



IAUP Newsletter

The Global Voice of Higher Education | December 2009

ACADEMIC CHAIRS FOR AFRICA



This proposal is being prepared for consideration by the Canadian government. The Canadian government will host the G8 meeting in June of 2010. And the G20 will be held at about the same time at the same place. Already we have support from many individuals and associations.

People at the United Nations, UNESCO, the World Bank and the African Development Bank have been supportive and have given advice on the proposal itself as well as suggesting people with whom to discuss

the idea. There have been many university presidents in Canada and around the world who stand in strong support. A number of African associations and African university presidents and governments have been advised of the proposal and support the concept.

Over and over we hear that this is the right idea at the right time. Please send your comments and suggestions for people in Africa and in the G8/G20 countries who should hear about this proposal to davidstrangway@telus.net so that we can inform the Canadian government of the widespread support for the proposal.

- View the proposal of [Academic Chairs for Africa](#)
- Learn about the origin of [Academic Chairs for Africa \(Empowering Universities\)](#)
- Read [selected quotes](#) on Africa and Academia



CHALLENGES OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN AFRICA

*João Sebastião Teta – Rector of Universidade Agostinho Neto
Angola, Africa*

Colonial Africa had no tradition of higher education, which for the last hundred years or more was limited to a few elite who were responsible for maintaining colonialism. The problems facing post-colonial Africa was to create access for all who were qualified, erase the stigmas

WISE: World Innovation Summit for Education



A good number of IAUP colleagues were invited to attend the WISE Conference in Qatar (last Nov. 18–21) and also had an occasion to attend a special IAUP meeting there. The general impression of the members that were in Doha recognized that WISE was an exceptional event: Good selection of themes, very high level of presentations made by experts from different countries, a very well organized program, and all fully appreciated the generous hospitality provided by the hosts – the Qatar Education Foundation.

IAUP had a wonderful presence and visibility as a partner of WISE and finally, was also selected, together

of slavery, address cultural differences within countries, and develop a research agenda where none previously existed.

To increase access over the past three decades, many students were sent abroad to study but over 40% never returned. Brain drain continues to be a major problem in most African countries.

The need is to reinvent African universities to make them more attractive to faculty and students. Problems include:

- Most university faculty members are over 56 years old.
- There is a severe lack of funding for infrastructure. The money is simply not there.
- Political corruption and influences often force decisions and hiring practices at universities that compound the problems.
- There is no uniform accreditation on the continent. This leads to non-transferability of degrees between countries.
- Need to have doctoral programs at African universities so that research agendas will focus on African problems.

David Strangway, former President of the University of British Columbia and later Quest University in Canada, reiterated many of these problems based on his African experiences. But he also identified some opportunities. One advantage to beginning anew is that one can often leapfrog advancement; one does not have to reproduce the development process of other countries. The Internet, for example, provides enormous opportunities that did not exist even a decade ago to reach remote regions. With the advent of wireless communications, land lines are not required. Also, in starting anew, a country can develop its higher education initiatives to fit the needs of that country; it does not have to replicate existing models elsewhere that may not fit well in Africa.

RIO DE JANEIRO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AND LATIN AMERICAN SEMINAR



The latest IAUP Executive Committee Meeting and Latin American Seminar were held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil at the SOFITEL Hotel on October 18–21. Several initiatives took place including discussions dealing with the Academic Impact, Commission on

with the IIE in New York, to implement one of the Action Projects announced at the final Plenary Session. President **Barham Madain**, on behalf of all IAUP Members, expressed special thanks to **Michael Adams** and **Richard Bronson** for their dedicated work as partners in preparing the WISE 2009 Conference.

Since it was decided by the local hosts that the Summit will be an Annual event, IAUP wishes to be continuously involved as a partner organization in future years. For more information on the latest developments with the [WISE Summit](#).



ACADEME

Journal of Leadership and Management in Higher Education

The latest ACADEME is available to download. The journal seeks to foster exchanges among practitioners, policy makers and scholars and to provide a symposium for comment on leadership and management in higher education.

[Download the latest ACADEME](#)

IAUP North East Asia Conference

Disarmament Education, Conflict Resolution and Peace, and the Academic Chairs for Africa.

Professor **Paulo Alcantara Gomes**, Rector of Universidade Castelo Branco, in Rio de Janeiro organized a fascinating IAUP Latin American Seminar on "Universities and Innovation", which was presented at the Centro de Tecnologia at the Campus of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) – Cidade Universitaria. It was attended by 50 participants from industry, NGO's and other Brazilian Universities. The participants visited some small companies in the Technology Park of the University and also the big and unique Oceanic Laboratory used by Petrobras for ships and platforms for oil exploration.

Carlos Alberto Serpa de Oliveira, President of Fundacao Cesgranrio, provided hospitable support to all members that attended the meeting. Brazilian Co-Sponsors of the Seminar: Petrobras/CENPES, Redetec Technological Network, CRUB – Brazilian Institutes for Very Small Business, and FIESP – Federation of Industries Sao Paulo.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ICT & KNOWLEDGE ENGINEERING 2009

Siam University, Bangkok, Thailand
December 1 – 3, 2009

Major topics: *Algorithms and Data Structures, Applications of Knowledge and Data Engineering, Data Mining, Databases and Data Modeling, E-Learning, Machine Learning, Emerging Issues in Data Management*, and other related topics: [ICT & Knowledge Engineering PDF](#)

IAUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING and COUNCIL OF SENIOR ADVISORS

Plaza Heisei, Tokyo International Exchange Center, Tokyo, Japan
June 19 – 21, 2010

IAUP XVI TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE (BUILDING BRIDGES THROUGH EDUCATION)

Marriott Marquis Hotel (Times Square & Broadway), New York City, U.S.A.
June 17 – 20, 2011

ANTI-CONVENTION

IAUP PRESIDENTIAL RETREAT AT ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY, CHICAGO, IL.

The IAUP North East Asia Conference was held on September 30th – October 2nd at the National University of Kaohsiung, Taiwan. Higher Education and Economic Development was the theme and the subtopics of the conference were:

- Collaborations between Higher Education in North East Asia Management and Administration in Higher Education.
- Collaborations among Institutions of Higher Education in North East Asia
- Management and Administration in Higher Education
- Improvement of Overall Quality and Evaluation in Higher Education

Dr. Judith Easton, the President of Council for Higher Education Accreditation in the U.S.A., lectured on Higher Education and Economic Development – Global Context, Actors and Actions from a global perspective. She noted that the higher education in the service of economic development is a global trend, but the role of higher education in global economic development also raises many vital questions, such as how to further strengthen ties between economic development and social commitment. Another keynote speaker was **Dr. Chih-Kung Lee**, Executive Vice President of Industrial



Llyod Benjamin – Indiana State University, Stephen Joel Trachtenberg – George Washington University, Robert Scott – Adelphi University, Milton Gordon – California State University at Fullerton.

The IAUP Presidential Retreat was aptly titled the Anti-Convention because of the long breaks between presentations, which were successful in allowing presidents ample time to network. It was sponsored by the North American Council (NAC) at Roosevelt University in Chicago, on Friday, October 16. The Retreat opened with a dinner the evening before and a talk by **Dr. Rachel Bronson**, Vice President for Programs and Studies at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. She spoke on Trends in Higher Education in the Middle East.

On Friday, the Retreat opened with a Keynote Address from **Ramu Damodaran**, Director of the Academic Impact project at the United Nations. He spoke on the “The Power of the Presidency: Enrolling Academic Leaders in a New Global Accord”. He was followed by **George Dehne**, President of GDA Integrated Services (and a member of the IAUP Council of Senior Advisors) who spoke on “What Makes Your Institution Distinctive”. After lunch **Donna Mullins**, Managing Partner of Winning Strategies Washington, spoke to the group on Engaging Elected Officials. The day ended with a panel discussion on “Making the Mission Real”, led by **Lee Gorsuch**, President of City University of Seattle, **Chuck Middleton**, President of Roosevelt University, and **J. Michael Adams**, President of Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Technology Research Institute in Taiwan, gave a talk on Perspective on Linking Higher Education to Economic Development: Bird's Eye View of Taiwan's Experience.

EDUCATION AS THE PATH TO PEACE



It wasn't long ago when the IAUP recommended an International Day of Peace to the United Nations. The International Day of Peace was established as a resolution in 1981 and has become a huge global event. President-Elect, **Michael Adams**, spoke on behalf of the IAUP on this celebratory day at the United Nations Headquarters. [Watch the video on the IAUP homepage.](#)



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