YEBO! Project, Developing the Internationalization of PhD studies in South Africa

NEWSLETTER #3

Welcome Back!

We are glad to issue the third newsletter of the project YEBO!

The YEBO project aims to strengthen the internationalization of doctoral studies in South Africa and in Europe.

It is a pretty eventful year for the Yebo! project!

First with the Second and Third Training Sessions of the Project which were hosted by the University of Pretoria and University of Cape Town, South Africa, on March and June 2019.

Then with the participation to the EUA-CDE annual conference with a special event on the 12th of June in Brescia.

Also we were pleased to participate in the IEASA annual conference in Cape Town and we will participate in the EAIE Conference in Helsinki.

In addition, we launched our web portal including a Funding Tool for PhD candidates as well as dissemination tools such as a pedagogical poster and a video!

Find out more in this newsletter.

Wishing you a pleasant reading,

The Project Management Team

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WHAT'S NEW:
- Launching the PhD Portal
- Launching the Presentation Video
- Training Session 2 in Pretoria (UP) and 3 in Cape Town (UCT)
- EUA-CDE Annual Meeting, Brescia
- IEASA Conference, Cape Town
- EAIE Conference, Helsinki

THE PhD PORTAL IS ONLINE!
yebo.cut.ac.za

The YEBO PhD Portal gives students and teachers access to funding opportunities and makes it easier for them to take doctoral studies to the next level by making it an international experience!
2nd Training Session on "Towards institutional structures that support the complete PhD life cycle"

Pretoria

26-29 March 2019

The starting point of this workshop is that internationalization of PhD studies is a shared institutional responsibility. In order to make each PhD experience more international, institutions need to make sure that all phases of the PhD life cycle are adequately supported: before embarking on a PhD candidates need to have access to information and services with regard to funding and international mobility; their registration at the university should be free of any unnecessary barriers (e.g. a uniform registration system for all, incl. international candidates); upon registration they should have access to various services for personal/professional development, for short (e.g. conferences) and long term (e.g. research stays, joint supervision) international mobility; quality mechanisms are to be put in place to ensure retention of PhD students (e.g. annual progress reports, supervisor training, etc.).

Although the full PhD life cycle and all possible structures (on the institutional level as well as in the faculties) will be taken into consideration during the workshop, particular attention will be given to the following two topics: (1) structures/services (e.g. IROs) to support international mobility and collaboration on PhD level; (2) structures/services (e.g. Doctoral Schools) to enhance the international quality of the PhD research.

3rd Training Session on "Developing a Toolbox for Managing International Collaborative PhD programmes"

Cape Town

24-28 June 2019

Integral to the internationalisation of PhD studies is the idea of student-supervisor interaction taking place across borders, nationalities and cultures. In addition, other stakeholders play a role when PhDs are internationalized. These stakeholders are located in different societal contexts, institutional contexts and strategies, disciplinary contexts and individual contexts. Given these different contexts, participation in the higher education system of different countries can sometimes mean that different and occasionally contradictory norms, rules and regulations, legislative frameworks and educational traditions come into play. Indeed, this is true even at an inter-institutional level with in South Africa, let alone between countries.

There are therefore a number of important considerations to take into account in order to safeguard the interests of all parties. This training workshop will look in some detail at international PhD engagement through the mode of joint enrollment at different partner institutions. It will seek to map the elements that need consideration when contemplating enrolling PhDs in this way and aim to provide a template or guideline for South African partners to use. The training workshop will also look at some specific challenges that impact in the different contexts, from the macro to the micro level. In conclusion, the workshop will also allow for some alternative models of supervisory training to be shared since adequate supervisory capacity development in the country is a particular pressure point in the South African context.
IEASA Annual Conference: Internationalisation of Higher Education in the context of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR): Innovation, Diversity, Inequality and Inclusivity

21-23 August 2019, Cape Town

YEBO partners from Europe and South Africa met in Somerset West, Cape Town, South Africa to participate in a series of Workshops.

WORKSHOP 02: CHALLENGE ACCEPTED! THE INTERNATIONALISATION OF DOCTORAL STUDIES AS A RESPONSE TO THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

The 4th Industrial Revolution is characterized by a fusion of technologies that is blurring the lines between the physical, digital and biological spheres. The workshop will explore the relationship between 4IR and internationalization of doctoral studies.

WORKSHOP 05: CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT AND THE INTERNATIONALISATION OF DOCTORAL STUDIES: CONCRETE APPROACHES TO INTERNATIONALISATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION – THE YEBO CASE STUDY

Explore how the 4th Industrial Revolution is swiftly reshaping peoples’ everyday lives through advancements in fields such as artificial intelligence, 3D printing and biotechnology. The workshop examines the Erasmus+ Project YEBO as a case study to highlight how internationalization may help address challenges presented by the impact of the 4th industrial revolution on Higher Education in particular.

More details: https://www.ieasa.studyza.org/

EUA-CDE Brescia

12-14 June 2019

Open to everyone interested in this field, the EUA Council for Doctoral Education (EUA-CDE) invited university members and other stakeholders to take this opportunity to exchange good practices and build new relations with European policy makers, funding organisations and global partners. This event may be of particular interest for academic leaders, doctoral education professionals, doctoral candidates and other research stakeholders.

YEBO special event: Promoting doctoral education in South Africa

The YEBO side-event lasted 1.45 hours and it was held during the EUA-CDE pre-meeting (12 June 2019). The topics were: Overview of South African Doctoral Context (state of the art, National Strategy, current challenges); current opportunities in South Africa for European universities (co-tutelles framework; fellowships); future perspectives for the Internationalisation of Doctoral Education in South Africa (long-term strategy, new investments & objectives beyond 2020).

To read the Yebo! presentation go to: https://eua.eu/component/attachments/attachments.html?task=attachment&id=2274


EAIE Conference Helsinki

24-27 September 2019

The Yebo! management team’s proposal submitted for the upcoming EAIE Conference has been accepted by the EAIE Conference Programme Committee.

The 31st Annual EAIE Conference and Exhibition in Helsinki, Finland will take place at the Messukeskus Expo and Convention Centre. The 2019 conference theme is 'embracing all voices'.

It is a great opportunity for Yebo! to disseminate the project by the production of a poster that will be presented during the poster session at the 31st Annual EAIE Conference in Helsinki, Finland taking place from 24-27 September 2019.

Poster thematic: "Internationalization of PhD Study".

Two speakers have been identified, Leolyn Jackson, Head of the International Office at CUT and Camilla Pernelle, Project coordinator from Montpellier University.

More details: https://www.eaie.org/helsinki.html

Save the date:

Coimbra Group annual meeting, Montpellier

10-12 June 2020

The 2020 Coimbra Group Annual Conference will take place at the University of Montpellier, 10-12 June 2020, which will also be the 850th Birthyear of the University.

More details: https://www.coimbra-group.eu/?post_type=conference&p=6206
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