

## Enhancing international competitiveness of universities – a European perspective

### 1. Background

Higher education leaders and policy makers are invited to take part in a 1-day seminar focussing on the international competitiveness of universities. The event will take place in Paris on 21 June 2019.

Higher education is increasingly global and internationally competitive. An ever-greater focus is placed on international rankings, research collaborations, institutional networks and alliances, and the mobility of students and faculty. As universities and policy makers across Europe develop their international approaches, this seminar will encourage reflection, share experiences and build connections. Key topics for discussion will be:

- What opportunities and challenges do global higher education trends present for institutions?
- How are institutions evolving networks, associations and alliances to increase competitiveness?
- How do institutions develop their internationalisation approaches?

### 2. Participation

Influential figures in higher education will lead and stimulate discussion through panel discussions. Expected keynote presenters include

- Vivienne STERN, Director, *Universities UK International*
- Michael O HENGARTNER, President, *Swiss Rector's Conference*
- Alain FUCHS, President, *PSL*

Minister for Higher Education & Research, Mme Frédérique VIDAL will be invited to close the seminar.

60-80 higher education leaders will gather for this event, drawn principally from across France and the UK. Presidents of institutions, directors of international relations and similar positions will be joined by higher education policy makers from UK, France and Europe

### 3. Outputs

Highlights of the seminar will be made available online and distributed widely to British Council and PSL networks of education stakeholders across Europe shortly after the event, encouraging a wider sector engagement with the subjects. A publication summarising the main presentations and any conclusions and recommendations will be produced and distributed digitally after the event.

### 4. Practical details

Time & Date: Friday 21 June 2019, 9h30 – 18h00  
Location: Paris  
Language: English

### 5. Registration & further details

- <https://www.britishcouncil.fr/en/events/enhancing-international-competitiveness-universities-european-perspective>
- [programmes@britishcouncil.fr](mailto:programmes@britishcouncil.fr)

## 6. Seminar outline & expected presenters

Timings	Activity	
09.30 – 10.00	<b>Arrivals and welcome</b>	
10.00 – 10.15	<b>Welcome words</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alain PROCHIANTZ, <i>Administrator</i>, Collège de France</li> <li>Bianka STEGE, <i>Director Education and Society EU Region</i>, British Council</li> <li>Alain FUCHS, <i>President</i>, PSL</li> </ul>
10.15 – 11.00	<u>Scene setting:</u> <b>Internationalization – a story of metrics and rankings?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ellie BOTHWELL, <i>Global Rankings Editor</i>, THE</li> <li>Stéphane VINCENT-LANCRIN, <i>Deputy Head of Division and Senior Analyst</i>, OECD</li> <li>Béatrice KHAIAT, <i>Executive Director</i>, Campus France</li> <li>Thierry COULHON, <i>Counsellor for Education &amp; HE and Research &amp; Education</i>, Elysée</li> </ul>
11.00 – 12.30	<u>Panel discussion 1:</u> <b>Increasing universities' international footprints - the policy perspective</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Laurence AUER, <i>Director Culture</i>, Educ &amp; Research, Ministry of Foreign Affairs</li> <li>A representative from UK Gov (BEIS/DIT)</li> <li>Michael WORTON, <i>President of PSL's Strategic Orientation Committee</i>, PSL</li> <li>(Vanessa DEBIAIS-SAINTON, <i>Head of HE Unit</i>, European Commission)</li> </ul>
13.00 – 14.30	<b>Lunch</b>	
14.30 – 14.40	<b>Reflection and welcome back</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alex Taylor, <i>moderator</i></li> </ul>
14.40 – 16.10	<u>Panel discussion 2:</u> <b>Developing networks and alliances – the European sector perspective</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vivienne STERN, <i>Director</i>, UUKi</li> <li>Michael O HENGARTNER, <i>President</i>, Swiss Rector's Conference</li> <li>Jean-Pierre BOURGUIGNON, <i>President</i>, European Research Council</li> <li>Alain BERETZ, <i>Mission Head on European Universities</i>, Université de Strasbourg</li> <li>Christine CLERICI, <i>President</i>, CURIF network and Université Paris Diderot</li> </ul>
16.10 – 17.30	<u>Panel discussion 3:</u> <b>Implementing an internationalisation strategy – practical answers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marc MEZARD, <i>Director</i>, Ecole Normale Supérieure</li> <li>Jean CHAMBAZ, <i>President</i>, Sorbonne Université</li> <li>Sylvie RETAILLEAU, <i>President</i>, Paris-Saclay</li> <li>Karen MAEX, <i>Rector Magnificus</i>, University of Amsterdam</li> <li>Muriel TOUATY, <i>French Representative</i>, Technion</li> <li>Maggie DALLMAN, <i>Vice-President International</i>, Imperial</li> <li>Peter MATHIESON, <i>Vice-Chancellor</i>, Edinburgh</li> </ul>
17.30 – 17.45	<b>Closing words</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministre Frédérique VIDAL, Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, France (to be confirmed)</li> <li><b>OR</b> Thierry COULHON, <i>Counsellor for Education &amp; HE and Research &amp; Education</i>, Elysée</li> </ul>
18.00 – 19.00	<b>Cocktail</b>	

## 7. Panel discussion summaries

<p><u>Scene Setting:</u> <b>Internationalization – a story of metrics and rankings?</b></p>	<p>What makes a university international? External experts on internationalising higher education – from the Times Higher Supplement and the OECD – will give an overview of the evolving themes in international higher education, and of how internationalisation can be captured by metrics and rankings. Topics will include the role of student and researcher mobility, the collection and interpretation of data, global rankings and benchmarking HE institutions, teaching and learning in an increasingly digital and open space.</p>
<p><u>Panel discussion 1:</u> <b>Increasing universities’ international footprint - the policy perspective</b></p>	<p>Representatives of French &amp; UK governments, the European Commission and the EU research council will present the current state of policy aimed at increasing the international footprint of higher education institutions.</p>
<p><u>Panel discussion 2:</u> <b>Developing networks and alliances – the European sector perspective</b></p>	<p>Representatives of national sector bodies in Europe will present the view and evolving practice in the sector relating to internationalisation. They will discuss opportunities and challenges in their countries, and will look at the development of national and international networks and alliances in response to these opportunities and challenges.</p>
<p><u>Panel discussion 3:</u> <b>Implementing an internationalisation strategy – practical answers</b></p>	<p>Representatives of universities / HEIs will present their institution case-studies of how they are approaching increasing internationalisation, and the main drivers behind their evolving strategies.</p>

