



Maastricht University is very pleased to host the first international conference on the European Labour Market for academic graduates:

‘Will Higher Education be ready for the European Labour Market? Competencies, Mobility & Employability after the Sorbonne-Bologna Proces’.
(ELM 2006), from October 19 to October 21, 2006.

The Bologna process seems well on its way. Despite the many matters that still have to be resolved, higher education institutions and agencies are working towards the objectives of Bologna: increased mobility, a better quality of and more transparency in higher education.

However, less is known about the effects of the changes that are made. Will the European graduates of the future be working abroad, or just re-invest their international experience in their own region?

Will the selection criteria of recruiters change?

How will they value international experience?

It is likely that the Bologna objectives will become intertwined with phenomena like quality of networks, competition, competencies and selectivity. As a result, the Bologna process, and the re-launched Lisbon Strategy, would not only generate European graduates, but also significantly change the roles of recruiters, academic staff and governments.

The question is: to what extent, and at which speed?

At this conference, several options, best practices and outcomes from recently completed research will be discussed.

Conference themes

1 Higher education and the international labour market

(Requirements for the Knowledge Society; Designing new curricula; International student mobility for obtaining competencies; Networks as a driving force for labour and education; Activating learning methods)

2 National strategies

(Stimulating mobility or protection of your own market; Continuing education; Key skills; Organizing and creating learning opportunities; Broad or specialized programmes?)

3 The emerging European labour market for graduates

(Validation of international experience by national employers; Mobility of graduates; Labour market developments; HRM, competencies, and organizational management)

4 Quality, accreditation, benchmarking, transparency, institutional research: **identification, reputation & ranking for providers and employers**

Call for contributed papers

While priority is given to research-based contributions, contributions based on best practices or policy & strategic issues are also welcome.

Proposals may take the form of conference papers, posters, workshops or colloquia.

Participants are invited to submit abstracts through the abstract submission web page.

The official language of the conference is English.

Deadline for submitting proposals: 15 June 2006.

website: www.unimaas.nl/elm



Who should attend

The conference is aimed at:

- Recruiters.
- Labour market researchers.
- Educationalists concerned with assessment and evaluation of academic programmes.
- Educationalists and other teaching staff concerned with curriculum design.
- Directors and policy advisors in strategic development and internationalization in higher education.
- Experts and policy advisors in national and regional governments, (inter)national organizations and agencies concerned with employment and innovation issues in relation with the requirements of (a competitive) society.
- Experts and policy advisors from trade unions and associations of employers.

Scientific Committee

Prof. Jürgen Enders, CHEPS, the Netherlands; Dr. José C.M. van Eijndhoven, President Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands; Prof. Wim Gijsselaers, Universiteit Maastricht, the Netherlands; Prof. Hans Heijke, Director ROA, Universiteit Maastricht, the Netherlands; Dr. Uulkje de Jong, SCO-Kohnstamm Instituut, Amsterdam, the Netherlands; Prof. Robert Lindley, Pro-vice-chancellor, University of Warwick, UK; Prof. Ken Mayhew, Pembroke College, University of Oxford, UK; Prof. Jose-Gines Mora, CEGES Universidad Politecnica de Valencia; Prof. Randall J. Olsen, Center for Human Resource Research, Ohio State University, USA; Prof. Jean-Jacques Paul, Iredu, Université de Bourgogne-CNRS, France; Prof. Ulrich Teichler, INCHER, Universität Kassel, Germany; Prof. Marc Vermeulen, Open Universiteit, the Netherlands; Dr. Thomas Weko, OECD, Paris, France.

Keynote speakers and other plenary contributions

Prof. Hans-Wolfgang Arndt, Rektor, Universität Mannheim, Germany; Prof. Wim Gijsselaers, Universiteit Maastricht, the Netherlands; David Pappie MSc MBA, Manager Global Attraction and Recruitment, Shell International BV; Dr. Rolf van der Velden, ROA, Universiteit Maastricht, the Netherlands.

Pre-conference workshops on themes such as Skills measurement & economic analysis in labour market research, Selection and entry requirements in higher education, Institutional Research in higher education or Student-centered learning (of PBL); in an international competence-based context. Curriculum design for the Lisbon Strategy will be scheduled on Thursday 19 October 2006.

City & region

Maastricht is of course renowned for the Maastricht Treaty of 1992. It is also widely known as a old Medieval city with Roman roots, located in the south-eastern part of the Netherlands in the immediate vicinity of Germany and both the Flemish and French speaking regions of Belgium.

University

The Universiteit Maastricht, a research university, is much younger, dating from the 1970s. Since then, the university has become well known, especially for its two main profiles: Problem-based learning and International programmes.

Local Organizing Committee at Maastricht University

Professor Hans Heijke, Director of the ROA Research Center for Education and the Labour Market, Scientific Committee Chair; Universiteit Maastricht Professor Wim Gijselaers, member Board of the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Universiteit Maastricht Ingrid Wijk, managing director Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Universiteit Maastricht René de la Fontejne, conference manager Exhem-Universiteit Maastricht.

The conference will be held in the university premises, located just a few minutes' walk from each other and from the old centre of the city where you have opportunities for sightseeing and shopping.

Accommodation

Maastricht, widely known as a city for conferences and other events such as The European Fine Art Fair, is well provided with a good choice of hotels for all budgets.

Fine art of living

In the Netherlands, Maastricht is seen as a city with a high quality of life. The excellent choice of restaurants contributes a lot to this reputation.

How to get to Maastricht

Maastricht lies midway between four main European airports (Amsterdam/Schiphol, Brussels/Zaventem, Düsseldorf & Cologne-Bonn), and is also served by its own Maastricht-Aachen International Airport. In addition, the city has excellent road and rail connections.

More information at elm@bu.unimaas.nl

or +31433882751 (ask for René de la Fontejne).

or +31433885978 (ask for Jet van der Pluijm).



Universiteit Maastricht

European Labour Market for academic graduates

Maastricht

19 - 21 October, 2006

