



5th Newsletter

October 2010

Content

Focus on the SANORD Symposium at the University of Johannesburg
Profiling SANORD members
 University of Malawi
 Bodø University College, Norway
 University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
 Aarhus University, Denmark
Research theme group activities
Conferences, Seminars, Workshops Summer/Winter schools
Report on past events
SANORD news - What is happening at our member institutions?
Scholarships/funding opportunities/Awards
Research Reports
Southern African – Nordic News

Our next newsletter will be published on 30 January 2011. If you wish to have an announcement published in the next SANORD Newsletter, please send an email to Leolyn Jackson ljackson@uwc.ac.za by **17 January 2011**.

Focusing on the SANORD Symposium



SANORD Symposium on “Sustaining Higher Education through Southern African-Nordic Institutional Partnerships” at the University of Johannesburg, South Africa on Friday, 3 and Saturday, 4 December 2010

The establishment and development of resilient, long-term university partnerships is increasingly significant in a globalizing world. Many universities within such partnerships testify to their impact in staff development, enhancing the educational experience, encouraging and making possible more ambitious research programmes, and building valuable networks. Characteristically, these relationships stimulate the social and economic development of the regions involved. It is not surprising, then, that universities are tending to treat long-term partnerships as core operations and are managing them accordingly.

The local and global challenges facing universities in the global knowledge economy are more pressing and more elusive than ever before. Brian O’Connell, SANORD executive member and Vice-Chancellor of the University of the Western Cape, emphasises that:

These challenges require a true paradigm shift. They assail our assumptions, our conceptual frameworks, and our experience so deeply and so comprehensively that a satisfactory response to them will necessitate a revolution in our thinking as heretical, seminal and brave as that of Copernicus, Galileo and William Harvey. All of this indicates a very special role for Universities as sites of discovery and of fearless contestation with ideas and practices. Given the breadth and depth of the changes that adaptation to this new reality will demand, knowledge of the best kind coupled with leadership of the bravest kind will be called for. Where politicians may quake, Universities must stand strong.

Many of the world’s problems are global in nature and exceed the fragmented capacities of single institutions, countries and regions. They require our combined efforts. It is in such a space that the true power of a consortium like SANORD comes into its own. By building collaboration and stimulating creativity, it enables each of us to achieve more than we could on our own.

The symposium wants to draw on Nordic and southern African experiences with ways to establish or further develop partnerships between SANORD member universities. Some of the key questions to address are:

- What are the qualities of a long term partnership that universities ought to be concerned with and how do universities best contribute to such partnerships?
- What are the particular university partnership challenges in different geographical settings and are there special opportunities or pitfalls in north-south collaboration?
- Are we (SANORD) ready to embrace the concept of long term partnerships? What is the role of researchers and leadership in facilitating long term partnerships?
- What is the role of Philanthropic and Funding support Agencies in facilitating long term partnerships?
- What are the main constraints that researchers, students, administrators and leaders face in the development of long term partnerships and, hence, the main things we can do to strengthen the capacity of the institution and the region?

The Southern African–Nordic Centre (SANORD) would like to invite members and other partners to this symposium on the nature and possibilities of long term university partnerships. Invited speakers include university leaders and academics from the southern African and Nordic regions. The symposium will run over one and a half days and will allow generous space for debate and creative interaction. SANORD invites your active participation and looks forward to two exciting days with you.

Information about the symposium is available on the SANORD portal www.sanord.net .

Questions about the symposium may be directed to Dr. Zodwa Magwenzi at the University of Johannesburg (kmagwenzi@uj.ac.za) and Leolyn Jackson at the SANORD Central Office (ljackson@uwc.ac.za). Questions about the arrangement of the annual meeting should be addressed to Maureen Davis at the SANORD Central Office. (mdavis@uwc.ac.za)



UNIVERSITY OF MALAWI

The University of Malawi (UNIMA) was established in 1964 soon after the country gained independence from British Colonial rule. UNIMA has 5 constituent colleges namely: Bunda College of Agriculture; Chancellor College; College of Medicine; Kamuzu College of Nursing; and the Polytechnic. Each of the colleges has its own administration headed by a Principal while UNIMA's central administration is led by a Vice-Chancellor.

With a total enrollment of over 7000 students, UNIMA is the flagship of higher education institutions in the country.

Located at the foot of the Zomba Plateau, **Chancellor College** is the largest constituent college with faculties of humanities, science, social science, law, and education. **The Polytechnic** is in the commercial city of Blantyre and has faculties of built environment, commerce, engineering, applied sciences, and education & media studies. **The College of Medicine**, also located in Blantyre, is the newest of the constituent colleges and was established in 1991. It offers programmes in medicine, pharmacy, medical laboratory and physiotherapy and these play a significant role in reducing the shortage of medical personnel in the country. Medical research at the college includes HIV/AIDS and malaria prevention & cure. **Bunda College** located in the outskirts of the Capital City of Malawi, Lilongwe has faculties of agriculture, development studies and environmental science and runs programmes in aquaculture, animal husbandry, food and nutrition science, seed technology and horticulture. Bunda College is key to the country's agricultural-based economy. **Kamuzu College of Nursing** has two campuses with its main campus located in the Capital City of Malawi, Lilongwe and having another campus in Blantyre. It trains nurses up to masters' level and its faculty and students are actively involved in community health programmes throughout the country.

UNIMA's research mission is carried out through a variety of research centres which include; the Centre for Agricultural Research & Development, the Centre for Social Research; the Centre for Educational Research and Training; the Centre for Language Studies; the Natural Resources and Environmental Centre, the College of Medicine Research Centre, the Nursing, Midwifery & Health Sciences Research Centre, the Management Development Centre, the Water Sanitation, Health & Technology Development Centre and the Transport Technology Transfer Centre. Currently plans are underway to establish a Centre for Gender and Women's Studies. UNIMA's research agenda is consistent with the country's growth and development strategy which focuses on agriculture and food security, irrigation and water development, transport and infrastructural development, energy generation and supply, integrated rural development, HIV/AIDs, gender mainstreaming, human rights, and sustainable economic growth.

There is a high demand for research and consultancy from government and NGOs in Malawi and UNIMA's goal is to form strong collaborative services research links to respond adequately to national development.

To read more about the University of Malawi, please visit <http://www.unima.mw>

Please contact the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Professor Leonard A. Kamwanja) if you need more information:
e-mail: provc@unima.mw



Bodø University College (BUC) was founded after a merger of three minor higher educational institutions in 1994. During 2009 a formal application to become Norway's 8th full University was sent in completing a 10 year long process to build infrastructure and fulfill the academic criteria required. In June 2010 an expert committee concluded that *BUC* now fulfils the criteria set to be accredited as a full university. The official opening of the new University of Nordland is expected to happen at the beginning of 2011.

In 2000 *BUC* was granted the right to offer a PhD level study programme in Business. Since then three, validated and accredited, PhD programs in Sociology, Studies in Professional Practice and Aquaculture have been approved. In January 2005 a new state of the art library building opened, providing students and staff with full access to in house publications and the largest online journal databases.

The Faculty of Biosciences and Aquaculture is one of the leading academic environments within marine biosciences and aquaculture in Norway, and offers programs from bachelor level to doctoral level (PhD) in Aquaculture. The faculty consists of five research groups: Reproductive Biology, Aquatic Animal Health and Welfare, Seafood Quality, Marine Genomics and Marine Ecology. The Faculty also has a strong focus on innovation and transfer of knowledge to the industry, and offers life-long learning programs to the industry. Being located on the coast, Bodø offers a perfect environment for studies within aquaculture, marine sciences and natural sciences. In addition to campus facilities and labs, the faculty owns a 4500 m² marine research station equipped with state of the art laboratories.

The latest 30M NOK investment in new equipment was completed in 2009 provides the faculty with one of Europe's most modern marine research stations.

Most popular study programs at the faculty:

- BSc in Biology;
- BSc in Aquaculture Management;
- MSc in Marine Ecology

The School of Professional Studies is the largest faculty at the University College. Within the faculty there are three main subdivisions offering a variety of degrees and courses of study, from bachelor to doctoral level degree in Studies of Professional Practise. These are the Institute of Education and Culture, the Institute of Nursing and Health and the centre for Practical Knowledge. The centre offers a Master and a PhD degree in Practical Knowledge, in addition to research activity within this field.

Most popular study programs at the faculty:

- Bachelor in Sport;
- General Teacher Training, Four Year Programme;
- Bachelor in Nursing

Bodø Graduate School of Business (HHB) offers programs ranging from bachelor level to doctoral level in business, as well as programs in information technology at undergraduate level. HHB cooperates with many partners internationally and offers joint MSc-degrees with several universities abroad. The academic staff possesses unique expertise in the fields of Ecological Economics and Ethics, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Management, Transport Economy and Management Control, as well as Energy Management in the High North. Our High North Centre for Business has expertise in High North challenges and has 15 years of experience in Russia and other high north countries.

Most popular study programs at the faculty:

- MSc Business;
- MSc Energy Management;
- MBA

The Faculty of Social Sciences (FSSc) provides higher educational programmes and research in a large number of disciplines, from social work, sociology, political science, history, journalism to circumpolar studies. FSSc offers study programmes at all levels, including a PhD in Sociology, and has several international exchange agreements for receiving and sending students and research staff abroad. Research conducted through the faculty often takes the shape of applied and cross-disciplinary projects, and several of the researchers at the faculty participate in international research networks.

BUC is an academic institution providing graduate and post-graduate study programmes and conducting research. The university college has more than 300 full time equivalent research positions and annually welcomes more than 5000 thousand students from approximately 40 different countries.

There is close collaboration between the Faculty of Social Science and Nordland Research institute, University of the Arctic (www.uarctic.org) and Árran – Lulesami center (www.arran.no).

Most popular study programs at the faculty:

- Bachelor of Circumpolar Studies;
- Master in Social Work – with a Comparative Perspective
- Norwegian Language and Society (one year study programme suitable for students aiming to acquire the required knowledge of the Norwegian language in order to gain admittance to Norwegian taught study programmes)

10 reasons for studying at Bodø University College

1. High quality and affordable education – No tuition fee
2. BUC, a top-notch educational and research institution
3. Tailor made semester programs for exchange/international students
4. The land of the midnight sun – with stunning nature and surroundings
5. Close to Europe – with student discounts there are excellent opportunities to explore the rest of Scandinavia and Europe
6. Manageable city – population of 45 000 and over 5000 students
7. Moderate climate – thanks to the Gulf Stream
8. Arctic escape – experiencing the nature of the North of Norway. Guided outdoor excursions
9. Voted “Best Student Community” for the 6th consecutive year in Norway
10. A cultural experience – Norway maintains its unique character in a rapidly globalizing world



Globally the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is one of three African universities in the top 500 according to the 2009 Shanghai Academic Ranking of World Universities. UKZN was formed on 1 January 2004 as a result of the merger between the Universities of Durban-Westville and Natal, bringing together the rich traditions of two major institutions of higher learning in South Africa. UKZN caters for almost 40 000 students, it is one of the largest universities in sub-Saharan Africa. See our website on the following link: <http://www.ukzn.ac.za/Homepage.aspx>

UKZN is organised on a College Model, with each College having two constituent Faculties. The four Colleges are the College of Humanities, the College of Agriculture, Engineering and Science, the College

of Health Sciences and the College of Law and Management Studies. The Faculties, in turn, comprise 56 academic Schools, each composed of allied disciplines. The great number of faculties enables UKZN to offer a wide range of exciting and innovative multi-disciplinary courses, UKZN offers over 2000 academic programmes at both undergraduate and postgraduate level as well as accredited professional degrees.

As one of the country's pre-eminent research institutions, UKZN provides a dynamic environment for multifaceted research and innovation across a spectrum of disciplines and is rated third in research productivity amongst South African universities. UKZN's strategic research initiatives include HIV/AIDS, TB and Health Promotion; Biotechnology; Water, Environment and Biodiversity; Social Development and Economic Studies; Agriculture and Food Security; Energy and Technology for sustainable development; Gender, Race and Identity Studies; Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Maritime Studies. These are areas where University researchers have made an impact on global research trends. UKZN is noted for the great impact it has on global research production with UKZN having 4 National Research Foundation (NRF) A-rated researchers, 43 B-rated researchers and eight South African Research Chairs.

The research chairs are comprised of Professor N Gqaleni, chair in 'Indigenous Health Care Systems Research', Professor SD Johnson chair in 'Evolutionary Biology', Professor SD Maharaj chair in 'Gravitating systems', Professor T Ndungu chair in 'Systems Biology of HIV/AIDS', Professor F Petruccione chair in 'Quantum Information Processing & Communication', Professor DR Posel chair in 'Economic Development', Professor D Ramjugernath chair in 'Fluorine Process Engineering & Separations Technology' and finally Professor J May chair in 'Applied Poverty Reduction Assessment'. These chairs were awarded in recognition of the researchers achievements and thus recognise UKZN's capability to deliver in the key research areas. UKZN also hosts a number of recognised research centers in its five campuses.

These centers are granted this status as uni- or multi-disciplinary research programmes that have specific capacity and public profile, presetting UKZN as a premier university of African Scholarship. See link for all UKZN Centers: <http://research.ukzn.ac.za/CentersofExcellence.aspx>

The University is a multicultural environment with over 2 300 international students from more than 80 countries. UKZN has links with over 260 international institutions, which facilitate ongoing collaborative academic partnerships.

UKZN has committed itself and its resources to the common good with over 350 outreach programmes. These range from HIV and AIDS projects, to skills upgrading for Science and Mathematics teachers, to food security and community tourism projects.

To read more about the University of KwaZulu-Natal, please visit <http://www.ukzn.ac.za> . For more information please contact the University Research Office, Prof. Cheryl Potgieter, at deanofresearch@ukzn.ac.za or Thando Mgqolozana at mgqolozana@ukzn.a.cza .



With 38,000 students, 11,000 staff and almost 1,700 PhD students, Aarhus University is one of the largest educational institutions in the Nordic countries and a leading international research-based university where students are taught in a beautiful yellow-brick campus in

the centre of Aarhus City.

AU is a comprehensive university covering all disciplines and the entire research spectrum. One of the main characteristics of Aarhus University is the significant effort that has gone into developing interdisciplinary research programmes and the emphasis put on interdisciplinary approaches to education. One example is the Centre for Functionally Integrative Neuroscience which is the base for interdisciplinary brain research combining knowledge from various fields such as physics, philosophy, mathematics, theology, anthropology, computer science and psychology to understand better how the brain functions.

Another characteristic of Aarhus University is the close relationship between research and education, which provides depth to the programmes but also allows for an informal atmosphere between researchers and students.

Most graduate programmes have an international focus. International exchanges are encouraged and more than 1000 courses and 65 full degree programmes are offered in English as a means to diversify and globalise the learning environment.

Aarhus University Rector Holm-Nielsen is the chairman of the initiative “[Building stronger Universities](#)” launched by the Danish Universities to strengthen research and tertiary education in developing countries. The most important outcome of this initiative is the establishment of four platforms (water, agriculture, human security, health), in which Danish universities collaborate to establish collaboration with universities in African countries. Two of the four platforms are headed by Aarhus University researchers.

Aarhus University is a graduate university with a majority of graduate students. Along with traditional core activities such as excellent research and world-class education, Aarhus University puts a special focus on talent development. One way of doing this is through flexible PhD structures that allow for early recruitment and retention of talent.

Aarhus University has been a highly active participant in the Bologna Process and is the only Danish university with the ECTS-Label.

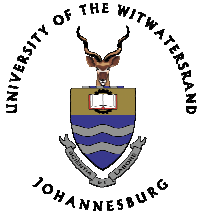
Fact File

Founded: 1928 **Employees:** 11,000 **Number of students:** 38,000 **Number of PhDs:** 1,700

Turnover/profit: 712 million EUR

To read more about the Aarhus University, please visit <http://www.au.dk/en>

Please contact the Ulla Gjølring if you need more information: e-mail: ug@adm.au.dk



Wits and Uppsala: 'Imagining America'

Over the past 20 months a productive partnership in research and postgraduate teaching has grown up between the School of Literature and Language Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand and the Department of English at the University of Uppsala. The focus falls on 'Imagining America', or engaging both critically and creatively with American literature and culture from Southern African and/or Scandinavian perspectives.



The collaboration began when Professor Danuta Fjellestad invited Professor Merle Williams to a planning meeting in Uppsala in January 2009. Since then there have been three further academic visits, two to Wits and a return trip to Sweden; to date six staff members have participated directly in the exchange programme. Finance for 2009 was provided by the University of Uppsala. The literary activities undertaken this year have, however, been funded by SANORD, who have generously supported the development of a fledgling partnership.

Each exchange has included research presentations by the visiting academics. Papers have covered a range of topics, from the canonical writings of Nathaniel Hawthorne, Henry James and Wallace Stevens, to the construction of academic autobiographies, to representations of native American orphanhood in contemporary fiction. Thus individual scholars have been encouraged to pursue their specialist interests within a flexible collaboration.

The partnership is committed to sharing ideas and resources for postgraduate teaching and supervision. Sitting in on each other's courses has already paved the way for offering guest seminars at Master's level. Moreover, the involvement of at least one younger lecturer anticipates more considered capacity building through short-term international exchanges, reinforced by appropriate mentoring at the host institution.

Colleagues from Uppsala and Wits are now ready to embark on their first joint publication. Guest editors Liz Kella, David Watson and Merle Williams are currently circulating the call for papers for a forthcoming special issue of the *Journal of Literary Studies* on 'Mending Wounds: Healing, Working Through, or Staying in Trauma?'. With its geographical emphasis on North America and Southern Africa, this project aims to add a new theoretical dimension to trauma studies by exploring the multiple complexities of embodied suffering and its lasting scars.

Submitted by Professor M A Williams,
University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, SUMMER/WINTER SCHOOLS

SOUTHERN AFRICA

The African Network for Internationalization of Education (ANIE) 2nd Conference in Kenya from 4-5 November 2010



THEME: Internationalization of Higher Education and Research in Africa: Responding to Opportunities and Challenges.

DATES: November 4th -5th, 2010 (arrival is Wednesday, November 3rd 2010)s.

VENUE: Speke Resort, Munyonyo, Kampala, Uganda.

Internationalization of higher education presents several challenges and new developments to higher education in Africa. The Association of African Universities (AAU), after the conference on WTO/GATS in Accra, Ghana in 2004, identified the need to promote greater availability of information on the international dimension of higher education in Africa, promote more debate and increase the understanding of this aspect of higher education. To register go to <http://www.anienetwork.org/content/anie-2nd-conference>

University of the Western Cape Land and Agrarian Studies at UWC

Are you interested in a key policy issue, i.e. the redistribution of land and the restructuring of agrarian social relations in southern Africa? Would you like to study land reform and agrarian change from a multi-disciplinary perspective, and enhance your capacity to critically analyse policies and programmes?

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME APPLICATION CLOSING DATE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO 15 OCTOBER 2010. To download the postgraduate application for 2011, [click here](#)

To download the postgraduate brochure, [click here](http://www.plaas.org.za/postgraduate-programme/plaas-postgraduate-programme-brochure.pdf) <http://www.plaas.org.za/postgraduate-programme/plaas-postgraduate-programme-brochure.pdf>

University of Limpopo



HELTASA Conference 2010, 23 – 25 November 2010

Conference Theme: **Higher Development: Academic Excellence, Opportunities and Challenges.** The Centre for Academic Excellence (CAE) will be hosting a Higher Educational Learning and Teaching Association of Southern Africa (HELTASA) 2010 Annual Conference from 23 to 25 November 2010. This will take place at Fairview River Lodge, Tzaneen. The aim of this conference is to promote quality in higher

education practice through the creation of a synergistic network in Southern Africa. Academics, Support Staff, Researchers, Students and Policy makers are invited to share their experiences. To register and for more information regarding HELTASA Conference visit <http://www.ul.ac.za/conf>

NORDIC

DENMARK

Aalborg University



The Danish Centre for Environmental Assessment (DCEA) and International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) are hosting the European Special Symposium on Climate Change & Impact Assessment on 25-26 October 2010 and the

Nordic Research Day on Impact Assessment on 27 October 2010.

The European Special Symposium is a chance for practitioners and researchers to meet and discuss current topics within climate change and impact assessment through interactive spaces and dialogue. The Nordic Research Day presents an opportunity for researchers to discuss current and potential research and ideas within impact assessment in a Nordic context.

For more information click on the hyperlinks below:

<http://www.iaia.org/iaia-climate-symposium-denmark/>

<http://dcea.dk/english/NordicResearchDay/overview.aspx>

Aarhus University Summer School 2011

Invitation to teach

Starting in 2011 Aarhus University launches an extended summer university programme: **AU Summer University** initiated by a stronger international focus. It consists of a portfolio of courses taught in English at Bachelor, Master and PhD level within the fields of Humanities, Theology, Social Sciences, Health Sciences, Natural Sciences, Agri-cultural Sciences, Business and Educational Sciences. For more information <http://www.au.dk/en/summeruniversity/ausummeruniversity/>

NORWAY

Oslo University College

The International **Summer School at Oslo University College** will also be arranged in 2011.

We will probably offer the following 3 courses:

- Globalisation, Development and Issues of Inter-Cultural Understanding
- International Public Health
- Philosophy in School

Application deadline: 1 March 2011. For more information click here:

<http://www.hio.no/index.php/hio/Welcome-to-OUC/Summer-School-2011>

REPORT ON PAST EVENTS

University of Bergen (UoB) hosted successful Bergen Summer Research School 2010



The University of Bergen hosted yet another successful summer school that focused on the theme “Global Health, seen in biomedical, social and cultural perspective”. It is an initiative of the Bergen academic milieu’s commitment NHH, CMI, HiB and University Research to produce and disseminate research-based education to address some key global challenges posed by an increasingly knowledge-based, complex, multicultural, religiously diverse, and unequal global society. 115 PhD students (out of 260 applications) from 42 countries (Uganda,

Pakistan, USA, Nicaragua - to mention a few) participated in the summer school. The theme for 2011 will be “Norms, Values, Language and Culture”. For more information about the Bergen Summer Research School click here <http://www.gdc.uib.no/>



Carin Norberg speaks about the Nordic Africa Days (NAD) conference in Finland

Time, Space Africa; Nordic Africa Days to be hosted in Åbo

“The conference in Finland will promote the interest in Africa and also align to the focus on Africa in the development cooperation programmes of all Nordic countries”, says Carin Norberg, Director of the Nordic Africa Institute. Read more/... <http://www.nai.uu.se/press/release/100927/>

SANORD NEWS

What is happening at our member institutions?

University of the Western Cape (UWC)



UWC RESEARCH REPOSITORY

The Library is launching the UWC Research repository website during the International Open Access Week, 18-22 October 2010. Read more http://www.uwc.ac.za/index.php?module=cms&action=showfulltext&id=gen20Srv23Nme0_88678_1285752105&parent=gen20Srv23Nme0_9912_1257932410



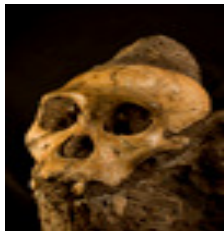
Life Changing Research at UWC

UWC is in the forefront of producing cutting edge scientific research that transforms the lives of our surrounding communities. The Department of Medical Biosciences at UWC is one of the departments that is conducting life changing research. Currently the Department of Medical Biosciences is conducting research on the contraceptive pill for males. **Read more**

http://www.uwc.ac.za/index.php?module=cms&action=showfulltext&id=gen20Srv23Nme0_65675_1281686057&parent=gen20Srv23Nme0_9912_1257932410

University of Witwatersrand

Minister opens Palaeosciences Centre at Wits



The Minister of Science and Technology Naledi Pandor opened the Palaeosciences Centre at Wits University on Friday, 17 September 2010.

The Centre, located just opposite the Origins Centre in Braamfontein, serves as the home of the Institute for Human Evolution, the Bernard Price Institute for Palaeontological Research and the James Kitching Museum. The building has also been renovated to safely archive priceless hominid, animal and plant fossils. Read more... <http://web.wits.ac.za/NewsRoom/News.htm>

NORDIC

DENMARK

Aarhus University

Building Stronger Universities

A working group chaired by Rector Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen under the auspices of Universities Denmark has published the report 'Building Stronger Universities in Developing Countries', which has as one of its key paradigms development and capacity building through strong higher education sectors in low-income countries. 'Building Stronger Universities' portends a new paradigm of equal partnerships between HEIs in high-income and low-income regions and recommends that the suggested collaboration takes its point of departure in seven development platforms. Download the publication [Building Stronger Universities](#)

Organic soya beans from Danish fields is a real possibility



The possibility of growing organic soya beans in Denmark is becoming more and more realistic as results and experience from the project "Danish, organic growing of soya beans for food and fodder" are being gathered. Scientists from the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Aarhus University lead the project, that is being carried out in collaboration with the food company Naturlig Foods A/S and the Knowledge Centre for Agriculture with financial support from the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries.

FINLAND

University of Jyväskylä

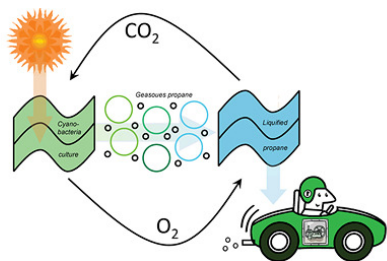


Finnish Centre of Excellence in Interdisciplinary Music Research

<https://www.jyu.fi/hum/laitokset/musiikki/en/research/coe>

University of Turku

Substantial Funding for Conversion of Sunlight into Fuel



The DirectFuel project coordinated by the University of Turku has received a fund of over 3.7 million euros from the EU. The aim of the four-year project is to develop a method to convert sunlight directly into fuels with the help of photosynthetic microbes. The project is coordinated by Dr. Patrik Jones. The deputy coordinator is Prof. Eva-Mari Aro.

Read more ...

http://www.utu.fi/en/content/news/directfuel_funding_from_EU.html or www.directfuel.eu

ICELAND

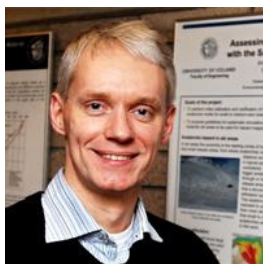
University of Iceland



Computer-connected white cane

Computers are more human than many realise. Human-computer interaction is researched within the field of computer science at the University of Iceland. It is an interdisciplinary field which connects computer science to other academic schools, supporting a better quality of life for disabled individuals in society. For the past few years, Ebba Þóra Hvannberg, Professor of Computer Science, has researched human-computer interaction. A touch cane for the blind is one of her research topics. Read more...

http://www.hi.is/en/visindin/computer_connected_white_cane



Creative solutions to engineering problems

"The Faculty of Civil and Environmental Engineering encourages close cooperation between students and teachers. This occurs, for instance, through intensive project work, where the cooperation leads to creative solutions to engineering problems," says Professor Sigurður M. Garðarsson..

"Cooperation between faculty teachers and professionals attracts specialists who bring different perspectives to the teaching, allowing students to see solutions from many different viewpoints. Students have a strong influence on

faculty management, and therefore able to make their views heard, which results in a creative framing of knowledge dissemination to students. Read more ...

http://www.hi.is/en/visindin/creative_solutions_to_engineering_problems

NORWAY

University of Bergen



Volcanoes steer the Atlantic's temperature (Kim Andreassen)

Regional climate variations such as the long period of draught in the USA during the 1930s, heat waves in Europe during recent years and variations in the strength of tropical hurricanes are connected with temperature variations in the North Atlantic. Little is known however, about why these sea-surface temperature variations occur.

Scientists have previously assumed that decadal climate variations in the Atlantic are the result of changes in large ocean currents. Climate researchers from the UiB, the Bjerknes Centre and the Nansen Centre have now shown that violent volcanic eruptions influence sea-surface temperatures in the North Atlantic.

SWEDEN

Karlstad University

NEW MASTER COURSE ABOUT FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT

Integrated flood risk management

15 ECTS credits, February-May 2011

For more information click here http://www1.kau.se/corral/intra.lasso?page_id=2655

Lund University

SWEDISH BIOFUELS DO HAVE MAJOR BENEFITS FOR THE CLIMATE

2010-09-20

For the first time, researchers have taken an overall look at Swedish biofuels and analysed what impact they have on the environment, both in relation to one another and to the fossil fuel alternatives petrol and diesel. The results show that they produce between 65 and 140 per cent less greenhouse gas emissions than petrol and diesel, even when direct and indirect land use changes are taken into account. Indirect land use changes were also studied.

For more information, please contact Pål Börjesson, Environmental and Energy Systems Studies, Faculty of Engineering, Lund University, +46 (0)46 222 86 42, +46 (0)768 82 04 06, Pal.Borjesson@miljo.lth.se .

Read the full report: [http://www.miljo.lth.se/svenska/internt/publikationer_internt/pdf-filer/Report%2070%20-%20LCA%20of%20Biofuels%20\(1\).pdf](http://www.miljo.lth.se/svenska/internt/publikationer_internt/pdf-filer/Report%2070%20-%20LCA%20of%20Biofuels%20(1).pdf)

Uppsala University

ENTIRELY NEW DRUG FOR ALZHEIMER'S NOW BEING TESTED ON PATIENTS

2010-09-23 | News item by **Anneli Waara**

An entirely new type of pharmaceutical substance for Alzheimer's disease developed by Uppsala scientists is now starting to be clinically tested in the US. It attacks the early stage of the protein filaments that cause the disorder, so-called protofibrils. "It would be a giant step forward to have a drug that actually targets the fundamental cause, as opposed to merely alleviating the symptoms, as today's medicines do," says Lars Lannfelt, professor of geriatrics at Uppsala University. For more information, please contact Lars Lannfelt, lars.lannfelt@pubcare.uu.se

SCILIFELAB UPPSALA LAUNCHES DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

2010-09-14 | News item by **Anneli Waara**

With cross-disciplinary collaboration and large-scale technology, it is possible both to carry out pioneering medical research and to bring benefits to society. SciLifeLab Uppsala (<http://www.uu.se/en/node808>) is now demonstrating this in a series of projects that will have a chance to open new pathways.

For more information, please contact Research Director Kerstin Lindblad-Toh, mobile: +46 (0)70-324 23 36 or kerstin.lindblad-toh@imbim.uu.se

SCHOLARSHIPS/FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES/AWARDS

EUROSA Project - Erasmus Mundus Action 2 network

The **EUROSA project** is an Erasmus Mundus Action 2 Partnerships scholarship programme, funded by the European Commission. It is coordinated by the University of Antwerp and it promotes **mobility for**



students, researchers, academic and administrative staff from South Africa to Europe. It offers mobility grants to 88 South African master students, doctoral researchers and staff to spend a period abroad at one of the partner institutions. The EUROSA partnership is committed to contribute to the development of redressing past imbalances and to improve the participation rate of historically disadvantaged

individuals in higher education. **Capacity building and human development**, with specific attention to vulnerable groups and excellent academic potential, are at the core of the project. It promotes the intercultural dialogue and international cooperation between the higher education institutions involved. Talented students from different regions and different social economic backgrounds will receive the unique opportunity to spend a period abroad and benefit linguistically, culturally and socially from this intercultural experience in a new learning environment.

The European partner universities include: University of Antwerp, Aarhus University (Denmark), University of Bologna (Italy), K.U.Leuven (Belgium), University of Leipzig (Germany), University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), Lund University (Sweden), Maastricht University (Netherlands), Vilnius University (Lithuania). The South African partners are: Cape Peninsula University of Technology, University of Fort Hare, University of the Free State, University of Limpopo, University of Pretoria, Stellenbosch University, University of Venda and University of the Western Cape. The partnership is supported by 4 associated partners: International Education Association of South Africa (IEASA), South African Technology Network (SATN), Southern African - Nordic Centre (SANORD) and VLIR-UOS (Flemish University Cooperation for Development).

EMA2SA Project - Erasmus Mundus Action 2 network

The University of the Western Cape along with its counterpart universities in the Western Cape and Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) have joined forces with eight European universities in the 'Erasmus Mundus Action 2 for South Africa' or the Erasmus Mundus Action 2 network (ema2sa network). The award is one of three grants made to South African universities which exceeds €1.6 million, and was made under the Erasmus Mundus initiative of the European Union (EU). The project is intended to foster institutional co-operation in higher education between the EU and South Africa through student and academic exchanges.

[Erasmus Mundus Action 2](#) fosters institutional co-operation in the field of higher education between the EU and Third World Countries through a mobility scheme addressing student and academic exchanges for the purpose of studying, teaching, training and research. It is anticipated that 106 South Africans will benefit from the scholarship scheme, and will be able to spend between one and 35 months at one of the EU partnering universities namely the University of Leuven, Belgium; Freie Universitat Berlin, Germany; Pierre et Marie Curie Universite, Paris; Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm; Masaryk University, Brno; Universidad de Granada, Spain; University of Amsterdam, Netherlands; and the University of Antwerp, Belgium. The associate member of the network is the Cape Higher Education Consortium (CHEC). Applications opened on October 1st, 2010 and end on December 1st, 2010. For the EMA2SA call see <http://www.ema2sa.eu/> to apply online. The call for applications is open to all South African nationals.

For more information about the University of the Western Cape contact Prof Lorna Holtman, Director: Postgraduate Studies at 021 9592451 021 or lholtman@uwc.ac.za

SAPIENT Project - Erasmus Mundus Action 2 network

Combining existing qualitative partnerships between IRUN and their South African partners strengthens the ties, gives an extra impulse and gives participating partners the possibility to widen their network in Europe and South Africa.

The consortium has a strong belief in spreading and sharing knowledge in a people-to-people way, not only for the individuals involved but also for the whole institution and even the whole society. The proposed project is to further develop and professionalize a mobility scheme for South African students and academic staff and will have the following outcomes:

- institutional cooperation between a well-established network of European research-intensive universities (International Research Universities Network, IRUN) and their existing partners in South Africa, which will contribute to the mutual enrichment of the participating universities and their societies.
- increased academic competences, language skills as well as social and intercultural competences of students and staff participating in the programme improved employability of South African students and scientific staff

For more information about the SAPIENT Project click here <http://www.ru.nl/sapientmundus/about-us/about-sapient/>

SWEDEN

Nordic Africa Institute, Travel Scholarships 2011

The scholarships can be applied for by researchers associated with universities, colleges and other research institutions in the Nordic countries. Deadline for applications: 31 January 2011.

<http://www.nai.uu.se/scholarships/travel/>

More information about scholarships click here: <http://www.nai.uu.se/scholarships/>

DENMARK

Danida Travel Grants for Master Students. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark. Closing Date for Application: November 1, 2010, at 12:00. http://www.dfcentre.dk/?Research_Projects:Travel_Grants

RESEARCH REPORTS

WHITE PAPER on AFRICA-EUROPE HIGHER EDUCATION COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT: MEETING REGIONAL AND GLOBAL CHALLENGES

Outcomes and recommendations of the project: "Access to Success: Fostering Trust and Exchange between Europe and Africa" (2008-2010). Read more/...

http://www.eua.be//Libraries/Publications_homepage_list/Africa-Europe_Higher_Education_Cooperation_White_Paper_EN_FR.sflb

University of the Western Cape, PLAAS

FORTHCOMING BOOK "Zimbabwe's Land Reform: Myths and Realities"



Scoones I, Marongwe N, Mavedzenge B, Mahenehene J, Murimbarimba F and Sukume C (2010, forthcoming) Zimbabwe's Land Reform: Myths and Realities. **James Currey, Oxford/Weaver Press, Harare** by Ian Scoones From early 2000, headlines around the world reported the invasion of Zimbabwe's largely white-owned commercial farms in dramatic terms. This was 'Mugabe's land grab', with an 'unruly', 'violent mob' of war veterans looting and destroying property across the country. Zimbabwe, it was claimed, had been turned from 'bread basket' to 'basket case'. Zimbabwe's subsequent economic collapse and widespread food insecurity were attributed to the 'chaotic'

land reform, where property and human rights were violated and successful commercial farming had been transformed into underutilised plots run by 'political cronies' with no knowledge or interest in farming. Read more ...

<http://www.plaas.org.za/newsevents/news/forthcoming-book-zimbabwes-land-reform-myths-and-realities>

SOUTHERN AFRICAN – NORDIC NEWS

The African Network for Internationalization of Education (ANIE)

ANIE is an independent, non-profit making, non-governmental African network committed to the advancement of high quality research, capacity building and advocacy on internationalization of higher education with prime focus on Africa. ANIE is a membership based association serving its members, their institutions and organizations, and others engaged understanding internationalization. Click here for more information <http://www.anienetwork.org/>

The Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA)

Click on the following hyperlinks to access the regional higher education news:

<http://www.sarua.org/?q=content/he-news-volume-3-issue-5>

<http://www.sarua.org/?q=content/he-news-volume-3-issue-3>

The Nordic Africa Institute (NAI)

<http://www.nai.uu.se/>

Click here to view the NAI news and their newsletter:

http://www.nai.uu.se/newsletter/nai/2010/09/03/0070/index.xml?__xsl=newsletter-email.xsl&hide-link=1

<http://www.nai.uu.se/press/articles/>

News from NordForsk, March 2010

NordForsk is a Nordic research board with responsibility for cooperation on research and researcher training in the Nordic region. The organisation focuses on research areas in which the Nordic countries are international leaders, and promotes research and researcher training of high international calibre. Latest news:

Click here to read more about news items above -<http://www.nordforsk.org/>

University World News

Click here to access the website: <http://www.universityworldnews.com/>

Click here for the global edition: http://www.universityworldnews.com/index.php?page=UW_Main

Click here for the Africa edition:

http://www.universityworldnews.com/index.php?page=Africa_Edition

News from SciDev.Net, October 2010

For the latest SciDev news on Sub-Saharan Africa click here <http://www.scidev.net/en/sub-suهران-africa/>

Finnish University Partnership for International Development – UniPID

Read their latest newsletters:

August newsletter <https://www.jyu.fi/hallinto/unipid/en/news/August%202010%20Newsletter>

Danish Development Research Network (DDRN)

Click here to access their latest newsletter:

http://ddrn.dk/ddrn_activities-newsletters.html

Our next newsletter will be published on 30 January 2011. If you wish to have an announcement published in the next SANORD Newsletter, please send an email to Leolyn Jackson ljackson@uwc.ac.za by **17 January 2010**.

SANORD CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT DETAIL

The Southern African-Nordic Centre (SANORD)

Visiting address:

The University of the Western Cape
School of Government Building
Private Bag X17, Bellville, 7535
South Africa

Office Tel.:

+27 21 959 3802 (Maureen Davis: Administrator)

+27 21 959 3827 (Leolyn Jackson: Director)

Web Portal address: <http://www.sanord.net>