

Universitas 21
U21 Education Forum

**U21 Education – Portability Project
Implementing the Agenda for Action**

**(Meeting No. 7 of the U21 Deans of Education Group)
Tuesday, September 6, 2005
2:00 to 6:00 pm**

VENUE: Morrison Hotel, Georgian Boardroom, Ormond Quay, Dublin

Meeting Report

Participants:

David Clarke – University of Melbourne (convenor)
Roger Slee – McGill University
Field Rickards – University of Melbourne
Graeme Aitken – University of Auckland
Jim Conroy – Glasgow University
Alistair McPhee – Glasgow University
Pat Thomson – Nottingham University
Jim O'Brien – University of Edinburgh
Adrian Ashman – University of Queensland
Rob Tierney – University of British Columbia
Colin Evers – University of Hong Kong
Bob Davis – Glasgow University
Cameron Mitchell – University of Melbourne

Preamble:

The U21 Deans of Education group has met annually for the past six years to discuss issues of common interest and to promote collegial interaction and collaborative projects. Previously, meetings have been annual, coincident with the annual conference of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), but this year the group decided to meet twice-yearly, the second meeting to coincide with the annual conference of the European Educational Research Association (EERA). This second meeting in 2005 provided an opportunity for progress reports on the action agenda developed at the April meeting in Montreal.

Past meetings of the U21 Deans of Education group have led to the presentation of U21 Education symposia at both AERA (2002 and 2004) and EERA (2004 and 2005) conferences, the publication of a U21 feature issue on Teacher Education in the *Asia-Pacific Journal of Teacher Education and Development* (2003), the promotion of a variety of staff and student exchange programs, and much fruitful discussion of issues of common concern across Universitas 21 Faculties of Education. The current focus of discussion is Professional Portability in Education.

Report:

Progress reports were provided on the following initiatives:

1. Construction of a database of higher degree subjects and programs in Education across U21 institutions to facilitate the mobility of higher degree students internationally. Compilation of this database is being coordinated by Professor Adrian Ashman, Dean of Education, University of Queensland.
2. The development by the Faculties of Education at the Universities of Nottingham and Auckland of a prototype program designed to provide education graduates with opportunities to combine overseas higher degree studies with employment in teaching positions in school systems local to the host U21 institution (coordination by Professor Pat Thomson, University of Nottingham, and Professor Graeme Aitken, University of Auckland).
3. The development of a cohort study of higher degree students participating in exchange programs between U21 institutions and building on current student exchange programs between UBC and the University of Hong Kong (coordination by Professor Rob Tierney, Dean of Education, University of British Columbia).
4. The development of a research-mapping database across faculties of education at U21 institutions in order to promote international collegial contact and research collaboration (coordination by Professor Roger Slee, Dean of Education, McGill University; database template provided by Professor Colin Evers, University of Hong Kong).
5. The identification of postgraduate subjects currently delivered online by U21 Faculties of Education, which might be accessed by students across U21 institutions (coordination: Professor Jim Conroy, Dean of Education, Glasgow University).
6. On-going exploration by the U21 Education group of the possibility of a U21-badged postgraduate qualification drawing upon the results of initiatives 1 and 5 (above). Professor Mike Goldberg (U21 Global, Singapore) to be consulted.
7. Investigation by the U21 Education group of the feasibility of a forum for doctoral students in Education: "Doctoral Education for the Professions", drawing on the work of Anthony Paré and Lyn McAlpine (McGill University) and intended to promote the collegial interaction of doctoral students in Education from all U21 institutions.

Next Meeting:

Progress reports on each of the above seven initiatives will be presented at the next meeting of the U21 Deans of Education group, to be held on Thursday, April 6, 2006, immediately prior to the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA) in San Francisco.