

## TEACHING IS TOUCHING THE FUTURE: FROM VISION TO PRACTICE

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AT THE RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM,  
6.-7. JUNE 2011

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF ANNETTE SCHAVAN, FEDERAL MINISTER  
FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

### ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Having concentrated for a long time on the implementation of the Bologna reforms and the related structural issues of modules, workload and credit points, the debate in Germany is now changing tack, and a more comprehensive view of teaching and learning is increasingly gaining significance. The focus is on the question of how teaching in higher education should be shaped in future so that it offers the best possible learning and working conditions, meets the requirements of an increasingly heterogeneous student body and ensures international compatibility. While elsewhere, experience has already been gathered in the development and implementation of future-oriented study and teaching concepts, in Germany visions, mission statements and guiding principles for teaching are now increasingly being developed in various constellations and with diverse protagonists. This is where the conference "Teaching is touching the future: from vision to practice" comes in. It shows how visions can be turned into concrete, pioneering concepts for good teaching. Within this context, national and international experts are to have their say.

As part of an exchange of experience, the conference presents different practical examples for implementing visions for teaching in higher education. On this basis, the aim is to work together to develop factors for successful realisation. Subject-specific as well as interdisciplinary configurations are to be considered in equal measure.

The conference is to focus on the following main topics and spheres of activity:

- How visions are realised – how rectorate and faculties together shape innovative approaches to teaching in higher education
- From the vision to the subject - how visions for teaching and learning change course concepts and set new disciplinary and interdisciplinary trends
- Living visions for teaching and learning – how trend-setting concepts for teaching shape our self-image
- Vision worldwide – how international study programmes are implemented and cooperatively administered
- Making diverse study paths and lifelong learning possible – how to meet the requirements of a heterogeneous student body

The aim of the conference is to initiate a lively exchange between universities and teaching staff on the development and practical implementation of future teaching concepts beyond national and disciplinary boundaries. It is aimed at all interested parties from Germany and abroad who want to set new trends, based on their special responsibility for teaching, whether from the position of the university or faculty management, as teachers or students. The conference is particularly aimed at

those in positions of responsibility who contribute to the development and implementation of visions and mission statements in teaching.

The conference has German and English papers. Papers from invited experts are to be included along with papers from the Call for Papers.

## PARTICIPATING EXPERTS

### Prof. Dr. Hans Weiler

Professor emeritus of education and political science at Stanford University (1965-1993), university professor emeritus for comparative politics and former dean of the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt (Oder) (1993-1999), education and higher education policy advisor to various international institutions and governments.

### Prof. Dr. Marijk van der Wende

Founding dean of Amsterdam University College, professor for innovation in higher education and chair of the Internationalisation Board at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, professor of comparative higher education policy studies at the Centre for Higher Education Policy Studies (CHEPS) at the University of Twente, and education and higher education policy advisor to various national and international institutions.

### Prof. Dr. John Dickens

Director of the Engineering Subject Centre at the Higher Education Academy in Great Britain, professor of engineering education at Loughborough University, associate dean (teaching) at the faculty of engineering, awarded a “National Teaching Fellowship” in 2006.

### Prof. Dr. med. Sigrid Harendza

Professor of internal medicine/education research and development at the university hospital Hamburg-Eppendorf where she was formerly vice dean for education, awarded the Ars-legendi prize for excellence in university education from the Stifterverband and the German Rectors' Conference 2006.

### Prof. Dr. Mitchell Ash

Professor of modern history at the University of Vienna, assessor for the Stifterverband's excellence in university education competition, member of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences

## FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

A varied programme of events is planned. Alongside dinner together on the first day of the conference, different tours are also to be offered, such as through the exhibition “Himmlische Düfte – Höllengestank” (Heavenly fragrance - hellish stink), to be held next year at the Botanical Garden of the Ruhr-Universität Bochum.

**More information about the conference is available at: [www.rub.de/visionary-teaching](http://www.rub.de/visionary-teaching)**

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### HARNESSING EXPERIENCE – YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE CONFERENCE

The aim of the conference “Teaching is touching the future: from vision to practice” is to harness the existing practical knowledge on successful strategies for the development and practical realisation of visions for university education and to initiate a lively exchange of experience.

The focus is therefore on the diverse approaches and experiences in the development of visions and their implementation in practice. We warmly invite you to contribute your ideas and experiences to the conference!

### PRESENTATION OF CASE STUDIES

#### Poster session

The presentation of practical examples in the framework of a poster session will form the starting point for dialogue on successful strategies for the realisation of visions for teaching and learning in higher education. The poster session offers you the opportunity to present your concept and your methods of implementation, to report on your experiences and to discuss this with conference participants.

#### Workshops – visions in dialogue

Following the poster session, participants will be given the opportunity to put selected practical examples “under the microscope”. As a contributor, you have the option to showcase your approach, to discuss it in a structured manner with interested participants, and to thus take suggestions and new ideas home with you. There will be two workshop rounds of 45 minutes on each of the five topics of the conference, held in the form of a hosted exchange. As an input provider you will have a host at your side who ensures that a productive debate ensues for all parties.

#### Your contribution

You wish to contribute your concept and your experience to the conference? Then send us the completed form by 20. December 2010 with a brief outline of your contribution.

The number of posters is limited. You will receive a response by 28. January 2011.

## CONTACT

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OUTLINE FOR THE PRESENTATION OF A CASE STUDY

Please return the completed form by 20. December 2010 to  
visionary-teaching@rub.de

Title of the contribution

Contact partner

Name:

Function:

Institution:

Postal address:

Telephone:

E-mail:

Do you wish to make your contribution in the form of a poster or also as part of a hosted exchange of experience?

Your contribution is mainly about... (multiple answers possible)

**How visions are realised** – how rectorate and faculties together shape innovative approaches to teaching in higher education

**From the vision to the subject** – how visions for teaching and learning change course concepts and set new disciplinary and interdisciplinary trends

**Living visions for teaching and learning** – how future concepts for teaching shape our self-image

**Vision worldwide** – how international study programmes are implemented and cooperatively administered

**Making diverse study paths and lifelong learning possible** – how to meet the requirements of a heterogeneous student body

**Other:**

## Outline

Please outline your contribution on this page (What is the idea? What are the most important objectives? What phase are you in (development, implementation, evaluation, further development)? Who are the important cooperation partners?)