staff member at a Go8 member university.

Go8 Fellows receive benefits worth \$20,000 to travel to Australia and work at a Go8 university for up to six months. The scheme recognises the importance of international contacts for early career researchers and plays an important role in building Go8 research partnerships in Europe.

For further information: www.go8.edu.au



Charles Bridge, Prague

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Go8 DVCs Research meet in Sydney on 15–16 October
- Go8 Chief Financial Officers meet in Canberra on 30 October
- Go8 Data Sharing Network meets in Adelaide on 10 November
- Go8 Deans of Medicine meet in Canberra on 16–17 November
- Go8 Deans of Arts meet in Canberra on 18 November
- Go8 Human Resources Directors meet in Melbourne on 19 November
- Go8 International Directors meet in Adelaide on 23 November
- Go8 Facilities Managers meet in Canberra on 24 November

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

The *Go8 Update* is published online to keep the Go8 network of committees and staff at Go8 universities informed about the organisation's activities.

Past editions are available at www.go8.edu.au.

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