

GCHERA

Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for the Agricultural and Life Sciences

Upcoming events – Fall 2013

Call for participation - GCHERA Annual Meeting 20 to 22 October 2013, Nanjing, China

It is our pleasure to invite you to attend **GCHERA Annual Meeting**. The programme will include the inaugural **GCHERA World Agriculture Prize Ceremony** (www.gchera-wap.org) to acknowledge excellence in academic leadership in agricultural and life science universities, to be held on 20 October 2013.

The ceremony will be followed by an International Seminar — **GCHERA World Dialogue on Education and Innovation in Agriculture and Life Sciences: Universities as Entrepreneurs for Sustainable Rural Development** on 20 and 21 October. The **GCHERA General Assembly** will be held in 22 October.

These events will be held in the Hanyuan Hotel, Nanjing under the auspices of Nanjing Agricultural University (NAU). See full details and register on the NAU event website, <http://wap.njau.edu.cn/> where there is also information about how to book your hotel and to obtain a visa. You will be responsible for the cost of your travel and subsistence expenses in attending these events.

Please put the dates in your diary NOW! Please circulate this Newsletter to the members of your Association and other networks.

Call for nominations to elect the next Chair of the GCHERA Board

Nominations are sought for election of GCHERA Chair of Board, **to be returned by 11 September 2013 to the [GCHERA Secretariat](#)**.

Detailed information is provided in the attached *Call for Nominations*.

GCHERA World Dialogue Programme on 20 and 21 October 2013 & Call for Case Study presentations

The GCHERA World Dialogue Conference on Education and Innovation in Agriculture and Life Sciences: Universities as Entrepreneurs for Sustainable Rural Development will focus on enhancing the education curriculum of universities of agricultural and life sciences to deliver graduates who have the entrepreneurial skills to support the development of small and medium enterprises in the rural environment linked with the agricultural food chain.

Graduates of the universities of agriculture and life sciences are amongst the leaders in the agricultural industry and the food chain.



The graduates will become the leading farmers, businessmen, agricultural advisors, lecturers in technical schools, and researchers, all of whom will be leading innovation in the rural economy.

Thus, agricultural and life science universities are directly concerned with the challenge of providing a curriculum which not only develops graduates' knowledge and understanding of the disciplines relating to agricultural and life sciences but also with the creativity and entrepreneurial skills to contribute to the development of SME's and, of course, larger businesses.

More than a question of knowledge, entrepreneurship is a question of education and it is not so easy to foster the development of these very specific skills in the universities' curriculum.

- How to promote a spirit of entrepreneurship (through the design of the degree programme curriculum, through educational process)
- How to expose students to enterprises through
 - Internship policy
 - Apprenticeship
- How to adapt program to professional needs – How to manage short term need and long term requirement

Call for Case Studies to be presented during the GCHERA World Dialogue

Each GCHERA Higher Education Association is invited to make a presentation of case studies from their association members of how universities are developing entrepreneurial skills through the curriculum.

Please submit a brief abstract by 5 September to Dr Simon Heath at secretariat@gchera.com

Contact Dr Simon Heath if you have any questions.

GCHERA Extraordinary and General Assembly in Nanjing, China

The **GCHERA General Assembly will be held on 22 October 2013**. It will be preceded by an extraordinary General Assembly to approve a proposed revision of the statutes.

You will find the agenda of those meetings in attachment.

We look forward to receiving your registration and welcoming you to Nanjing for these special GCHERA events.

Please put Nanjing 20 to 22 October in your diary NOW!

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