

Newsletter

Annual Conference 2010 – Florence

The 24th Annual Businet Conference will be held at the Gran Mediterraneo Hotel in Florence, Italy, between the 10th and 13th of November 2010. The Conference title will be “Current Issues in Higher Education”. This is the third consecutive year that this inclusive approach has been taken, following the very successful Conferences in Palma and Durham it was decided to continue with the same format.

The early bird price for the Conference is €360. The early bird registration period will end on the 31st of May 2010.

The cost of accommodation in a single room is €99 per night and €64 per person per night for those sharing a twin.

Reservations will open on the 21st of March 2010.

The website of the hotel is <http://www.hotelmediterraneo.com/>

Businet Workshops 2010

Two workshops are being organised during the period between Conferences. The idea behind these workshops is to enable the development of staff within Businet member institutions.

March 23rd in Mechelen: Stimulating Curriculum Thinking – Higher Education in the next decade with Professor Ray Land Strathclyde University

Following the success of Professor Lands Keynote Address at the Conference in November he has kindly agreed to follow this up with a working session in which he will be exploring the Higher Education curriculum as it might evolve over the next 10 years.

October 9th: Paul Guest – European Funding Workshop

Details to follow.

Unité Conference – Edinburgh

The Unité Student Conference will be held in the Royal British Hotel in Edinburgh between the 21st and 25th of November 2010. This will be the 11th time that this highly successful event will be held. The fee for the event including accommodation and all Conference activities is €290. The theme of the Conference will, once again, be “Employability Skills and an Introduction to Cultural Awareness”.

The maximum number of delegates will be 110 and reservations will be taken up to that number on first come first served basis. Speakers for this event will come from Education, Business and the Public Sector. Past delegates will also share their experiences.

An outline programme will be posted on the website in the near future. The programme will indicate where meals are included in the Conference fee and it will show the social programme which is also part of the package.

Reservations will start on the 1st of April 2010.

Review Durham 2009 Conference

A comprehensive review of the Conference in Durham 2009 was carried out using the SurveyMonkey tool. Generally the responses to the questions raised in the survey were exceedingly positive. If you would like a copy of the full survey then contact us at admin@businet.org.uk and it will be sent to you.

The new structure of the Conference was a major success, with the additional networking time and thematic / special interest groups proving to be very popular with the delegates.

Review Unité 2009 Conference

The 2009 Unité Conference was fully subscribed, in fact reservations had to be closed some weeks before the event as no more delegates could be accommodated. The programme proved to be most popular with the student group and the interaction between students was markedly better than in previous years. The feedback received from students was excellent.

The review of the event was discussed by the Board and the 2010 event will consequently follow the same format as the 2009 event.

Membership Update

A number of interested educational institutes attended the Durham Conference as “guests”. I am very pleased to say that all of those guests decided to become full members. So we welcome the following institutes to Businet:

- International School of Business, Dublin, Ireland
- Chandigarh Group of Colleges, India
- Istanbul Kultur University, Turkey

Other new members joined Businet prior to the Conference but since the last newsletter:

- Klaipeda Business College, Lithuania
- The Polytechnic Inst. of Leiria, Portugal
- ISTECH, Paris, France

Two other organisations have become associate members of Businet:

- Petrus Communications, France
- Aide-et-Action, France

Furthermore, Businet has signed a collaboration agreement with EAEC (European Association of ERASMUS Coordinators).

For full list of members click here <http://businet.org.uk/members/memberInstitutions.aspx>

Working Groups

At the Annual Conference a number of working groups elected new working group chairs as a result of the previous chairs relinquishing their positions.

Businet formally thanks the following individuals, who resigned from their posts in Durham, for all of their hard work and contribution to the success of the network:

- Agnes Dillien, KH Kempen
- Ria Oris, KH Kempen
- Maria De Sousa, Escola Superior de Comunicacao Social
- Johann Schmeunix, KH Kempen

A new working group specialising in law was established in Durham. The working group elected a chair (Nico Nijsten, KH Leuven) and the marketing group (Eddy Brune, Helmo and Geert Timmers, Fontys) and communication group (Isabelle Pertry, Howest and Brigitte Luyten, XIOS) elected new chairs. The full list of working group chairs and their institutions can be viewed on the Businet website at <http://businet.org.uk/about/working-groups.aspx>

New Businet Board

Elections were held in Durham to fill vacant positions on the Board of Management. The current Board of Management is therefore

- **Petra Gillis**, President, University College Arteveldehogeschool, Belgium
- **David Taylor**, General Manager, New College Durham, United Kingdom
- **John Ellison**, Board Member, New College Durham, United Kingdom
- **Stefan Schenke**, Board Member, Saxion University of Applied Science, The Netherlands
- **Leen Van Tolhuysen**, Board Member, Mechelen University College, Belgium

The Board have met since the Durham Conference and roles within the Board have been established, in addition to those designated within the constitution.

Stefan Schenke will represent Businet within EURASHE and take responsibility for liaising and working with the working groups.

Leen Van Tolhuysen will be responsible for exploring new marketing and communication opportunities concentrating on contemporary methods.

John Ellison will concentrate on qualifications and strategic issues.

Social Networking Sites

Leen Van Tolhuysen has established Businet profiles on Facebook and LinkedIn. If you are registered with either of the two social networking sites, please search for Businet and become a friend. If you are already a friend, please suggest Businet to other members. If you require any assistance, please contact Leen Van Tolhuysen at Leen.Van.Tolhuysen@khm.be

Merchandise Materials

Businet has developed a range of merchandising materials that can be used in a variety of ways by the Businet partner colleges. For example, Businet lanyards were purchased and used at a recent student conference. A full list of merchandise and the prices of each item can be found on the Businet website at www.businet.org.uk/merchandise.aspx - this isn't here yet but we'll add the page.

If you wish to contact Businet about anything then can you please use the address shown here:
admin@busient.org.uk

We are asking members just to use this one address, then we will allocate the enquiry to the individual best placed to answer.