



OPETUSMINISTERIÖ

Undervisningsministeriet

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Ministère de l'Éducation

3RD CYCLE DEGREES: COMPETENCES AND RESEARCHER CAREER

Marina Congress Center, Helsinki, Finland, 30 Sept - 1 Oct 2008

1 July 2008

Dear Sir/ Madam,

The Finnish Ministry of Education warmly invites You to participate in the following event

3RD CYCLE DEGREES: COMPETENCES AND RESEARCHER CAREER
- Bologna Seminar on the internationalisation of the 3rd cycle.

As part of the 2007–2009 Work Programme of the Bologna Process, Finland is to host a two-day seminar on the internationalisation of the 3rd cycle degrees. The seminar will be held in English.

The topic of the seminar is internationalisation of the 3rd cycle and researcher careers: promoting the mobility of researchers and comparable learning outcomes on a European level.

The ministerial meeting in Berlin resolved to include also the 3rd cycle postgraduate degrees as part of the Bologna process. Defining comparable and compatible degree structures and learning outcomes, commitment to joint degrees and the internationalisation of postgraduate education were seen as goals at the European level. Moving ahead with the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) was emphasised in London in 2007. An important goal regarding the EHEA is achieving comparability and recognition of degrees through common qualifications frameworks. This will help overcome national and international barriers to the mobility and employability of researchers. Improving the status, career prospects and funding for early stage researchers are essential preconditions for strengthening research capacity of Europe. Closer alignment of the EHEA with European Research Area (ERA) remains another important objective.

The aim of the seminar is to share best practices with regard to the internationalisation of the 3rd cycle, transparent learning outcomes and more predictable researcher careers.

The seminar is aimed at policy makers, designers and organisers of postgraduate education as well as various stakeholders in the Bologna Process.

Working group topics

Competences

Contents and structures of education: What kind of knowledge, skills and competences does postgraduate education produce and who defines them? Linkages to qualifications frameworks.

Internationalisation

Internationalisation as an integral aspect of researcher training; structural and systematic international cooperation in postgraduate education. Best practices.

Researcher careers

Diversity of researcher careers in academia and elsewhere in the research and innovation system. Transparent and predictable career options: mechanisms to move into and ascend in research career systems. Best practices.

Please register for the seminar via the on-line registration form, which can be found on the Ministry of Education website at <http://www.minedu.fi/events> (choose the date of the seminar in the calendar). Please register by 15 August 2008. Due to our premises, the seminar will be limited to 200 participants by invitation only. Participants are kindly asked to inform the organisers of possible cancellations. Background material and the final seminar programme can be downloaded from the event page from July onwards.

The seminar is jointly organised by the Finnish Ministry of Education, Academy of Finland, Center for International Mobility CIMO, Finnish Council of University Rectors and the Finnish Higher Education Evaluation Council.

For further information, please contact *Ms. Sirpa Aalto* or *Ms. Mirka Gustafsson* at the Ministry of Education. Email addresses are of the form `firstname.lastname@minedu.fi`.



Minister

Sari Sarkomaa



Director

Leena Vestala

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

DAY 1 (SEPTEMBER 30, 2008)

Chair, Ms. Anita Lehtikoinen, Finnish Ministry of Education

General rapporteur, Dr. Robert Wagenaar, University of Groningen

- 8:00–9:30 Registration and coffee
- 9:30–9:45 Opening of the seminar. *Ms. Anita Lehtikoinen, Finnish Ministry of Education*
- 9:45–10:30 Bologna 3rd Cycle in the European Higher Education Area: From University Perspective. *Dr. John Smith, European University Association (EUA).*
- 10:30–11:15 Topic to be confirmed. *Dr. Massimo Serpieri, DG Research, European Commission.*
- 11:15–11:45 Science as a solution to global problems. *Finland Distinguished Professor Douglas Worsnop, Helsinki University.*
- 12–13 Lunch
- 13–13:30 Doctoral Schools & Transferable Skills. *Professor Mary Ritter, Imperial College London.*
- 13:30–14:00 International PhD training: Joint PhD degree of EMBL and University of Helsinki. *Dr. Mikko Taipale, Whitehead Institute, MIT.*
- 14:00–16:30 Working groups
- 1. Competences**
The eternal tension in PhD labor market preparation. Broad training & high specialization. Chair *Dr. Hans Sonneveld, Universiteit Utrecht.* Rapporteur *Professor Riitta Pyykkö, University of Turku.*
- 2. Internationalisation**
Policy measures supporting the internationalisation of the 3rd cycle degrees. *Mr. Ilkka Turunen, Finnish Ministry of Education.*
- 3. Researcher career and best practices**
Skill development as a part of the career development for doctoral candidates and younger researchers in Europe. Chair *Ms. Karoline Holländer, The European Council for Doctoral Candidates and Junior Researchers (EURODOC),* Rapporteur *Dr. Mikko Taipale, Whitehead Institute, MIT.*
- 16:30 Cocktails and buffet at the lounge of Marina Congress Center. Welcoming words by the Academy of Finland.
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DAY II (OCTOBER 1, 2008)

Chair, Dr. Leena Vestala, Finnish Ministry of Education

General rapporteur, Dr. Robert Wagenaar, University of Groningen

- 9:00–9:30 Coffee will be served
- 09:30–10:00 *Ms. Sari Sarkomaa, Minister of Education.*
- 10:00–10:20 The possibilities of internationalisation in PhD training.
Dr. Riitta Mustonen, Academy of Finland.
- 10:20–10:50 PhD training in Finland. *Speaker to be confirmed.*
- 10:50–11:20 Dissemination of the working group results by the working group rapporteurs.
- 11:20–11:50 Outcomes of the seminar and the future steps perceived.
Dr. Robert Wagenaar, University of Groningen.
- 11:50–12:00 Conclusions of the seminar. *Dr. Leena Vestala, Finnish Ministry of Education.*
- 12:00–13:30 Lunch