The New Juncker Commission

Special Focus on the Commissioners

- Education, Culture, Youth and Sport
- Research, Science and Innovation
- Digital Single Market
- Digital Economy & Society
- Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility
CALL FOR PAPERS

Polytech Orléans (F) the School of Engineering of the University of Orléans
29 June-2 July 2015

Sub themes

- Innovative pedagogical approaches to improve engineering education
- Diversity in engineering education and of engineering institutions
- Gender and diversity in innovation teams in engineering education
- Diversity and inclusion as business cases in technical research
- Engineering education as a vector for social advancement

Abstract submission: 19 January 2015
Notification of acceptance: 23 March 2015
Final paper submission: 27 April 2015

Deadlines and instruction for authors on www.sefi2015.com
Contact: sefi2015@univ-orleans.fr

Topics

- Eco design in engineering education
- Education concepts specific for engineering education
- Engineering education research
- Inclusive design in engineering education
- Language issues in engineering education
- Learning specific formats for engineering education
- Mathematics and engineering education
- New learning concepts for engineering education
- New education tools for engineering education
- Physics and engineering education
- Student as key actors in EE change process
- Clustering different types of engineering schools
- Entrepreneurship and engineering education
- Ethics in engineering education
- Industry and engineering education
- Integration of research in engineering education
- The importance of the Internships
- Specialized versus generic engineering education
- Attractiveness of engineering education (K-12, Primary and secondary)
- Continuing and lifelong learning engineering education
- Diversity in engineering education
- Gender in engineering education
- Retaining women to engineering
- Curriculum development
- Employability of engineering graduates
- Information and communication technologies
- Open and distance learning - MOOCS
- Globalization of EE
- Student international cooperation
- Accreditation of engineering education
- Biology and engineering education
- Quality assurance engineering education
- Sustainability of engineering education
- University - business: cooperation and inspiration

Accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings (ISBN)

We look forward to your participation!
IN THIS ISSUE

SEFI ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2015 CALL FOR PAPERS

FROM SEFI AND ITS MEMBERS

On our agenda in November
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Second Announcement Final Conference Thinkers Program Blended learning
Technological Educational Institute (T.E.I.) of Western Greece Appointment of Rector (President)
FEANI elects a new President

FROM PARTNERS

ASEE International Forum 2015 Lifelong Learning for Engineers—Global Perspectives

CALENDAR

SPECIAL FOCUS EUROPEAN COMMISSION 2014-2019
Education, Culture, Youth and Sport
Research, Science and Innovation
Digital Single Market
Digital Economy & Society
Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility

INTERNATIONALISATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

SEFI offers its gratitude for the continuous support of its Corporate Partners
FROM SEFI AND ITS MEMBERS

On our agenda this November:

This coming month will be again quite intense for SEFI HQ, with numerous meetings to host, organise or attend. It will start with the RISP—Rankings in Institutional Strategies and Processes: Impact or Illusion? Seminar, organised by EUA on November 6 to which Françoise Côme will attend.

Two European Projects in which SEFI is involved are also having their first meeting this November, ReadySTEMgo in Leuven on the 19, and EPICES in Brussels, hosted by SEFI, on the 25.

Collaboration with other organisations will also be on the Agenda, with the participation to the ENAEE GA and AC on the 19 and the FEANI engineering Day on the 20. SEFI is also strengthening its work with CESAER in the context of the European Convention for Engineering Deans 2015, organised also with the Polytechnic University of Valencia, and for which a steering meeting will take place in the coming weeks at SEFI HQ.

As for internal matters, an online Bureau meeting will be held on December 1.

As we are entering the last months of the year, we would also like to invite you to check about your membership, and make sure it is paid, as non-payment will result in the end of membership benefits. SEFI is a non-profit organisation that relies only on its Members to ensure its functioning.

SEFI EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY
10/12/2014 13:00-13:45
SEFI HQ, Brussels, Belgium

Following the General Assembly that took place in Birmingham, SEFI is holding an Extraordinary General Assembly to vote on a change in Statutes.
All relevant documentation will be sent soon.

Good Teaching Practice in Engineering Education
DTU Biennial for Teaching & Learning 2014

At DTU a lot of good teaching happens every day, and constantly many teachers develop new methods and interesting ways to support students’ learning and development of engineering competencies.

Every second year since 2008, one DTU teaching seminar has been organised as a conference. Therefore, this is the 4th time a “Biennial for Teaching and Learning” will take place, once more with the aim of bringing good teaching practice in a wide sense into focus – including classroom teaching, supervision, assessment methods, and facilitation of student learning outside scheduled class hours.

More information can be found on: www.learninglab.dtu.dk/english/seminars/biennial


Mark your calendars for the 6th North American Materials Education Symposium at The Ohio State University on March 26-27, 2015 and the 7th International Materials Education Symposium at the University of Cambridge April 9-10, 2015. The Symposia provide excellent opportunities to present your ideas for advancing materials education, as well as to learn from the collective experience of other leading materials and engineering educators.

The program for the 1st Asian Materials Education Symposium at the National University of Singapore in December is also available at: http://www.materials-education.com/2014/singapore/program.htm

More information and deadlines: http://www.materials-education.com
Second Announcement Final Conference Thinkers Program Blended learning

On November 19th the KVAB (Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium) organizes an international symposium:

21st Century Learning in Higher Education: The Campus Blended Online? The Flanders Case

This symposium is the highlight in the KVAB-Thinkers in Residence-program “Blended Learning”. Two eminent international experts, prof. Diana Laurillard (University of London) and prof. Pierre Dillenbourg (EPFL Lausanne) have been working on this project as “Thinkers in Residence” since the beginning of this year. Their mission was to develop a systemic vision on the optimal exploitation of ICT and the internet for higher education in the 21st century. For this task they intensely interacted with a broad group of Flemish experts and stakeholders, from universities, research institutions, industry, public authorities, schools and student bodies. In the past months they visited the five Flemish universities on their campuses.

The project resulted in two position papers in which each of the two “Thinkers” develops her/his ideas, evokes possible scenarios for the future and concludes with a set of concrete recommendations to universities, public authorities, teachers, trainers, students and society at large in Flanders.

At the symposium the Thinkers position papers will be confronted with the present state of developments and with the ideas and experiences of relevant institutions, research groups, teachers and students. Not only the MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) but the whole broad issue “Blended Learning in Higher Education” will be discussed.

The symposium concludes with a general debate and closing speeches by high level representatives of the European Commission and the Flemish Government.

The symposium is of high interest for everybody interested or involved in the future of higher education in Flanders: policy makers, actors in the field and the interested public at large. In particular all the teachers and teaching teams in Flemish universities and higher education colleges are explicitly and kindly invited.


Technological Educational Institute (T.E.I.) of Western Greece
Appointment of Rector (President)

The Technological Educational Institute (T.E.I.) of Western Greece was formed in 2013 as a result of the merger of the TEI of Patra and Messolonghi. It is now a large higher education institute with 23,000 students in four Schools, namely Engineering, Business and Economics, Health and Social Sciences and Agriculture and Food Technology. The institute’s main offices are in Patra with campuses in five different cities of Western Greece.

The T.E.I. is now looking for an exceptional and visionary leader, internationally recognized for their academic record and experienced in management in higher education. The successful candidate will build on the existing strengths of TEI of Western Greece and lead the Institute to its next stage of development.

Further information on eligibility and details of how to apply can be found in http://www.teipat.gr/plirofories/doc/anakoin2013/HS-2014109132330.pdf

The deadline for submission of applications is the 1st December 2014.

For further information and enquiries please contact the secretary to the Council:
Mrs Thekli Petta, email: thepetta@teipat.gr, Tel: 00302610369116

Upcoming merger for two French Engineering Schools

In January 2016, the IFMA (French Institute of Advanced Mechanics) and the ENSCCF (National School of Chemistry in Clermont-Ferrand) will merge to create an 8th French Ecole des Mines. The merger is both a branding operation to benefit of the International visibility of Ecole des Mines and a way to attain a critical mass in term of students (1000 students after the
This merger follows a general trend of increasing the size of French Institutions to offer them a stronger visibility abroad and stronger integration in a scattered Higher Education Institutions landscape.


FEANI elects a new President

At its General Assembly in Gdansk of 10 October 2014, FEANI, the European Federation of National Engineering Associations, unanimously elected, Prof. Dr. José Manuel VIEIRA as new President. This is his first mandate for three years as President after having been FEANI Executive Board member since 2011. Prof. J. VIEIRA succeeds Dr. Rafael ALLER from Spain.

In his application speech, Prof. VIEIRA emphasized his support of the FEANI Strategic Plan 2013-2017. He highlighted the FEANI mission of promoting the mobility, the education and the professional development of engineers in order to enhance the visibility of the value of engineers to society. He stressed in particular the importance of addressing issues related to young engineers. Considering that Europe is facing a vocational problem in attracting young people for engineering studies, he warned that this situation can significantly impact European supremacy on innovation and industrial competitiveness. Education and employment of young engineers being a European issue, FEANI and its National Members will plan and implement initiatives advocating the engineering profession, ideally with support of the industry and the European Institutions.

Prof. J. VIEIRA is a Full Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Minho and Head of Hydraulics Division. He is also Vice President of the Portuguese Association of Engineers (Ordem dos Engenheiros). Prof. J. VIEIRA has more than 35 years’ experience from practically all aspects of engineering activities either in the private or in the public sector: be it projects and consultancy, teaching, management or R&D.

More information on: http://www.feani.org/site/index.php

FROM PARTNERS

ASEE International Forum 2015 Lifelong Learning for Engineers—Global Perspectives

The 2015 ASEE International Forum Steering Committee is seeking papers for the 4th Annual ASEE International Forum to be held in Seattle, Washington, Sunday June 14, 2015, immediately preceding the 2015 ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition.

The purpose of the International Forum is to bring together engineering professionals in academia and industry from around the globe who are engaged in novel engineering education initiatives to share information on effective models, experiences and best practices.

The theme of the 2015 ASEE International Forum is Lifelong Learning for Engineers—Global Perspectives, in recognition of the rapid and ongoing globalization of modern engineering practice and the necessity for learning at all stages.

For guidance, papers and presentations from past conferences can be found at http://www.asee.org/conferences-and-events/conferences/international-forum/past-forums.

More information and deadlines: www.asee.org/InternationalForum
## CALENDAR

### November 2014

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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| 6     | Brussels, BE | EUA RISP Launch Event ([link](#))  
Françoise Côme to attend |
| 12    | Brussels, BE | Erasmus+ info Day: Knowledge Alliances and Sector Skills Alliances ([link](#))  
SEFI HQ to attend |
| 19    | Brussels, BE | Symposium KVAB on Blended Learning ([link](#)) |
| 19    | Leuven, BE   | First transnational meeting ReadyStemGo Project ([link](#))  
Jacques Schibler to attend |
| 20    | Berlin, DE   | University-Business Forum ([link](#)) |
| 25    | Brussels, BE | First meeting of the EPICES Project, hosted by SEFI HQ ([link](#)) |
| 27-28 | Thessaloniki, GR | Cedefop Conference - Stepping up the pace ([link](#)) |

### December 2014

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
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| 1     | Brussels, BE | SEFI Bureau Meeting (Online)  
Jacques Schibler to attend |
| 2     | Brussels, BE | DAAD Seminar ([link](#))  
SEFI HQ to attend |
| 3-6   | Dubai, UAE  | World Engineering Education Forum 2014—WEEF2014 ([link](#))  
Françoise Côme to attend |
| 10    | Brussels, BE | SEFI Administrative Council Meeting 10:00—15:30  
SEFI HQ |
| 10    | Brussels, BE | SEFI Extraordinary General Assembly 13:00—13:45  
SEFI HQ |
| 10    | Brussels, BE | EEDC Extraordinary General Assembly 16:00—16:30  
SEFI HQ |

Please find the complete list of our upcoming events on [www.sefi.be](http://www.sefi.be)

The SEFI/IFEES International Higher Engineering Education Events calendar

This calendar created by SEFI with the participation of IFEES is built on a Google calendar frame. It provides useful details and links, and allows direct integration in your calendar. The calendar is available directly through the [SEFI homepage](http://www.sefi.be).
SPECIAL FOCUS

EUROPEAN COMMISSION 2014-2019

Appointment of the new European Commissioners

The Juncker Commission has started its work on November 1, after the validation of the European Parliament in Strasbourg. President Juncker has clearly expressed his will to offer a more “political” Commission, contrasting with 10 years of what seemed has become an administrative body. The general organisation has evolved by the creation of Project Teams (Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness, Digital Single Market, Energy Union, Euro and Social Dialogue, Better Regulation and Interinstitutional Relations, Budget and Human Resources, Europe in the World) that reflect the priorities of the Commission, with a Vice-President leading each of these areas.

We can only hope that what looks like a very result-oriented Commission will be able to tackle the challenges ahead, especially after a few tremors during the Parliamentary Hearings regarding the relevance of some appointments. Quoting President Juncker, we can only wish good luck to this “last chance Commission” and hope that Higher Education will have a deserving role in the development of the strategic priorities.


Focus on the Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport

Tibor Navracsics Education, Culture, Youth and Sport

Tibor Navracsics is the Hungarian Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport and held before his appointment portfolios as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Administration and Justice and other governmental duties. Commissioner Navracsics has an academic background in Law and Political Sciences graduating from and lecturing at ELTE University in Budapest. His nomination has been highly debated, more because of his membership to Viktor Orban’s Fidesz, than because of his professional capacities. The debate rose from a public letter of Hungarian academics sent to outgoing Commission President José Manuel Barroso about the crisis in Hungarian education under Prime Minister Orban, and his announced preference for ‘illiberal democracy’.

During his hearing Tibor Navracsics stuck to the script of his mission statement, stressing the importance of European values. The objectives of his portfolio as described by President Juncker are to contribute to the jobs, growth and investment package, promote culture as a catalyst for innovation, by maximising the sector’s contribution to jobs and growth, particularly among the young, by promoting our cultural diversity and by helping Europe’s culture sectors to reach out to new audiences, use the Creative Europe programme to best effect, promoting excellence and networking among European universities, with action such as the U-Multirank platform to compare and choose universities, and support the mobility of students, through ERASMUS+ and contributing to reinforcing the “knowledge triangle” between education, business and research.

After a rejection of his appointment by the parliamentary committee, a reshuffle of competencies has been performed and more information have been asked by the parliament (the original portfolio contained also European citizenship, Multilingualism has disappeared from any portfolio).

Regardless of any political issues raised by the European Parliament, one can only be saddened by the fact that once again, Education seemed to have been far behind in the priorities of the new Commission, as underlined by the “threat” by President Juncker to some member countries of receiving this portfolio if putting forward male candidates and no portfolio of “importance”, in his, very nevertheless honourable, try for more gender equality.


More details on his Parliamentary hearing on www.euractiv.com
Focus on the Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation

Carlos Moedas

Carlos Moedas is the Portuguese Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, and was until his appointment, Secretary of State to the Prime Minister of Portugal. If Commissioner Moedas started out with a Degree in Civil Engineering from the Instituto Superior Técnico de Lisboa, most of his professional career has been in finances and banking, holding positions at Goldman Sachs, the Deutsche Bank and founding his own Investment Management company.

During his parliamentary hearing he stressed out that “[his] story is a European story,” underlining how much his personal background as an Erasmus student in France offered him. Among his priorities are the completion of the European research Area, the « simplification agenda » in Horizon 2020, Excellence in Research with the development of a stronger integration of National research policies towards common European Goals to avoid fragmentation and duplication. On the matters of funding, he preached for a break of silos, urging the research community to look also towards regional development funds for research.

Commissioner Moedas strongly suggested that more should be put on innovation as it is the major provider of growth in Europe over the last 10 years and that a stress will be put on results more than on inputs.

More details on his Parliamentary hearing on www.euractiv.com

Focus on the Commission Vice-President for Digital Single Market and the Commissioner for Digital Economy & Society

Andrus Ansip

Andrus Ansip is the Estonian Commissioner for the Digital Internal Market and Commission Vice-President. Former Prime Minister of Estonia and member of the European Parliament, he graduates as a senior engineer from the Institute of General and Molecular Pathology of the Tartu State University, before entering Bank boards. As Vice-President, Ansip will be in charge of the big issues, while his junior Commissioners Věra Jourová (Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality) and Günther Oettinger (Digital Economy) will provide support. As Vice-President of the Commission with the Digital Internal Market portfolio, Ansip said he hopes to restore Europe’s place as a global leader in the digital economy, creating hundreds of thousands of new jobs while giving the highest priority to data protection.

A key project for the EU Commissioner Ansip is reforming the rules for a single telecommunications market. Ansip was particularly critical of geo-blocking, that often prevents internet users from accessing digital content outside a licenced area, such as in other EU countries. Between 2005 and 2014, Ansip was Prime Minister of Estonia, a country that has stood out as a European leader in digitalisation. There, e-Government has been introduced, digitalising public administration. In the Baltic state, for example, digital signatures are considered equivalent to hand-written signatures.

During the hearings at the European Parliament, he was dubbed “the real Digital commissioner”.

More details on his Parliamentary hearing on www.euractiv.com

Günther Oettinger

Günther Oettinger is the German Commissioner for the Digital Economy and Society portfolio. As member of the Barroso II Commission, he was in charge of Energy and formerly Minister-President of Baden-Württemberg. Among his priorities will be the preparation of the ambitious legislative steps towards a connected Digital Single Market by breaking down national silos in telecoms regulation, in copyright and data protection legislation, in the management of radio waves and in the application of competition law. Other priorities will be on adding more ambition to the ongoing reform of the EU’s telecoms rules and developing a common approach to mana-
Transnational Education in Higher Education - A New Dimension of Internationalisation?

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the European Union are organising a seminar on Transnational Education in Higher Education - A New Dimension of Internationalisation? on Tuesday, 2 December 2014 at 4 p.m. (registration starts at 3.15 p.m.) at the Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the EU, Rue Jacques de Lalaing 8-14, 1040 Brussels.

Registration is available before 25 November 2014 via the online registration form on https://ssl.daad.de/limesurvey/288799/lang-en.

More information and Programme: http://bruessel.daad.de/en/
SEFI is the largest network of higher engineering education institutions (HEIs) and educators in Europe.

It is an international non-profit organisation created in 1973 to contribute to the development and improvement of HEE in Europe, to reinforce the position of the engineering professionals in society, to promote information about HEE and improve communication between teachers, researchers and students, to reinforce the university-business cooperation and to encourage the European dimension in higher engineering education.

Through its membership composed of HEIs, academic staff, students, related associations and companies, SEFI connects over 1 million students and 158000 academic staff members in 48 countries.

To reach its goals, SEFI implements diverse activities such as Annual Conferences, Ad hoc seminars/workshops organised by its thematic working groups and committees, SEFI organises the European Engineering Deans Conventions, publishes a series of Scientific publications (European Journal of Engineering Education) and Position Papers, is involved in European projects, cooperates with other major European and international associations and international bodies (European Commission, UNESCO, Council of Europe, OECD).

SEFI also participated in the creation of ENAEE, IFEES, EuroPace, IACEE and more recently of the Institute for the development of Engineering Academics, IDEA, and of the European Engineering Deans Council, EEDC.