A THEMATIC CONFERENCE  

in the framework of the  

ARAB-EURO CONFERENCES on HIGHER EDUCATION  

(AECHE 1, AECHE 2 & AECHE 3)  

The networked university: opportunities and challenges for Higher Education between the Arab World and Europe  

TU Berlin Campus El Gouna, Egypt – 9-11 October 2015

Administrative and logistical support, including hotel reservation  
by TUBS GmbH, TU Berlin ScienceMarketing

On site financing and arrangements (airport transfers, accommodation, full board)  
by Technische Universität Berlin
Draft Programme (on the move events, networking events, thematic events)

Friday, 09 October 2015

Ongoing Participants arrive at Hurghada International Airport

15:00 – 16:00 Transfer to TU Berlin Campus El Gouna

16:00 – 16:30 Registration at TU Berlin Campus El Gouna

16:30 – 19:00 Special networking/discussion session:
EU cooperation projects (Tempus and Erasmus Mundus):
“Outcomes and Lessons Learned”
Main Auditorium
Chair: Nicolás Patrici, Program Manager, University of Barcelona, Spain

Panelists representing different international projects, including:
Maria Antonietta Confalonieri, Vice Rector, Pavia University, Italy
Enrique Lopez Veloso, Director International Relations, University Santiago de Compostela, Spain
Zeineb Mazouz, Project Manager, University of Barcelona, Spain
Lea Mund, Head Erasmus Mundus Office, TU Berlin, Germany

19:00 – 21:00 Welcome Reception at TU Berlin Campus El Gouna
Saturday, 10 October 2015

08:00 – 08:45 Transfer to TU Berlin Campus El Gouna (5 min drive or 15 min walk)

08:15 – 09:00 Registration at TU Berlin Campus El Gouna

09:00 – 10:00 Opening Ceremony
   Main Auditorium
   Master of Ceremonies: Dalia Amr, TU Berlin Campus El Gouna
   Opening Speech:
   Christian Thomsen, President, TU Berlin
   Samih Sawiris, Chairman, Orascom Development
   Lesley Wilson, Secretary General, EUA
   Sultan T. Abu Orabi, President, AArU
   Julius Georg Luy, Ambassador, Federal Republic of Germany to Egypt
   Ashraf Mohamed Al-Shihy, Minister of Higher Education, Egypt
   Ahmed Abdallah, Governor Red Sea Region, Egypt

10:00 – 10:30 The Arab-Euro Higher Education Conferences:
   Outcomes of ‘AECHE2’ and objectives of AECHE Thematic conference
   Main Auditorium
   Michael Gaebel, Director of Higher Education Policy, EUA
   Abdallah Al Zoubi, Adviser, AArU
   Angela Ittel, Vice-President for International Relations, TU Berlin

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break, Campus Event Patio

11:00 – 12:30 Session 1: The changing nature of internationalisation in a globally connected world
   Main Auditorium
   Chair: Lesley Wilson, Secretary General, EUA
   Two Keynotes: Gabriel Capitelli, Secretary of International Affairs, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina
   Susan Robertson, Director Centre for Globalization, Education and Societies, University of Bristol, UK
   Followed by panel discussion with university rectors and vice rectors, including:
   Mansoor Alaali, President, Ahlia University, Bahrain
   Ahmed Anwar Dezaye, President, Salahaddin University-Erbil, Iraq
   Pilar Herreros deTejada Macua, Vice-Rector for Studies, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain
   Imad Khatib, President, Palestine Polytechnic University, Palestine

12:30 – 13:15 Lunch in Campus Event Patio

13:15 – 14:15 Guided Campus Tour (parallel tracks, guided by laboratory heads)
14:15 – 16:00 Session 2: **Offshore Campuses as a means for global connectivity – approaches, expectations, results**  
Main Auditorium  
Chair: Laura Howard, President, EAIE  
Panelist representing different off-shore models, including:  
Christian Thomsen, President, TU Berlin, Germany  
Uwe Troeger, Director, TU Berlin Campus El Gouna  
Stéphane Bréna, Director, Institut de Droit des affaires internationales - Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University – IDAI, Cairo, Egypt  
Anton Mangstl, Vice President, German-Jordanian University, Jordan

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee Break, Campus Event Patio

16:30 – 17:45 Session 3: **EU policy support and programme support to ‘European Higher Education in the world’**  
Main Auditorium  
Chair: Claire Hermann, Policy Officer, Southern Mediterranean, Director for Education and Culture (EAC), European Commission  
EU Programmes for HE cooperation and exchange: Opportunities offered by Erasmus+:  
Claire Hermann, EAC, European Commission  
Reactions to the first Erasmus+ call:  
Ramon Torrent, Head AECHE Secretariat, University of Barcelona, Spain  
Karim Hamdy, Deputy National Erasmus+ Coordinator, Egypt

19:30 – 21:30 Conference Gala Dinner at Moevenpick Hotel
Sunday, 11 October 2015

09:30 – 10:00 Transfer to TU Berlin Campus El Gouna (5 min drive or 15 min walk)

10:00 – 11:30 Session 4: Capacity building through collaborative research and joint MSc/PhD programmes
Main Auditorium
Chair: Sultan T. Abu Orabi, President, AArU
Speakers: Wael Benjellouon, Former Rector of University Mohammed V, Morocco
Kiran G.R., Deputy Dean, Middle East College, Oman
Susanne Ruppert-Elias, International Bureau - Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt/ BMBF, Germany

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee Break, Campus Event Patio

12:00 – 13:30 Session 5: Thematic areas of cooperation: Climate Change – Water and Renewable Energy
Main Auditorium
Chair: Anton Mangstl, Vice President, German-Jordanian University, Jordan
Speakers: Douglas Halliday, Physics Department, Durham University, UK
Tetyana Morozyuk, Study Dean Energy Engineering & Deputy Director, TU Berlin Campus El Gouna

13:30 – 14:30 Session 6: Implications of managing the networked university (on governance, management and quality assessment)
Main Auditorium
Chair: Marwan Awartani, President, Palestine Technical University, Palestine
Panelists: Arnaud Raynouard, Vice-President of International Affairs, Université Paris-Dauphine, France
Luis Mariano Delgado Galimberti, Vice Rector Research, Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería, Peru
Yacoub NasirEddin, Chair Board of Trustees, Middle East University, Jordan

14:30 – 15:30 Lunch, Campus Event Patio

15:30 – 16:30 Session 7: Closing Session: The critical need for international higher education cooperation: Europe and the Arab Region
Main Auditorium
Chair: Mohammad Rafat, Deputy Secretary General, AArU
Panelist: Marcello Scalisi, Executive Director, UNIMED
Abdallah Al-Zoubi, Adviser, AArU
Yasser ElShayeb, Director, National Erasmus+ Office Egypt
Roman Luckscheiter, Head DAAD Cairo Office, Egypt

16:30 – 17:00 Conference conclusions - Towards AECHE 3
Angela Ittel, Vice-President for International Relations, TU Berlin, Germany
Sultan T. Abu Orabi, President, AArU
Didac Ramirez I Sarrio, Rector, University of Barcelona, Spain
Ramon Torrent, Head AECHE Secretariat, University of Barcelona, Spain

17:00 – 17:30 Transfer to Hotel

19:00 – 21:00 Farewell Dinner, Marina
Monday, 12 October 2015

Participants depart from **Hurghada International Airport**
Transfer (45min) organized by AECHE Conference (TUBS Science Marketing)
The networked university: Opportunities and challenges for higher education between the Arab world and Europe

Over the past two decades internationalisation has become critical for universities in all continents. While it takes many different forms, it is almost always based on student and staff mobility, builds structured collaboration in research and teaching, and, in some places is supplemented by off-shore centres and campuses. Furthermore, internationalisation strategies, which are very common, have become indicators of the ability of today’s universities to respond to a fast changing globalised world, in which reputations are built beyond national boundaries. Increasingly, outreach to and presence in other parts of the world is seen as a competitive advantage, and as one of the quality drivers in teaching and research. This can take many forms and includes identifying synergies between diverse institutional and social cultures, as well as pooling resources. In many aspects, and in parallel to developments in other social and economic sectors, the university is becoming increasingly networked in its functioning, be it at local or national level or as part of its transnational initiatives.

The importance of networking and greater interconnectivity is growing for both Arab and European universities. While situated in very diverse national environments, they are facing the same challenges in developing meaningful partnerships for teaching and research that benefit their students and society at large. Arab and European universities are also increasingly seeking to develop further cooperation between each other; this occurs against a specific regional, political and social background: the Arab world with its linguistic unity and a shared cultural and historic heritage, Europe in the context of 50 years of integration and with considerable challenges now facing the European Union.

As part of the Arab-Euro Higher Education Conference (AECHE) platform, the El Gouna conference will focus on concrete case studies for exchange and collaboration between the Europe and the Arab world, and explore the development potential for the coming years. Different types of collaboration models, including new forms of off-shore and shared campuses, will be featured.

Among others, the conference will discuss the following questions:

- How do staff and student exchanges contribute to a better quality of learning and teaching, and prepare students for a career in a globalised world?
- How can international joint programmes and off-shore campuses contribute to this?
- How can they contribute to research capacity building?
- What are some of the current models for collaboration and how has the notion of ‘off-shore’ evolved?
- What is the actual and potential impact of the recent “digital revolution” on collaboration, be it in research or in teaching?
- How do universities in their international exchange and collaboration respond to different social and cultural values and beliefs?
- What are the implications of the networked university for governance, management, and resources?
Given low public support, ongoing austerity measures and budget cuts, how can universities demonstrate the added value of their internationalisation and ensure more sustainable and enduring relationships?

The Conference is hosted and organised by TU Berlin at its El Gouna Campus in Egypt. University internationalisation leaders are invited to attend, as well as those engaged in managing international collaboration.

This event is a thematic conference of the AECHE platform. The results will feed into the next AECHE leadership conference that will take place in Barcelona in 2016.