



UNIVERSITY
OF TRENTO - Italy



ASEA UNINET
Asean-European University Network, founded in 1994

12th ASEA-UNINET Plenary Meeting Proceedings

JUNE 7-11, 2011
Bellavista Relax Hotel, Levico Terme
Trento (Italy)



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PROGRAM

Tuesday June 7

- 16.00 Arrival and Registration
- 19.00 Welcome Reception and Dinner at the Hotel

Wednesday June 8

- 09.00 Inaugural Meeting
 - Welcome by ASEA UNINET Chairperson, prof. **Carla Locatelli**
 - Greeting by the Rector of the University of Trento, prof. **Davide Bassi**
- 09.30 Report by Chairperson and Regional Coordinator Europe, prof. **Bernd-Michael Rode**
- 10.15 Coffee break
- 10.45 Reports by National Coordinators Europe
- 12.15 Lunch
- 13.30 Reports by Regional Coordinator Asia, prof. **Edwan Kardena**, and National Coordinators Asia
- 15.30 Coffee break
- 16.00 Presentation of new Universities
- 17.00 Preparation for the new Election of Chair, National Coordinators, Regional Coordinators
- 18.00 Presentation and Q&A on Innovation in Hydro and Ocean Energy by **Kusmayanto Kadiman**, former Minister of Education, Indonesia, former ASEA-UNINET Coordinator
- 19.00 Dinner at the Hotel

Thursday June 9

- 09.00 Elections
 - Identification of Venues for the next National Coordinators' Meeting and Plenary Meeting
- 10.30 Coffee break
- 10.45 Focus Groups Gathering:
 - 1. Science & Technology
 - 2. Economic and Social Sciences
 - 3. Health, Pharmacy and Medicine
 - 4. Humanities, Culture and Music
- 12.15 Lunch
- 13.30 Bus Transfer to Trento, where the 4 Groups will visit 4 different Faculties/Research Centers
- 17.30 Guided Tour in Trento
- 19.00 Social Dinner in Trento
 - [Restaurant Lo Scrigno del Duomo, Piazza Duomo 29]
- 20.30 Concert in Trento
 - [Sala Filarmonica, via Verdi 30]
- 22.15 Bus Transfer to Levico

Friday June 10

- 09.00 Presentation of Outcomes of Focus Groups
- 10.30 Excursion to Verona - Bus Transfer
- 12.15 Lunch in Verona
- 14.00 Guided Tour in Verona
- 17.00 Bus Transfer to Levico (arrival at 18.30)
- 19.00 Farewell Dinner at the Hotel

Saturday June 11

Departure

*Study visits:

- Science & Technology – Faculty of Engineering (Mesiano, Trento) and Faculty of Mathematical, Physical and Natural Sciences (Povo, Trento) of the University of Trento
- Economics & Social Sciences – Faculty of Economics and Faculty of Sociology of the University of Trento
- Health, Pharmacy and Medicine – University of Trento Research Centres CiBIO (Centre for Integrative Biology), CiMEC (Centre for Mind/Brain Sciences) and Biotech (Centre for Biomedical Technologies) (Mattarello, Trento)
- Humanities, Culture and Music – Faculty of Arts and Philosophy of the University of Trento and Conservatory of Music F.A. Bomperti (Trento)

Venue

The 12th ASEA UNINET Plenary Meeting was held at
Bellavista Relax Hotel
viale Vittorio Emanuele III, 7
38056 Levico Terme (Trento, Italy)
www.bellavistarelay.it



OPENING ADDRESSES

Carla Locatelli, ASEA-UNINET Chairperson

Authorities, Rectors and Presidents, Vice-Rectors and Vice- Presidents, esteemed colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,

It is a real pleasure and a great honour for me to welcome you to the University of Trento for the 12th ASEA UNINET Plenary Meeting. For many of us, this gathering expresses and reinforces the friendship that years of shared goals and work have produced, because we have come to know each other, and respect each other academically and personally. So, thank you all for being here! And welcome. Welcome back to Trento, after the National Coordinators Meeting in May 2000, and the 6th Plenary Meeting in July 2002!

In opening this Plenary Meeting, I would like to say a few words about our history and our mission, especially for those who are here for the first time or do not know us well. As you know, ASEA UNINET has always supported and realized very fruitful academic exchanges, and has grown exponentially since its inception in the late Seventies, when the foundation was laid by Innsbruck University and some Thai Universities. By 1990, Innsbruck, Chulalongkorn and Mahidol University in Bangkok, the University of Vienna and Chiang Mai, the University of Agricultural Sciences in Vienna, Kasetsart, and Gadjah Mada had joined the network, so that the first Plenary Meeting was held in Ho Chi Minh city in December 1994. At this founding meeting, the name ASEA UNINET was coined. At that time, 25 universities were involved, from Austria, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam. Our visionary and committed colleague, Prof. Bernd Rode, was the catalyst for developing the extraordinary network that transformed timid bilateral agreements into the articulate organization that brings us all here today. ASEA UNINET would not be what it is without him.

Today, 15 countries nourish from, and have been nourished by, ASEA UNINET: the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sweden, Spain, Thailand, Vietnam, and the UK. A total of 63 Universities belong to it. Ministries and universities, local governments and industries provide funding for an educational enterprise that rightly deserves the name of “Higher Education”.


Research is an essential component for the development of joint projects and mobility. It is no exaggeration to say that we strive to connect “the best minds” of our generation, and of the generations to come. We think in terms of globalization in the sense that we promote cooperation in excellence, knowing that knowledge has no boundaries, and that the future can be what we imagine it to be. In the course of the years, we have established “focus areas” for research and, whenever we meet, we share our projects and expectations for progress.

The main research areas today are:

1. Science and Technology (including Agriculture);
2. Economics and Social Sciences;
3. Health, Pharmacy, Human and Veterinary Medicine;
4. Humanities, Culture and Music.

While we define “focus areas”, in very broad terms, as you can see, we are also aware of the incessant dynamics that translate rigid disciplines into transformative knowledge. Thus, we promote inter-disciplinary dialogue and cherish innovation.

Alongside joint research projects, we promote staff and student exchange at all levels of academic placement, PhD programs, and postgraduate education. Our acquired reciprocal knowledge allows us to provide support to companies seeking contacts, to political and economic delegations, and to city and regional partnerships. The organization of ASEA UNINET is based on direct representation in each university through a coordinator. Furthermore, in each country there is a national coordinator, and in each continent there is a regional coordinator. We meet every year with the national coordinators, and every two years in a plenary meeting when we vote the admission of universities that seek acceptance in the network, and elect the Chairperson for the following term. Asia and Europe are elected in alternation to the chairmanship.



Let me thank you here again for the great honour for me to be chosen in Bangkok as our chairperson in this European term.

To conclude, I would like to stress the fact that in ASEA UNINET, we always strive to maintain the high academic standards of our “founding fathers”, as stated in our mission statement. In it we declare that we are conscious of the fact that:

1. Internationalization is today an essential feature of Higher Education;
2. Science and research are needed for development: in a globalized world we are all “indigenous” and need indigenous development. The progress in science is planetary;
3. We follow with interest the ASEM process between European and Asian States, and attribute to networking and scientific partnership the attainment of success in these contacts;
4. Academic institutions are protagonists in the development of projects of mutual interest for countries, regions, and companies.

We are very grateful to EU and ASEAN, as well as to governments and the private sector, for their support in making our ASEA UNINET ideals come true. I wish everyone a successful networking and a meaningful stay in Trento for our 12th Plenary Meeting.

Thank you.

It is a real pleasure for me to welcome all of you, Asian and European colleagues, to this Plenary Meeting of ASEA UNINET in Levico. We hope this will allow you to form an opinion of our university, a small one in size, but very open to internationalization.

The University of Trento is a small-medium sized university in Italy which has always strongly invested in international relations. The cooperation with foreign universities and research centres represents for us a means to create high quality networks with both scientific and educational objectives, in order to enrich our scientific activity, and to offer our students and researchers more mobility opportunities.

We started our experience at international level looking towards the German-speaking area, which is a kind of local place from the point of view of Trentino, due to the history of our region and to its geographical location. Austria and Germany were our first partners, followed by many others from all over the world.

Our relations have grown more and more intensely. Today, the University of Trento is one of the Italian universities with the strongest international character. We know that moving on to a European level is no longer enough if we want to give our students real opportunities. Many changes have occurred in Europe and in the world and, to promote human capital, we must offer our students the opportunity to exchange ideas and to get to know different realities and experiences worldwide.

This is not easy for small universities like ours, but I think that it is even more necessary for small universities to have solid and selected links at an international level. Travelling a lot is not sufficient to have a good international exposure. Furthermore, the potential market is so big that it is mandatory to create a consistent and structural job as educators, and to maintain and to take care of it over the years, so as to achieve global and effective goals.

Networking is the key to success for truly international programmes, establishing interactions with different partners and selecting the partners for different projects, according to quality, performance and reliability. From this point of view, ASEA UNINET is a really good example of what we believe to be an effective network, capable of creating solid relations with many prestigious partners. A meeting like this gives all of us a unique opportunity to plan actions, to face problems, and to make decisions in order to optimize time and resources. It also allows us to strengthen our partnerships, and to provide students and researchers with the best opportunities for their personal and professional development. This is the ultimate goal we share as Higher Education protagonists.

I am very grateful to our Vice-Rector, Carla Locatelli, for the work she has been carrying out as chair of ASEA UNINET and as coordinator of the Italian universities. We will continue to participate in this precious network. I would like to conclude my welcome greeting by thanking you all for coming to Trento. I know that tomorrow you will visit our university. I hope that you will enjoy the visit, and I am glad that you will have the opportunity to see what we do, and to discuss with colleagues in the different faculties and research centres about various possibilities for this network to further develop cooperation projects. Unfortunately, weather conditions are not the best; however, this will stimulate concentration and effective work.

I hope that you will also enjoy the visit to the cities of Trento and Verona in the next few days. I wish you all the best for this meeting and I thank you once again, and my hope is that this plenary meeting will stimulate new ideas and new cooperation opportunities for a fruitful development of the ASEA UNINET network and for the relations among its partners.

Thank you.

Not only is it a pleasure for me to welcome you here today, but I would also like to greet you on behalf of the entire Trentino community which is honoured to host such an important international meeting. In particular, I would like to pass on to you sincere greetings from the Trentino Governor, Mr Lorenzo Dellai, who is also responsible for the local development of Higher Education and Research. Due to prior commitments, Governor Dellai cannot be present, but we would like the voice of the Provincial Government to be heard in a meeting which involves more than 60 universities, from Europe and South-East Asia, in the name of higher education and internationalization.

The Province really wanted to be present at a moment in which our university, because of its internationally recognised significance, presides the outstanding assembly meeting here today. Over the past 40 years, the Autonomous Province of Trento has planned and financed increasingly significant investments in the fields of research and development, and has transformed its territory into a real hub for the implementation of knowledge and research. We are internationally acknowledged for the results we have achieved: more than 20 public and private research centres, our university positioned at the top of national and international rankings, and more than 2.500 active researchers which make Trentino an internationally recognized and valued hub of research in many qualified research networks.

Our goal is the creation of an integrated system, linking education, research and innovation, so as to transform Trentino into a “living lab” that is able to enhance quality and internationalization. This target is feasible because, today, the university is de facto the first example in Italy of a “local” university. Indeed, thanks to an agreement signed with the Italian Government, the Province of Trento is entitled to manage the financial and administrative organization of the University of Trento. Starting from next year, Trentino will have the opportunity to experiment a new model of academic federalism, which is a unique experience for Italy. The chance of counting on significant resources coming from the Autonomous Province of Trento and of developing a new model of government will allow for a more flexible and dynamic organization with standards comparable to those of internationally-acknowledged universities. New appointment protocols, incentives and innovation in human resources will make the university more attuned to international models, not only public but also private ones. Internationalization is at home in our university because it is a daily feature of university life. In this regard, I would like to mention the 41 bilateral and multilateral agreements, the 62 EU programmes concerning research and education, the 27 double and joint degrees, 2 special projects for internationalization and the 70 foreign professors who work in Trento. These figures seem to me the solid foundation for my good wishes for the ASEA UNINET Plenary Meeting clearly showing that internationalization is effectively at work. I wish you all success for your cooperative work.

Thank you.

Report by Regional Coordinator Europe and National Coordinator for Austria

Bernd-Michael Rode, Austria

First of all, let me express, on behalf of all the ASEA UNINET family members, our sincere thanks to all the people who prepared and organized this meeting. Thanks to the University of Trento and to the Rector for bringing us together. As we expected, we are experiencing the usual very pleasant and family atmosphere and, of course, we are glad to be together again.

What I wish to do here, which is actually my duty, is to report on Europe, on what happened in Europe in ASEA UNINET and, indeed, we have many pleasant memories, as we have been running very successful programmes. Nevertheless, we should also mention that we have undergone some changes, that we have had some problems and that there are reasons for such problems.

These matters are often related to political problems and we should pay particular attention to these. On the other hand, it is precisely these problems which have demonstrated the sustainability and the strength of our network, because changes happen sometimes. Something gets lost in the process, but then, other opportunities for success have arrived, are arriving, or will arrive. Therefore, in my report, I will try to summarize these issues briefly.

Well, changes occurred, especially in the pattern of membership. Whereas in Asia, none of our members has dropped out at any time, the scene in Europe has been different. Some universities joined and, afterwards left, like Verona, but then we replaced Verona with Genoa. Unfortunately, the untimely death of our colleague, Norman Revel, could never be compensated for and so, in the end, the University of Middlesex dropped out of the network which is a real loss for us. However, we have a new member from Germany, the University of Passau, and so we can say that, among the European members, some come and some go, but that the core group, consisting of about 25 universities which have been members of the network for a long time and have a lot of experience, seems to be stable.

Thus, we can say that the sustainability of our network is granted. On the other hand, with the help of this network and, in particular, of our coordinators in the Asian universities, the number of European students and scientists who have been able to go to Asia and carry out studies or projects has increased. We even celebrated the event of the first European student who obtained a master's degree in a Thai university. Others have carried out research and studies in Indonesia and in the Philippines, and this is actually a change which better balances the cooperation. Therefore, we are looking forward to a further increase in this process.

One of the real challenges faced by the network was, and still is, the financial crisis in Europe, which seems to have had a stronger impact on Europe than on Asia. Probably the Asian economy is doing better than the European one and, therefore, we understand that we have to share our strengths in several matters. I will give some examples. Last week, I spoke on the phone to the Rector of the University of Ioannina, in Greece. We all know about the situation in Greece. He said: "We cannot spend money on travelling at the moment". Then, considering that we are a single family, I told him that we were happy to cover their travelling expenses. They were most grateful for this, but the Rector was not able to come, because it was too short notice for him as he already had other commitments, and because some urgent negotiations regarding the university budget will be held this week in Greece. This anecdote is an example of how serious this economic crisis is. Indeed, the crisis is also felt in other countries, even in Austria, which is considered the seventh richest country in the world, and even we do not have much money for research and for education. Some politicians do not understand how important education and science are for the future and for the economy. That seems to be a problem.

Recently, the Rector of the University of Innsbruck was appointed Minister of Science and Research. Let us see what he can achieve. Even a Minister's power is limited. In any case, for the moment we have to survive with budget reductions and, as far as our budget for ASEA UNINET is concerned, we were able to maintain it at the same level as last year for the project. Indeed this is a good result, considering the crisis we are undergoing. We still have problems with the scholarship programme, but we hope to somehow find a solution, at least for 2011. We are also investigating if there are some promising means of co-financing activities with our Asian partners and we are negotiating with our partners in the Network in this regard.

I would like to mention Thailand, which has already provided a special budget for our activities, and then Indonesia and Vietnam, where we are conducting negotiations. Hence, I am looking forward to overcoming many problems if we think on a long-term basis. As you know, universities have survived throughout the centuries; they have survived many governments and they have survived hundreds of ministers; they have survived war and all kinds of crises. Actually, we are an organization that has been set up by universities. Therefore, I think our life expectancy should be very good, similar to that of universities. Universities have transformed, have changed even when emperors have sometimes closed them down. But even then, the University was born again like phoenix from the ashes and so we trust in this spirit and history, and that is what I hope for ASEA UNINET as well, in all of these crises.

One very good aspect in recent times was that ASEA UNINET could increasingly demonstrate its efficiency and usefulness in establishing contacts among companies. We have the luck to host one of the most significant examples of such contacts: Professor and former Minister, Dr. Kusmayanto Kadiman. Most of you already know him. However, just as a short reminder, he was once the Vice-Rector of ITB (Institute of Technology Bandung) and coordinator of ASEA UNINET. Then, he became the Rector of this institution and was the chairman of our Network, and he arranged a plenary meeting in Bali and, shortly afterwards, he was appointed Minister of Science and Technology. This is really a fantastic career, not only for him, but also for ASEA UNINET, as it was a good example for others in order to encourage them to join ASEA UNINET. Now he is involved, not only in one big Austrian company, but also in many projects in Indonesia and this indeed should help ASEA UNINET to establish scientific, economic and industrial links in Indonesia. This evening, we will listen to a talk about this and I think it will provide incentives and new ideas as regards what can still be achieved through ASEA UNINET, by having contacts with the universities. I would also like to mention another example, namely our cooperation with Pakistan. We had one of the largest PhD programmes financed by Pakistan, which sent hundreds of doctoral students to European countries to get their degrees and to return to be employed as upgraded staff in their universities. This happened in a period when the Pakistani Minister was Professor Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman. Due to a change in the government and to the financial crisis, these projects were partly reduced and some were even partly stopped. However, I think that they will take off again.

As you know, the political situation in Pakistan is difficult. Pakistan is located in a critical geographical position and violence occurs frequently, and this is something which might also prevent our people from accepting to go to Pakistan to teach. Therefore, projects, such as the establishment of European - Pakistani Universities of Technology, have had to be interrupted for the moment. However, even in this situation, the people who have worked with ASEA UNINET are still working in our cooperation framework and have come from Pakistan to attend our meeting.

This is basically the situation in Europe, as it has developed over the past 18 months. We hope that we will involve further members from other European countries which are currently not part of our network. In particular, we hope to obtain understanding and further appreciation from the governments. They like to talk about ASEA UNINET as a successful and wonderful idea. They do praise us, but we need more than just words. The Romans had two important sayings: they called money, the "nervus rerum" the real important thing for all issues and they also said "sine moneta nulla musica" which means without money there is no music. But this is not only true for music. I think we should say "sine moneta nulla scientia" and, if there is no science, there is no top-level education or research. Thus, we should do some brainstorming on how we can convince governments to support us also in terms of funding. If I compare the money spent for other projects, like national trains running at a deficit, the amount we need is peanuts. With such small budgets we have achieved so much! Let us see what will come up in the future, but I think we should insist at least that the universities, and the education they provide, are very important for the future and also for the economy. Then, if the European policy does not take this into account, we can only hope that our Asian friends will help us, when Asia becomes the leader in economy and technology, just as we helped them 33 years ago to get something started by joint projects. Hence, this is another reason why it is important to have this ASEA UNINET family! So, I thank you all. I am really happy to be with all of you again and to enjoy the feeling of our ASEA UNINET family. It is not just a group; it is a family where we all belong together.

Thank you.

Reports by National Coordinators Europe

Rüdiger Korff, Germany

Approaches towards a cultural dialogue in sciences

Sciences are understood as universal. In fact, the laws of gravity apply in the same way to Europe as they do to Southeast Asia. However, if we speak about the production of scientific knowledge and its dissemination, we are talking about so-called “epistemic-cultures”, that is, routines, basic understandings, meanings etc. that are part of the praxis of research as well as of teaching in universities. In his commencement address on “cargo-cult science”, Feynman draws attention to this, when he shows how status and reputation of scientists impact on acceptance of findings. The cultural background directly affects epistemic cultures, either as the views of the scientists of their own world, or as the conditions in which knowledge is produced and disseminated. Therefore, a “cultural dialogue” makes sense. At the University of Passau, we started some projects in this direction, and we are now looking for further funding to intensify them.

To base a cultural dialogue on science has several advantages. Firstly, science tends to be outside of direct political discourse, not least because it is connected to the rather small community of scientists, and it does not address issues of direct political relevance. Secondly, in science, procedures to cope with conflicts and differing opinions are well established. Indeed, science implies critique of and challenges to opinions. Thirdly, scientific dispute has its base in rational discourses of logical (reasonable) arguments and, finally, we should start where we are, that is, working in knowledge-related organizations.

An important part of science is its dissemination, particularly through teaching to students. Students as well as lecturers tend to bring along their respective highly diverse cultural backgrounds, but in the seminar and lecture room, these features are widely ignored. Universities still form to some degree their own “republics” within the nations and cultures. However, these cultures of teaching and learning are not globally equal or standardized, as they are not immune from the material and cultural environment they are located in. This is most obvious with regard to teaching and learning styles. The differences are surprising, because the lecturers tend to receive their degrees and have their first scientific experiences within similar contexts of western universities. However, the work in these universities is usually limited to one’s own research, and to participating in lectures, but hardly ever in one’s own lectures. The sharing of experiences is an important part of a cultural dialogue.

The workshop

During the workshop, the teaching experiences within the different settings will be discussed as well as the respective state of the disciplines within the countries, in order to identify differences and ponder on the reasons for them. Thus, the workshop will address the “institutionalization” of sciences and investigate how this institutionalization is connected to specific cultural features. Initially, the discussion will follow disciplinary lines to identify specific forms and patterns of how the respective discipline is practiced within the respective setting. Afterwards, the findings will be discussed together, in an interdisciplinary way. Besides identifying similarities and differences, limits of communication will be acknowledged. When does it become difficult and impossible to speak to one another?

Wittgenstein made the famous statement “Worüber man nicht sprechen kann muss man schweigen” (what we cannot talk about, we have to be quiet about). To be quiet does not mean, though, not to communicate. It simply means that other means of communication are required. Here, art as an alternative means of communication is relevant. Can we overcome boundaries of verbal communication by using art? In this way does art create new territories for communication which can be innovative for the disciplines? Academic discourse is fixed on verbal - spoken or written - forms of communication in the shape of papers, research reports, articles etc. to which, today, we can add PowerPoint presentations and diagrams as a means to enhance mutual understanding and to transmit wider information. Starting from the consideration that scientific discourse already applies non-verbal means, we will move beyond PowerPoint into art itself. In a metaphorical sense, one might say that we will try to move from comics to painting.

Something out of the usual to initiate dialogue

Dialogue is improbable. It only makes sense and is sustainable, if it bears results. Successful interdisciplinary research (something that seldom happens though) shows that it can initiate innovations through raising questions, which will not occur within one's own disciplinary discourses. Interdisciplinarity does not mean that a discipline can provide answers to questions from another discipline, nor does it mean that everyone has to be either experts, or rather, dilettantes, in the participating disciplines. It means that each discipline can provide insights and, at the interfaces, new questions can be generated. In a similar vein, cultural dialogue does not mean that one culture can provide solutions to the other, etc.

Unfortunately, dialogue is rather improbable. Dialogue only occurs when Person A must be sure that the information given will be of interest to the addressed Person B. Furthermore, person A must assume that Person B will respond, and that this response will be comprehensible. Here we already have three pre-conditions before someone might start to communicate! Further conditions from Person B should be added. Person B must assume that the information from Person A will be of interest and comprehensible. To respond, Person B must make the same assumptions as Person A. This is why persons usually avoid communication with unknown persons or within unknown situations.

As scholars or as students, we do have something in common. Most of all, one precondition in order to be a scientist, as well as a proper student, is curiosity. Thus, experiencing new situations is often something that is appreciated. Unfortunately, the usual forms of workshop and conferences tend to reduce curiosity. One solution is to combine a workshop with experiences outside of everyday life and, thus, with ordinary routines. Due to the location of Passau at the meeting point of three rivers, we thought about a boat trip combined with an art workshop on board the ship. The ship as a place where one cannot take an "exit-option" has a further advantage: one has to communicate. This dialogue / art workshop should address those issues where verbal communication has reached its limits. It should build upon the discussions and findings during the more academic-oriented parts of the workshop, and continue the discussion by different means.

Cultural dialogue can demonstrate that other forms and means are possible, and again, at the interfaces between cultures, new innovations in terms of perspectives, ideas and visions are possible. This is the reason why future visions are one issue of the planned project. Future visions not only derive from within a culture, but also from articulating different (pluralism) cultures through new means of communication (art). If there are interests in such a form of dialogue across epistemic cultures, we can gladly provide you with more information and modules.

Reports by National Coordinators Europe

Bibiana Muñoz Clares, Spain

As you know, we have already said that the European community is undergoing a crisis, a severe one, which has been especially felt in the southern countries, Spain among others.

Almost all calls for applications, scholarships and programmes have disappeared, but I am happy to say that the call for applications for scholarships for Asian countries, especially for south-eastern countries has been maintained. This call is the only one that we were able to obtain thanks to the funds we received from the banks, private banks. Thus, we had the possibility to launch the call for applications. I think we have received about 12 or 15 applications from teachers and students to go to Asian Higher Education Institutions and, in that sense, I would also like to invite you all to present or express your interest in receiving these students and teachers because, of course, in the call for applications, we will include a list of desired destinations, among them, Indonesia and Malaysia, but we can increase the list. The more universities we can offer to our students and teachers, the better for all of us.

I think you are right. In fact, we never post these calls for applications on the ASEA UNINET website but I think we will do this in the future because these calls for application are not only addressed to our own students and teachers but also to teachers and administrative staff who could be interested in paying a visit to a university to start a collaboration. The programme is open to these people too. The call for applications for this year has closed but next year, by January, we will publish the new one and make it available. Furthermore, we have been implementing the Bridging the Gap Project, the Erasmus Mundus Project, led by the University of Trento. This is the second year that we have received students and teachers and we are really happy about this. The only country from which we did not receive students and teachers is Vietnam. However, we are quite interested in Vietnamese universities, so we are trying to establish some connections. In fact, we have presented Erasmus Mundus within the Asian regional lot and we have included a university in Vietnam, the Hanoi National University of Education. We hope that the project will be approved this time and that we can start exchanges. It was a pity we could not include you, because the European Commission had advised us not to include you as partners from other projects.

Finally, I would like to say a few words about the new objectives for the University of Murcia in relation to Asia. We are trying to open a virtual campus in some of the Asian countries, namely, Malaysia. For the moment, we are talking about this and so we are open to any suggestions or expressions of interest. As regards joint degrees, we are now dealing with some of them and have started by exchanging students in comparable study programmes. We will try to establish many degrees, but we have no experience in this. We joined the European Frontiers and we have some experience within Europe, but we are sure we can extend this experience to other countries. So, if you are interested, please do not hesitate to tell me or Eva because, as Carla has told you, I am leaving ASEA UNINET to go and work in the field of Mediterranean countries. So I am happy, but I am sorry to say goodbye.

Another detail is that the University of Murcia has been awarded the title of "International campus of excellence in the Mediterranean area". This means that we have once again joined with a former part of the University of Murcia. The University of Murcia was divided into two universities some ten years ago and then all technological degrees, not all but many of them, went into a separate university, the University of Cartagena, and we remained the University of Murcia which was mainly a humanities university. Now we are together again in order to become a campus of excellence. So this means that we are much more open to technological exchanges than we were before. Our university, which is in the Mediterranean and which is a marvellous university in technological terms, can become a contact point. If you need any help or if you are interested in contacting people, you can do so through the University of Murcia.

Thank you.

Reports by National Coordinators Europe

Carla Locatelli, Italy

As you know, in Italy there are three universities which belong to ASEA UNINET: the University of Trento, the Polytechnic of Milan and the University of Genoa. Out of politeness, I will start talking about my colleagues, and leave Trento to the end.

The **Polytechnic of Milan** has admitted various students from different countries to a Master of Science programme, for the academic year 2010/2011. In particular, they admitted eleven candidates: one from Thailand, from Chulalongkorn, in Master of Science in Architecture; one from Hanoi University of Science and Technology in Management Engineering; another student from Vietnam is attending Engineering in Computer Systems and a student, once again from Vietnam, is enrolled in Mechanical Engineering. All these students received scholarships sponsored by the Polytechnic of Milan and by the University branches of Como and Lecco. At the moment, the Polytechnic of Milan is still providing the possibility of admission to international students, and they have informed us that, so far, they have had one request for admission from the University of the Philippines for the Master in Architecture, one from Chulalongkorn in Architecture, and another one from Chulalongkorn in Product Service and System Design. They have also had quite a few students from Vietnam in Management Engineering, three students in Engineering and Computer Science, one student in Mechanical Engineering and one in Automation and Control Engineering. These students will be selected. The Polytechnic this year can offer four scholarships. You can see that there is a gap between what Italian universities can offer in terms of welcoming people to the university (we are very open), and the financial support we can provide. Sometimes, we just do not have the money to pay for the scholarships. So that is the problem that keeps cropping up. As regards the Polytechnic of Milan, we can only say that the conclusive data, in case more students are admitted there, will be made known only at the end of October.

It is obvious from the figures you have seen that there is a lot of interaction between the Polytechnic of Milan and Vietnam. Indeed, in November 2010, the Polytechnic carried out a sort of promotional tour that involved visiting a lot of Vietnamese universities, and this tour was organized with the Italian Diplomatic Service in Vietnam. In 2010, the Polytechnic of Milan signed bilateral agreements also with some universities in Indonesia. The idea is to develop a cooperation between the School of Engineering and the Department of Architecture in Milan and the Department of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Sciences in Indonesia, especially in Jakarta. The Polytechnic of Milan would also like to call our attention to the so-called Joined Design Studio Workshop, which is a multidisciplinary activity oriented towards research in urban planning, with a specific focus of research on the Jakarta urban area, from all viewpoints: from architecture to building techniques to social impact of planning, and so on. This activity is co-financed by the Polytechnic of Milan and Universitas Indonesia and it received some support, some little support, from the Italian Ministry of Education. Of course, one of the goals of the workshop is to strengthen the cooperation, both at a scientific and academic level, through these new agreements which have been set up in Indonesia. That is all for the Polytechnic of Milan.

Now let us talk about the University of Genoa. **The University of Genoa** was formally accepted in our ASEA UNINET only in 2009. They have been appointed by the Italian Ministry of Education as National Coordinating Structure for European Higher Education Fairs. So, a lot of their activities have been related to the setting up of high standard fairs. This initiative aims at the recruitment of paying students, or as a sort of mixed programme, which would be more in line with the ideas of ASEA UNINET. Some co-financing becomes necessary, but certainly the ASEA UNINET ideal is not that of a development based on a purely business-like interaction with our partner universities. The University of Genoa sent us a list of universities with which they interact, and some of them are ASEA UNINET universities and some are not or, at least, I do not recognize them as ASEA UNINET universities. The one I can point out is the University Sam Ratulangi Manado in Indonesia. The other ones are the Institute for Russian Language in Moscow and the Friendship University of Russia, but they do not seem to be part of our network.

Genoa is also a member of Erasmus Mundus. As you know, Erasmus Mundus is one of the best supported programmes in Europe. Erasmus Mundus is what allows us, in Italy, to allocate scholarships and to promote exchanges in a time of financial crisis. The University of Genoa is in an Erasmus Mundus project, led by Nice,

which connects universities located in Cambodia, Laos, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam and five European countries, namely, France, Germany, Italy, Poland and Romania.

Enrolled students come from countries which are connected to ASEA UNINET. Basically, there are 200 students from Spain, 64 students from Germany, 60 from Greece, 13 from Austria, 12 from Pakistan, 6 from the Philippines, 6 from Indonesia, 5 from Vietnam, 5 from the Czech Republic and one from Thailand. This is the picture of Genoa.

Of course, I have to bring you greetings from my colleague, Professor Michele Marsonnet, who could not be here today because he is in South America, but he asked me to greet the assembly and the participants on his behalf. He is the one who sent me the figures about his university.

And now I will talk about the **University of Trento**. Trento has suffered a lot in terms of public national funding, and the cuts have been terrible. The University of Trento has been able to continue to allocate scholarships mostly through one programme: an Erasmus Mundus programme of huge dimensions, allowing for the mobility of more than 120 students over a period of three years. So, it is a huge project, called Bridging the Gap (BtG), mentioned also by Bibiana, because the University of Murcia is one of the universities belonging to this Erasmus Mundus network. The coordinator of the BtG project is Professor Claudio Migliaresi in Trento, and he is applying again to the European Community. Thanks to our extended involvement with Asian and European universities, we hope that we will receive a favourable evaluation by the European Community.

If any of you would like to write and support this project, please feel free to write to me, and we will present this backing to the representative of the European Commission in Brussels. I think it is always very helpful if Asian countries in particular, but also European countries which have benefitted from the project, express their interest in it. I think it would be very useful for all of us to be able to table strong evidence to the European Commission, in order to renew this project which has been very successful so far.

Trento Mobility: in the first year of activity the mobility from Asia to Europe in Trento has involved 21 people, 11 from the Hanoi University of Science and 10 from Burapha University, Thailand. The mobility from Trento to Hanoi University of Technology included two people, and four others went to Burapha University.

Furthermore, Burapha University and the University of Trento are cooperating on a specific European project in the field of biomass and thermochemical conversion processes. And we just hope that this will yield good fruit and good results.

Of course Trento has a lot of connections with some other universities; for example, we have an agreement with the University of the Philippines but, unfortunately, we have not been able to provide any scholarships, so far, to welcome students from the University of the Philippines. However, we would like to do so in the future. We have to find a way of increasing this mobility. Last but not least, I would like to recall that 2009 was the last year of the financed reality of ASEM DUO when we had two mobility cases, financed by Thailand, one incoming and one outgoing. We hope to restore that in full.

Thank you.

Opening by the Deputy secretary-General, Ministry of Education, Thailand

Pinit Ratananukul, Thailand

Dr. Marta Dalmaso, Councillor of the Autonomous Province of Trento,
Prof. Davide Bassi, Rector of University of Trento,
ASEA UNINET Chairpersons, Prof. Carla Locatelli,
Prof. Brend Michael Rode, Prof. Edwan Kardena,
Rectors and Vice-Rectors of ASEA UNINET Universities,
ASEA UNINET Coordinators,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to attend today's opening session of the 12th ASEA UNINET Plenary Meeting here in Trento. I am particularly pleased to have been given the opportunity to address this meeting and I would like to thank the Rector of the University of Trento for hosting this important event. At this point, please allow me a few minutes to say a few words to express how delighted I am to be here with you at the Opening Ceremony. This auspicious occasion has also given me a good opportunity to meet many familiar old friends and new ones, to renew and enhance our network in the future.

Today, ASEA UNINET is a network of 16 countries with more than 70 universities. With this size, ASEA UNINET truly lives up to the mission statement laid down at the First Plenary Meeting in 1994, namely: "to encourage and facilitate cooperation between academic institutions and to promote scientific, cultural and human relationships as well as personal contacts. The Network encourages and initiates projects of mutual interest and benefit for faculties, staff and students and assists in forming coalitions of resources for academic activities between member universities".

Since the founding of ASEA UNINET, the network has continuously carried out capacity-building activities, which provide opportunities for all the members to upgrade academically and professionally. I believe the expanded network of scholars and its collective activities have enabled the members of ASEA UNINET to make greater contributions to bettering the future for Asia and Europe.

Distinguished Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the coordinators of ASEA UNINET for the successful implementation of its cooperation by building up excellent relations with many partner universities in the network.

I, myself, as former Chairman of ASEA UNINET, as Regional Coordinator for Asia and National Coordinator of Thailand and, on behalf of the Office of the Higher Education Commission, Ministry of Education, look forward to continuing to support ASEA UNINET and to working with all partners to help each other and this region to make that extraordinary promise, expressed in the ASEA UNINET mission statement 17 years ago, come true. I can assure you the full support of the Office of the Higher Education Commission for the Thai participation in the ASEA UNINET collaborative projects and activities.

Since we have made great efforts towards enhancing closer ASEA UNINET cooperation among our members, it will be more beneficial for us all to share with, and discover from, each other the best procedures and lessons learned from the past year, so that we can progress and prosper together. I would like to urge participants in this ASEA UNINET Plenary Meeting to contribute their viewpoints and to share their wisdom in order to set a better direction and to drive forward so as to strengthen and expand cooperation among ASEA UNINET members in the long run. And I really hope your rich and invaluable experience will contribute to the improvement of the cooperation development as a whole. I hope that the expansion of ASEA UNINET memberships will help reinforce our academic strength and enable ASEA UNINET to make additional contributions to Asia and Europe's sustainable prosperity and development. We all share the same hope that the ultimate outcome of our efforts is to maximize the benefits of the capacity building of our faculty members, staff, researchers and students. Consequently, this forum will not only serve as a means to creating a closely-knit collaborative network among members of ASEA UNINET, but it will also assist in guiding and monitoring our collaborative activities.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

In closing, I would very much like to see this gathering serving as a policy forum to advise and guide the direction of ASEA UNINET towards its intended goals. This meeting includes discussions and exchanges of perspectives in focus areas and also the presentation of the outcomes of the discussions, which will be synthesized later into a concrete plan of action for our further reference and tangible implementation. I do hope that this friendly forum will bring about innovative ideas and substantial recommendations, which can be transformed into real action and can favour the progress of the work of ASEA UNINET even further into a new horizon.

In my view, scientific cooperation between Asia and Europe must reflect these new realities and the extraordinary potential that resides within this cooperation. ASEA UNINET has taken a great stride towards regional integration of science and research, and its capacity for innovation and global competitiveness. I also like to see ASEA UNINET in its openness to the participation of more universities, just like one giant agent of science diplomacy. And I eagerly look forward to the further development of this network in the coming years, as well as to increased European- Asian science cooperation as regards involving countries in the developing world in the great social problems we share.

Finally, I would like to sincerely thank Professor Carla Locatelli, ASEA UNINET Chairperson, for hosting and organizing this important meeting. Thanks also go to Professor Rode who has dedicated himself wholeheartedly in all these years to fostering our ASEA UNINET cooperation. Without these sustained efforts, our strong links would not have been made so successful. Once again, I would like to thank all the ASEA UNINET Coordinators and all the participants for their appreciated contributions to this meeting. My hope is that ASEA UNINET will become a significant platform from which we can learn new insights and exchange our experiences. I wish all participants every success and may your expectations be fulfilled.

Thank you.

Reports by National Coordinators Asia

Ngo Chi Trung, Vietnam

Good afternoon.

Dear friends and colleagues from the university members of ASEA UNINET,

I would like to briefly inform you about some activities and some results of our cooperation, during the last 18 months. So, I will just take some minutes to guide you through my PowerPoint presentation:

The first issue I would like to talk to you about regards the Vietnamese university members: along the S-shaped country, Vietnam has eight ASEA UNINET members: we have now four universities from Hanoi, the Hanoi University of Science and Technology (HUST), the National Economics University (NEU), the University of Transport and Communication, the Vietnam National Academy of Music; two universities from the middle of the country, the University of Da Nang and Hue University; and two others from the south of Vietnam, the Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City, and the University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Ho Chi Minh City (UMPHCM). During the Plenary Meeting today, we will recommend another university from the capital, Hanoi, which longs to become an official partner of our network, the Hanoi University of Agriculture.

The second part of my presentation will deal with our cooperation activities and it will focus, firstly, on student and staff exchange programmes. In recent times, we have had a very good scholarship programme, you know, which allows us to send university staff, including full-time PhD and sandwich PhD students, to partner universities in Austria for one year. During the past one and a half years, we have sent five staff members for postdoctoral research and three staff members for short-term visits. One Master's student was sent to Austria within the framework of bilateral cooperation between Hue University and Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU), and this is a very good cooperation within our network.

The second piece of information concerns the new cooperation set up among our ASEA UNINET members through the Erasmus Mundus Projects of the EU. Last year, we sent eleven staff members and students to Trento University, one exchange student and one full-time PhD student to the University of Agricultural Sciences (BOKU) in Vienna, by using the budget of Erasmus Mundus, including the Bridging the Gap (BtG) Project coordinated by the University of Trento & EURASIA coordinated by BOKU. Through these projects, HUST received two PhD students and one exchange staff member from Trento, Innsbruck to HUST for co-research. With these projects we had many opportunities to send our students to Austria, Italy and Portugal and also to welcome European scholars to Hanoi. It is very good for us to receive these visiting members. Therefore, Vietnamese members are keeping close contact with our European member universities in order to apply for similar projects. Recently, HUST has successfully become a member of two other Erasmus Mundus Projects coordinated by the University of Trento and the Polytechnic of Turin, in Italy.

As far as the cooperative projects are concerned, we are very proud to have very good research projects: besides the Viet-Net Project between Italian and Vietnamese partners, we have cooperative projects between HUST and the University of Innsbruck, between HUST and the University of Trento, between UMPHCM and the Vienna University, Veterinary Medicine. We have a very good state-level project, in the garment and textile field, between HUST and the University of Innsbruck. With regard to the Student Exchange Activity, the International Summer University (ISU) in the framework of ASEA UNINET in cooperation with HUST, NEU and WU is our annual activity. We successfully organized the ISU 2010 event for nineteen students from WU and fifteen Vietnamese students from HUST and NEU. Next month we will continue with ISU 2011 in Hanoi.

Also within the framework of ASEA UNINET, we organized one joint conference in Ho Chi Minh. This was the second Cell Culture Workshop prepared by the Ho Chi Minh School of Pharmacy and Medicine and the Vienna University, Veterinary Medicine.

Regarding the joint training programmes, Hue University successfully completed the first intake of the joint training programmes with IMC Krems and is continuing to recruit students for the 3rd and the 4th cohorts. The Postgraduate Twinning Programme between Hue University and Vienna University of Technology (TU) is being implemented and is being effectively funded by the 322 Project of the Vietnamese Government.

In the past year, we welcomed the visits of very important people, for example, the HUST campus welcomed the Austrian Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Dr. Beatrix Karl, and her delegation; the Italian ambassadors came in order to promote cooperation between Vietnamese Universities in general, and HUST in particular, and partners in Italy and Austria. Then, we are very proud that our friend and professor, Professor A Min Tjoa, from TU, Vienna, was awarded the title of Honorary Professor by Hue University. Congratulations Prof. Tjoa.

In the future, we will continue to organize the ISU for students from WU, NEU and HUST. The third Cell Culture Workshop in Ho Chi Minh city will be co-organized by UPHCM, the Vienna University of Veterinary Medicine, and the Cantho University of Medicine and Pharmacy, funded by ASEA UNINET. We are now waiting for a decision from the EU as far as the Erasmus Mundus Projects are concerned: among them, there is one between HUST and the University of Trento. We hope that through these projects, we will have a lot of opportunities to send our teachers and students to Europe and to receive colleagues from Europe in Asia.

For the next 18 months, we would like to continue to support and find cooperative activities, focussing on important joint research projects, developing and exploring new scholarship programmes and increasing the number of scholarships. During the last 18 months, in one of our cooperation fields of music and arts, there were few activities carried out. We hope that this field will be given the opportunity to develop over the next 18 months.

Last but not least, in my presentation today, I would like to introduce to our network a new member from Vietnam: it is Hanoi University of Agriculture. This is a very good university in Vietnam, so we would like to recommend it to become our new member.

So, that is all I have to say. I would like to wish everyone good health, happiness and success. Thank you very much for your attention.

Reports by National Coordinators Asia

Ruttikorn Varakulsiripunth, Thailand

Austrian - Thai Scholarships (From February 2010 - May 2011)

1. Technology Grants

- 6 Ph.D. Scholarships
- 10 Post-Doctoral Scholarships
- 4 Sandwich Program for Ph.D. Students

a. Ph.D. Scholarship (Year 2010)

No.	Home University in Thailand	Host University in Austria
1	Chiang Mai University (Miss Nattakarn Awaiwanont)	University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna
2	Mahidol University (Miss Noppavan Nagaviroj)	Medical University of Vienna
3	Khon Kaen University (Mr.Ayuwat Thanasate-angkool)	University of Vienna
4	Rajamangala University of Technology Phra Nakhon (Mr.Chanwit Prabpayak)	Karl-Franzens University Graz
5	General Public (Miss Nantaporn Ruangkiattikul)	University of Vienna
6	Mahidol University (Miss Warisara Parichatikanond)	Medical University of Graz

b. (Post-Doctoral Research) Year 2010-2011

No.	Home University in Thailand	Host University in Austria
1	Chulalongkorn University (Mr.Pitsanupong Kanjanapayont)	University of Vienna
2	Chiang Mai University (Mr.Yuthana Phimolsiripol)	University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences
3	Kasetsart University (Mr.Natthasit Tansakul)	University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna
4	Kasetsart University (Mr.Theerachart Leepasert)	University of Vienna
5	Naresuan University (Ms. Khanitta Ruttarattanamongkol)	University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences
6	Kasetsart University (Ms.Orachos Napasintuwongartachinda)	University of Graz
7	Chiang Mai University (Mr.Prapas Patchanee)	University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna
8	Burapha University (Mr.Sutee Wangtueai)	University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences
9	Chulalongkorn University (Miss Achariya Suriyawong)	University of Vienna
10	Ubonratchathani University (Miss Anchalee Samphao)	University of Graz

c. Sandwich Program for Ph.D. Students (Year 2010)

No.	Home University in Thailand	Host University in Austria
1	Thammasart University (Miss Cattleya Duanggate)	Vienna University of Technology
2	Chiang Mai University (Mr. Korawinwich Boonpisuttinant)	University of Innsbruck
3	Chiang Mai University (Miss Ruttiros Khonkarn)	University of Vienna
4	Srinakharinwirot University (Miss Supawadee Suksee)	Medical University of Vienna

2. ASEA-UNINET Scholarships

- 12 Thai Staff Exchange (one month scholarship)
- 2 Austrian Scientists Exchange
- 12 On-Place Scholarship for Cambodia and Laos
- 3 Classical Music Scholarships

a. Staff Exchange (one month Year 2010-11)

No.	Home University in Thailand	Host University in Austria
1	Chulalongkorn University (Mr.Viwat Vchirawongkwin)	University of Innsbruck
2	Chulalongkorn University (Mr.Tawan Limpiyakorn)	University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna
3	Kasetsart University (Miss Uthaiwan Sangwanit)	University of Vienna
4	Khon Kaen University (Mrs.Chulee Jones)	Pulmonary Center of Vienna
5	Thammasart University (Mr.Watit Pakdee)	Vienna University of Technology
6	Burapha University (Mr.Chaisak Issro)	University of Vienna
7	Burapha University (Mr. Sarayut Deachpunya)	University of Vienna
8	Burapha University (Ms. Uboluk Rattanasak)	University of Vienna
9	Ramkhamhaeng University (Ms. Thornthan Sawangwan)	Graz University of Technology
10	King Mongkut's University of Technology North Bangkok (Ms. Amornrat Mukprasit)	University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna
11	King Mongkut's University of Technology North Bangkok (Ms.Soamsuda Amornvithavat)	Kunst Universität Linz :University of Arts and Design
12	Ubon Ratchathani University (Ms. Chortip Kantachot)	University of Vienna

b. Austrian Scientists Exchange (Year 2010)

No.	Home University in Austria (Name-Surname)	Host University in Thailand
1	Senior Scientist University of Vienna (Privatdoz. Mag. Dr.Christina Agnes Tucsay)	Chiang Mai University
2	Senior Scientists University of Graz (Ao.Univ.Prof.Dr.Kurt Kalcher)	Ubon Ratchathani University

c. Thailand On-Place Scholarship for Cambodia and Laos (Year 2010)

Name-Surname	Nationality	Field of Study	Thai Host Universities
Mr. Bounlerth Sivilai	Laos	Animal Science	Khon Kaen University
Mr. Bounthavy Vongkhamchanh	Laos	Biotechnology	Mahasarakham University
Mr. Chanthachonh Senesouphap	Laos	Economics	Khon Kaen University
Mr. Phetphoumin Paphaphanh	Laos	Remote Sensing	Suranaree University of Technology
Mr. Sopha Keo-Inpeng	Laos	Chemistry	Mahasarakham University

d. Thailand On-Place Scholarship for Cambodia and Laos (Year 2011)

Name-Surname	Nationality	Field of Study	Thai Host Universities
Ms. Thienthong Sopha	Laos	Environmental Technology	SIIT,Thammasat University
Mr. Daosavanh Sanamxay	Laos	Ecology	Prince of Songkla University
Mr. Hor Kosal	Cambodian	Environmental Engineering	Prince of Songkla University
Ms. Huoy Vannareth	Cambodian	Geoinformation	Suranaree University of Technology
Mr. Phauk Sökkhey	Cambodian	Applied Mathematics	Suranaree University of Technology
Mr. Yam Sarath	Cambodian	Geographic Information System and Remote Sensing	Khon Kaen University
Mr. Hong Sambath	Cambodian	Natural Resource Management	King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi

e. Classical Music Scholarships Year 2010/2011

Name - Surname	Thai Institutes	Austrian Institutes	Instruments
Ms. Lalitta Pheanwirattanachai	Mahidol University	University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna	Trumpet
Mr. Natthaporn Thammathi	Mahidol University	University Mozarteum Salzburg	Voice
Ms. Boonya Nakdee	Mahidol University	University of Music and Performing Arts, Graz	Flute

3. Workshop & Master Class in Classical Music Year 2010/2011

Master Class & Workshop (Date)	Austrian Institutes	Thai Institutes
Piccolo Workshop by Prof. Raphael Leone (Oct 13-15, 2010)	University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna	Mahidol University
Trumpet Master Class by Prof. Carole Reinhart (Nov 2-6, 2010)	University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna	Mahidol University
Voice & Piano Accompaniment Lecture & Master Class by Prof. Gottfried Scholz, Prof. Franz Lukasovsky and Mag. István Bonyhadi (Nov 29 -Dec 3, 2010)	University of Music and Performing Arts, Graz	Mahidol University
Trumpet Master Class by Prof. Johannes Meissl (April 25-29, 2011)	University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna	Mahidol University

Reports by National Coordinators Asia

Gisela Concepcion, Philippines

Good afternoon,

I am honoured to be here and would like to say that in the Philippines, like in Thailand, we also have lush vegetation! Thank you for allowing me to represent the University of the Philippines System which consists of seven constituent units spread throughout the country. Our main campus in UP Diliman offers a wide range of courses across disciplines, and we have campuses that specialize in medicine, agriculture and other professions and disciplines. We have a campus in the most southern part of the Philippines - in Muslim Mindanao.

I would like to speak about our university which faces great challenges, but which also enjoys certain advantages of being able to synthesize all the things that we would like to do in the university over the next six years. We are led by a new president who has a background in chemistry just like me. He left our university to pursue a successful career in banking but, now, he has returned to our university with the capacity to find the kind of support that we need to move our university forward. We are also strengthened by a new university charter that allows more autonomy to explore various means for growth and development, to raise funds and to make use of these funds in the way we deem best.

Thus, I am confident that we can support all the kinds of internationalization that we are pursuing within ASEA UNINET, by providing counterpart assistance with funds generated initially from savings of the university as regards reducing waste of resources, such as energy and water in our university. We can generate more funds to support research and higher education through these and other measures.

I would like to speak from the point of view of a biologist who studies biological systems and their underlying biochemical mechanisms. I would like to put forward the idea that international cooperation follows principles of evolutionary biology and we would like to step up to the next higher level of our educational evolution by exploring constructive, cooperative interactions that we could have amongst us.

Therefore, while we take care of the internal concerns of our universities – that is like the biology of an organism-- we have to think of the ecology of our organism which is essentially about our relationship with all of you. I would like to invite all the European and Asian universities to keep an open mind about collaborating with academic institutions in the Philippines which has been considered as some kind of laggard in Southeast Asia up to the present. I assure you we are worth collaborating with and we do have a lot of potential. As with anything else, as with anything biological, it starts with the planting of seeds by our leaders. I would like to recognize and acknowledge the leadership of our past President, Emerlinda Roman, and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Amelia Guevara, my predecessor, who planted the seeds of cooperation and collaboration with Professor Carla Locatelli and Professor Bernd Rode and all of you.

Models of collaborations can be pursued on several levels. We had a successful summer programme that was conducted for Filipino and Austrian students in the College of Business Administration and the School of Economics in UP Diliman with the Wirtschaftsuniversitat in Vienna just last April. The interactions among the students and Filipino and Austrian faculty, and the cultural exchange achieved, was at a very high level – all within a short period of three weeks. On the level of graduate studies, I would like to thank Prof. Rode for mentoring one of our brilliant students in Chemistry, Dr. Len Herald Lim, who completed his PhD degree in theoretical chemistry, and is now back in the Institute of Chemistry. The challenge that we have is to support Len with fundamental equipment, and a laboratory that will allow him to continue his research, mentor younger students, and perhaps continue his collaboration with Prof. Rode. This kind of collaboration can have a multiplier effect and can expand the impact of the mentorship of Prof. Rode.

At the level of organizing research programmes, I would like to thank Prof. Bibiana for including the Philippines in the Erasmus Mundus programme and we are hopeful that we will be awarded the funding that will allow UP to participate in another major European programme. And so we see that we have to be thankful to our leaders, who set the good examples; and this is exactly what we would like our youth, our students and faculty, to do - to become leaders not only in their respective fields of specialization, but also to be leaders who can

communicate effectively and persuasively with researchers in other fields, as well as to government leaders for more support for academe.

This is so important today because we face complex problems as one world, no longer as individual countries, and no longer just as the ASEAN region. Something that happens in Asia has an impact on Europe and vice versa, and there is no reason why we cannot address these complex problems also with complex or multi-faceted solutions together. It would also mean that we could have experts in several disciplines interacting with one another, which would include natural scientists, social scientists, artists, effective communicators, who can convince government to implement the solutions that we propose.

So far I have talked about the leaders in UP and the ASEA UNINET. I would like to talk about government institutions in our country which up to this time, have not been highly supportive, as indicated by the very low percentage of GDP that our country has invested in higher education and science and technology.

In 2006, I led a major campaign in our country to increase the level of funding for science and technology. We aimed for 0.5% GDP by 2010, but did not reach it, while the UNESCO standard is 1% of the GDP. Based on a low level of investment, I think the ROI (return on investment) in science in our country is quite high. Based on the publications or the output of our universities regarding the amount of money that has been invested by our government, I think UP has quite a high ROI. To reiterate, there is a lot of potential in our country. Since that campaign, we have built the National Science Complex which I would like to invite you to visit in UP Diliman.


After the campaign for science, the engineers in our university together with other Philippine universities mounted their own campaign which resulted in even bigger money for the Engineering R&D for Technology (ERTD) programme. This is how one plants seeds that can grow. One can stimulate a lot of activity. Now we have even more buildings of engineering going up in the same campus. They did better than science because their program included some money for research and training and operating expenses. Thus, we should seriously explore how we can complement whatever ASEA UNINET can provide in terms of scholarships with the kind of funding that our government or university cannot yet provide.

I would like to end by proposing a new paradigm of thinking which I had already broached earlier, and that is pursuing the unification of the arts, humanities, sciences and engineering. It is the same creative inner human spirit that drives all activities in these disciplines. We always tend to think that the arts and humanities try to capture only what is inside the human mind, soul, heart and spirit. I would like to challenge artists and humanists to broaden the subject or object of their interests to all natural phenomena. Man is part of Nature and so you can also try to capture what else is in Nature. You can enhance what scientists and engineers try to document in Nature.

I carry out research on marine venomous snails and in one documentary presented by my European colleague, he showed on video the snail stinging and capturing its prey - a fish - and he put rhythmic classical music as background and the beat or rhythm was in synchrony with the movements of the animals. The rhythm is in Nature. Wouldn't it be great for scientists and artists to capture these wonders of Nature together?

In the Philippines, we have a person that we emulate and this year, we are commemorating the 150th anniversary of his birth. He is Jose Rizal, our national hero. Rizal is someone known also to Europeans because he was in exile in Europe, in Madrid, also in Heidelberg and Salzburg. This man was a genius and I would think there are many more geniuses among our youth in the Philippines. Jose Rizal was a medical person, an ophthalmologist, but he was also a naturalist, an environmentalist. He was also a sculptor, and a literary artist, a writer of beautiful poems and novels. Rizal was a public servant. When he was exiled to Dapitan in Mindanao, he kept himself busy himself by solving some problems of the community.

This brings me to my last point which is that interdisciplinary research should be used to address public issues and to provide public services. In our country, we still have to deal with the problem of poverty. I would not be embarrassed to say this, as we have a population that is now almost 100 million. Our political leaders still do not know whether they will pass legislation to solve this problem. In the meantime, we have to find a way to make better use of our resources, save our resources, to support this growing population. It is important to analyse this complex problem and find complex, multi-faceted solutions.



Finally, I would like to invite you to the University of the Philippines. On this campus, you will see beautiful acacia trees. These trees have beautiful forms. Our central pathway is an oval which is lined with acacias on both sides, and their crowns form canopies above and across the road. Let them be a symbol of the way we do things. During the next six years, we would like to plant more seeds on fertile ground, and let these seeds grow to huge, branching trees whose leaves extend across to other trees, just like our internationalization, our cooperation and collaboration. In this oval, our faculty, students and outsiders do marathons, go biking, and walk for health and wellness. Our UP community will grow and be healthy under canopies of international cooperation.

Please also come to the Philippines for our beautiful beaches, as beautiful as those in Phuket. Filipinos too are warm, friendly and hospitable. The beaches are very close to my heart because I do research in our university on bioactive compounds from marine organisms. Our biodiversity in the Philippines is the richest in the world. But then that is another story.

Thank you.

Reports by National Coordinators Asia

Abdul Jalil Nordin, Malaysia

Professor Irene Virgolinni, from the Medical University in Innsbruck, Austria, paid a visit to the Centre for Diagnostic Nuclear Imaging at Putra University, Malaysia. During her visit, we discussed the possibility of bilateral cooperation in collecting data on patients diagnosed as having neuroendocrine tumours, using PET-CT. The deputy Vice-Rector for Research then discussed this cooperation with Professor Virgolinni at the KL Tower restaurant.

A group of delegates from the University of Agricultural Sciences, Vienna, visited us in order to arrange for a Memorandum of Understanding with Putra University, Malaysia. Then, a delegation of VIPs, including the Prime Minister of Austria, visited Kuala Lumpur in November 2010. The official signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding between Putra University, Malaysia, and the University of Agricultural Sciences, Vienna, was held during this period at the Renaissance Hotel in Kuala Lumpur.

The Putra University, Malaysia, was invited by the University of Murcia to become involved in the mobility project, MOVER under the Erasmus Mundus programme.

Then, Dr Fathinul Fikri Ahmad Saad from the Diagnostic Nuclear Imaging Centre of Putra University, Malaysia spent two weeks at the Medical University, Innsbruck, Austria. There, as had been agreed during Professor Irene Virgolinni's visit to Kuala Lumpur, he collected data for publication on patients diagnosed as having neuroendocrine tumours, using PET-CT.

Reports by National Coordinators Asia

Zaheer-ul-Haq Quasmi, Pakistan (on behalf of Muhammad Iqbal Choudhary, National Coordinator)

My presentation starts with a brief introduction to HEJ Research Institute of Chemistry, International Centre for Chemical and Biological Sciences (ICCBS), University of Karachi, and it will end with the presentation of a successful model for Pak-Austria collaboration under ASEA UNINET.

ICCBS Vision

We intend to be a pre-eminent academic research and teaching institution, which is recognized as a world leader in the training of scholars and in researching within frontier fields of science and technology.

ICCBS Mission

We are an institution of higher education which teaches its students how to carry out the highest possible quality of research in frontier fields of science and technology. Our aim is to contribute to fulfilling the need for quality manpower in science and technology, and we expect our graduates to serve the nation and mankind in general.

Salient Feature of the ICCSB

This institute was the fulfilment of the dreams of the Late Professor Abdus Salam, Nobel Laureate, and Professor Salim uz Zaman Siddiqui (FRS), affiliated with The Academy of Sciences for The Developing World (TWAS). We are on a par with the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy; the International Centre for Genetic and Biotechnology (ICGB), Delhi, India; the International Centre in Mathematical Sciences (ICMS), Sao Paulo, Brazil; and the International Centre for Environmental Sciences (ICES), Beijing, China.

International Status of the ICCBS

It is one of the finest in the field of natural product chemistry and molecular medicine. It has been designated as a centre of Excellence within the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and within the World Health Organization Centre for Pesticide Analysis for Eastern Mediterranean Region. The ICCBS is also regarded as a centre of excellence by the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (Asia) (COMSATS) and is the centre of the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (Asia) (COMSATS) Library. It won the Islamic Development Bank Prize for Best Science Institution in the Islamic World. It is regarded as a centre of excellence by the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS).

More than 200 people annually visit our institution from different countries, mainly from Africa, Asia and Europe. It is the only institution in the developing world to which advanced countries are sending students for training. We have 20 German students annually and over 130 German students have already studied with us. More than 65 International Conferences, Symposia and workshops have been organized here, including the 19th IUPAC Symposium (1994), the EURASIA Conference (2002) and the IBRO School (2006); ASOMPS is being planned for 2012.

Some of the Major Contributions of h. e. j. Research Institute of Chemistry in Research and Development

At HEJ, some of the major contributions include: the first total synthesis of the anti-cancer drug, vinblastine, (British Patent); the production and commercialization of the environmentally-friendly neem-based pesticides; the discovery and development of bating enzyme for lather softening; the development of cholesterol-lowering additives; the development of the most potent anti-epileptic drug (isoloxyllitane) which is in the initial stages of development and is patented internationally; the production of new varieties of virus-free bananas and pineapples; the development and commercialization of new orchid plants; the provision of analytical services to over 400 industries annually throughout the country; the complete sequence of First Pakistani Citizen (Ninth Nation in the world) in collaboration with Beijing Genome Centre.

Executive Summary

It is the finest academic research institution in the field of natural product chemistry and it is the only institution in the Islamic world:

- where 20 German students come for research training every year. Over 120 German students have already been trained there.
- where six Nobel Laureates have visited, reviewed the research programmes, and praised the quality.
- which produces 50-60 top-class PhDs every year in the field of chemical and biochemical sciences.
- which has been designated as the focal centre for training of young scholars from Afro Asian Countries by Non-aligned Movement (NAM) Science Centre.
- which has been designated as the "World Health Organization Collaborating Centre in Pesticide Analysis and Research".
- with overall investment of US \$ 45 million in scientific instrumentation and infrastructure. with over 4,000 research publications in top international journals and over 130 internationally published books. which has organized one of the largest chemical science events, the IUPAC conference in 1994.
- where scholars from 25 Muslim countries are presently visiting for research training and PhDs.
- which was largely established through donations from private sector/ philanthropic organizations.

Moreover, it is an institution with the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) 9001-2000 certificate and it invites external reviews every year to identify its strengths and weaknesses. It is an institution which has a state of the art Industrial Analytical Centre (IAC) whose aim is to help industries in Pakistan and in the region. It has also been regarded as a most successful example of private-public partnership for science capacity building in the developing world.

Support from ASEA-UNINET under the Austrian-Pakistan Cooperation Project in Computational Chemistry

The first Computational Chemistry Laboratory of Pakistan was successfully created at the Dr. Panjwani Centre for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research, ICCBS, with the help of Professor Bernd Michael Rode, University of Innsbruck, Austria. Pakistani students receive training in the area of Computational Chemistry at the University of Innsbruck at different levels, including Postdoctoral (5 students), Split PhD (5 students), and Full PhD (2 students) levels. Then, two PhD students received in-house scholarships for two years. We have continuous technical support from the University of Innsbruck for the establishment of the first cluster computer of Pakistan and related hardware facilities, to run the computational chemistry laboratory smoothly. Training is also organised in analytical chemistry in the laboratory of Prof. Dr. Bonn at the University of Innsbruck. As a result of all of this so far, we have produced over forty research publications in top international journals, three books in the area of Computational Chemistry, three PhDs, two Masters in Philosophy and twelve Master Theses.



Reports by National Coordinators Asia

Edwan Kardena, Indonesia

Please contact prof. Edwan Kardena for the full text of the delivered speech.

RESULTS OF ELECTIONS AT THE 12TH ASEA-UNINET PLENARY MEETING

National Coordinators Elected

Austria

Prof. Dr. DDDDr.h.c. **Bernd Michael Rode**
University of Innsbruck

Germany

Dr. **Rüdiger Korff**
University of Passau

Indonesia

Prof. Dr. **Harno Dwi Pranowo**
Universitas Gadjah Mada

Italy

Prof. **Carla Locatelli**
University of Trento

Malaysia

Prof. **Madya Dr. Abdul Jalil Bin Nordin**
Universiti Putra Malaysia

Pakistan

Prof. Dr. **Muhammad Iqbal Choudhary**
University of Karachi

Philippines

Gisela P. Concepcion, Ph.D
University of the Philippines

Spain

A. Eva Sánchez García
University of Murcia

Thailand

Assoc. Prof. Dr. **Pichan Sawangwong**
Burapha University

Vietnam

Dr. **Ngo Chi Trung**
Hanoi University of Technology

Elected Regional Coordinators

EUROPE

Coordinator for Europe:

Prof. Dr. DDDDr. h. c. **Bernd Michael-Rode**

University of Innsbruck

Vice-Coordinator for Europe:

Prof. **Carla Locatelli**

University of Trento

ASIA

Coordinator for Asia:

Prof. **Madya Dr. Abdul Jalil Bin Nordin**

Universiti Putra Malaysia

Vice-Coordinator for Asia:

Dr. **Ngo Chi Trung**

Hanoi University of Science and Technology (HUST)

Elected Chairperson

Prof. **Madya Dr. Abdul Jalil Bin Nordin**

Universiti Putra Malaysia



FOCUS GROUPS VISITS

Group 1: Science & Technology



Visit to the Faculty of Engineering (Mesiano, Trento) and to the Faculty of Mathematical, Physical and Natural Sciences (Povo, Trento) of the University of Trento.

Participants:

Sirintip Boonmee
Gisela Concepcion
Michael Dengg
Cristoph Hauzenberger
Tran Hong
Kusmayanto Kadiman
Edwan Kardenia
Sikan Kulchonchan
Made Sudiana Mahendra
Ngo Chi Trung
Ngo Xuan Manh
Binh Nguyen thanh
Chatchai Ratanachai
Pinit Ratananukul
Rampai Sirimanakul
Ha Phi Thai
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A Min tjoa
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Group 2: Economics and Social Sciences



Visit to the Faculty of Economics and to the Faculty of Sociology of the University of Trento.

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Sudharto P. Hadi
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Group 3: Health, Pharmacy and Medicine



Visit to the University of Trento research centres CiBIO (Center for Integrative Biology), CIMeC (Center for Mind/Brain Sciences) and Biotech (Center for Biomedical Technologies), Mattarello (Trento).

Participants:

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Walter Kofler
Nghiem le Quan
Abdul Jalil Nordin
Petra Papst
Sompol Pongthai
Harno Pranowo
Zaheer-ul-Haq Qasmi
Erich Schmutzhard
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Group 4: Humanities, Culture and Music



Faculty of Arts and Philosophy of the University of Trento and Conservatory of Music F.A. Bonporti (Trento).

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Maria Price-Placzek
Gottfried Scholz
Kendra Stepputat
I Made Suastra
Wattanasopee Suksaard
Anita Taschler
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Identification of Venues for the next Nation Coordinators Meeting and Plenary Meeting

Selection of Venue for the next National Coordinators meeting

University of Passau, Germany. From 29th April to 3rd May 2012

Selection of Venue for the 13th ASEA-UNINET Plenary Meeting

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. February 2013

Presentation of New Universities

During the 12th ASEA-UNINET Plenary Meeting 2 new universities asked to become members of ASEA-UNINET. The 2 Universities presented during the meeting are:

the **Hanoi University of Agriculture**

www.hua.edu.vn/eng/





the **University Kebangsaan Malaysia**

www.hkm.my/v3/

They were both unanimously accepted and became therefore official members of ASEA UNINET.

Presentation and Q&A on Innovation in Hydro and Ocean Energy

Kusmayanto Kadiman, related on Q&A



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ASEA-Uninet Plenary, Italy

SOCIAL EVENTS

Welcome Reception

On Tuesday June 7, 2012 a Welcome reception for all participants to the 12th ASEA UNINET Plenary meeting was held at the Bellavista Relax Hotel.



credits: Bellavista Relax Hotel©Archivio della famiglia Galvan

Guided Tour of Trento

On Thursday June 9, 2012 all participants took part in a guided tour of the city of Trento. From the central square piazza Duomo, the group was taken through the city center along the most important streets as far as the Buonconsiglio Castle.



Capital of Trentino, not far from the Dolomites and the numerous lakes that can be found near by, Trento is a city of art that has a strong Renaissance mark, which characterises it for its colours, its buildings and make it unique in the entire Alpine arc. Trento is able to surprise as it always presents itself in a new form, maintaining at the same time close links to tradition. Visitors throughout the various seasons can admire its many folded facets: its tasty products in the autumn period, kept alive by its historical reenactments during the San Vigilio festival at the end of June or illuminated by the “warm” Christmas market lights during Advent.

More info on: www.apr.trento.it

Social Dinner

After the guided tour of the city the group had a social dinner at the restaurant “**Lo Scrigno del Duomo**”.



Concert

On Thursday June 9, 2012 at 8.30 p.m. the University of Trento, in collaboration with the Conservatory of Music F.A. Bonporti, offered to all ASEA UNINET participants and to the city of Trento a concert realized by students of the Conservatory of Music F.A. Bonporti at the Sala Filarmonica located in via Verdi 30 in Trento.

The program of the first part of the concert was the following:

S. Rachmaninov, "*Barcarolle*" from "*Fantaisie*" (Tableaux)

P. Dukas, "*L'Apprenti Sorcier*" - transcription by the author

O. Respighi, "*Siciliana*" - Transcription for two harps by Schlomovitz

A. Holy, "*Festmarsch*" - for two harps

L. Spohr, "*Fantasia op 35*" - for harp only

C. Salzedo, "*Tango*" and "*Chanson dans la nuit*" - for two harps

G. Mahler, "*Ich bin der Welt abhanden gekommen*" - M. Puttman, transcription for voice and piano by M. Puttman

J. Brahms, "*Gestillte Sehnsucht*" from "*Zwei Gesänge*", Op. 91

and it was executed by the classes of chambre music and harp, and with the artistic coordination of **M^o Julián Lombana**.

The second part of the concert was held by the **Bonporti Big Band**, jazz orchestra of the Conservatory of Music "F.A. Bonporti" Trento (coordinator Prof. **Roberto Cipelli**, assistant Prof. **Daniele Carnevali**)

The program was the following:

Kenny Wheeler, from "*The sweet time suite*"

Part 1: *Opening*

Part 2: *Kind Folk*

Part 3: *For Jan*

"Foxy trot"

"Gentle Piece"

"W.W."

"Sea Lady"

"Little Fella"

"Ending"

Excursion to Verona

After the end of Plenary Meeting participants took part in an excursion to the city of Verona. The group walked around the old city-centre having a view of Juliet's House, Signori Square, Market Square, Scaligeri Tombs "Arche Scaligere", and Bra Square with the famous Roman Amphitheatre "Arena". Then the sightseeing continued with a tour by bus through Renaissance city Gates, Castle and Scaligero Bridge, Gavi Arch, Roman Gate "Porta Borsari" and Roman Theatre.



12TH ASEA-UNINET PLENARY MEETING

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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ATTACHMENTS

Poster



UNIVERSITY
OF TRENTO - Italy

ASEA UNINET
Asean-European University Network, founded in 1994

ASEA-UNINET

12th Plenary Meeting

June 7-11, 2011

Bellavista Relax Hotel
Levico Terme - TRENTO (Italy)

The purpose of the meeting is to enhance scientific links and cooperation among the participant Universities.

Specific discussions on "Focus Areas" of research, and on the ongoing collaboration activities among the member Institutions will focus on achieved results and solutions to encountered problems.

Another important item on the agenda is the planning of future initiatives, which will enhance the number and quality of the joint projects. Efforts will be made to envisage connections to European programmes in the field of research and mobility, which will support mobility schemes from Asia to Europe and vice-versa.

INFORMATION

Events, Magazines and Internal Communication office
University of Trento
tel. +39 0461 281259-3225
convegni@unitn.it

<http://events.unitn.it/en/aseauninet2011>

UNITN-UNITN, IMC, Michele Lorenzini, Davide Mez, Fotolia.com, Fotoforuma.com

Registration form

Response to Invitation / Registration Form
The 12th Plenary Meeting
7-11 June 2011, Trento

PERSONAL DETAILS

Title (Ms., Mr., Dr., Prof.) _____
First name _____ Last name _____
Date of birth _____
Gender _____
• female
• male
Nationality _____
Position/Academic title _____
University/Institution _____
Contact Address _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____
E-mail Address _____
Passport Number _____ Expiry date _____

PARTICIPATION CONFIRMATION

- No, I am not able to participate in the 12th Plenary ASEA-UNINET Meeting in Trento - Italy.
- Yes, I will participate in the 12th Plenary ASEA-UNINET Meeting in Trento - Italy.
- I would like to nominate the following representative to participate on my behalf:

Title (Ms., Mr., Dr., Prof.) _____
First name _____ Last name _____
Date of birth _____
Gender _____
• female
• male
Nationality _____
Position/Academic title _____
University/Institution _____
Contact Address _____
Telephone _____ Fax _____
E-mail Address _____
Passport Number _____ Expiry date _____

PARTICIPATION IN SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Welcome Reception and Dinner on Tuesday 7 June, 2011 at 7.00 p.m.

- Yes, I will attend
- No, I will not attend
- I will go with my accompanying person

Study visit to the University of Trento in the afternoon of Thursday 9 June, 2011

- Yes, I will attend
- No, I will not attend

If yes, please select only one preferred focus group:

- **Group 1:** Science & Technology – Faculty of Engineering Mesiano, www.unitn.it/ingegneria and Faculty of Mathematical, Physical and Natural Sciences Povo, www.unitn.it/scienze
- **Group 2:** Economics & Social Sciences - Faculty of Economics www.unitn.it/economia and Faculty of Sociology, www.unitn.it/sociologia
- **Group 3:** Health, Pharmacy and Medicine - Research Centres CiBIO (Centre for Integrative Biology), CIMEC (Centre for Mind/Brain Sciences), www.unitn.it/en/cimec, Biotech (Centre for Biomedical Technologies), Mattarello (TN)
- **Group 4:** Humanities, Culture and Music – Faculty of Arts and Philosophy, www.unitn.it/lettere

Guided Tour in the city of Trento on Thursday 9 June, 2011 at 5.30 p.m.

- Yes, I will attend
- No, I will not attend
- I will go with my accompanying person

Social dinner on Thursday 9 June, 2011 - Trento

- Yes, I will attend
- No, I will not attend
- I will go with my accompanying person (the cost for accompanying persons is 35,00 Euro/head)

Concert on Thursday 9 June, 2011 at 8.30 p.m. - Trento

Yes, I will attend

- No, I will not attend
- I will go with my accompanying person

Excursion to Verona on Friday 10 June, 2011

- Yes, I will attend
- No, I will not attend
- I will go with my accompanying person (the cost for accompanying person is 30,00 Euro/head)

HOTEL AND AIRPORT TRANSFER

The hotel and venue for the conference is:

Grand Hotel Bellavista, Levico Terme (Italy)

Contact Address:

viale Vittorio Emanuele III, 7
38056 Levico Terme (Trentino)
tel. +39 0461 706136
fax. +39 0461 706474
info@ghbellavista.com
www.ghbellavista.com

Room rate (person/day/breakfast included):

- Double Room euro 61,50
- Single Room euro 71,50
- Double Room single use euro 81,50

Please, pay the hotel bill upon arrival unless the costs are covered by the ASEA-UNINET. Other expenses such as telephone and laundry services etc. are to be paid upon check out. Please contact the Organizing Secretary (convegna@unitn.it) for assistance in reserving extra room(s).

I would like to book:

- Single room
- Double room (please provide information on your accompanying person in the next section)
- Double room use single room

Airport transfer:

- Requested
- Not requested

Date of arrival _____ Date of departure _____
Time of arrival _____ Time of departure _____
Flight number _____ Flight number _____

ACCOMPANYING PERSON

First name _____ Last name _____
Date of birth _____

Gender

- female
- male

Nationality _____

Passport Number _____ Expiry date _____

Duration of stay _____ from _____ to _____

Relationship: _____

- Spouse
- Son
- Daughter
- Other:

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS

- None
- Vegetarian

In case of accompanying person please specify also for him/her:

- None
- Vegetarian

Please fill in this form clearly and submit it to the ASEA-UNINET Chairperson of ASEA UNINET Prof. Carla Locatelli (c/o University of Trento - Italy) by e-mail at convegna@unitn.it, or by fax at +39 0461 282899. For further information, please contact the University of Trento Conference Unit, ph.+39 0461 283225-1259-1133, e-mail convegna@unitn.it, or visit the website <http://events.unitn.it/en/aseauninet2011> (online within the end of January) .

The 12nd ASEA-UNINET Plenary Meeting, June 7-11, 2011

At Grand Hotel Bellavista, Levico Terme (Trento- Italy)

Check-in Date

Cheek-in date: June 7 (Tuesday)

Registration & Reception Dinner: June 7 (Tuesday)

Conference Date: June 8-10 (Wednesday-Friday)

Check-out Date: June 11 (Saturday)

Venue

Grand Hotel Bellavista (Bellavista Relax Hotel)

viale Vittorio Emanuele III

738056 Levico Terme (Trentino)

tel. +39 0461 706136

fax. +39 0461 706474

info@bellavistarelay.it

www.ghbellavista.it

Accommodation - Grand Hotel Bellavista (Bellavista Relax Hotel)

Room Rates

Single room: 71,50 euro (per person per night, full board)

Double room: 61,50 euro (per person per night, full board)

Double room single use: 81,50 euro (per person per night, full board)

Please contact the Organizing Secretary (convegni@unitn.it) for assistance in reserving extra room(s).

Information about the hotel

The hotel, which has maintained its original mid nineteenth century charm, is surrounded by a beautifully landscaped garden with an open-air heated swimming pool. It is located in a strategic yet peaceful position next to the historic center, a stone's throw from the Levico Spa Centre and just minutes away from the lake.



Italy and Trentino - General Information

Government: Parliamentary Republic

The Head of State: President Giorgio Napolitano

Population: 60,000,000 inhabitants

Flag: Often referred to in Italian as the "Tricolore", it is a tricolour, featuring three equally-sized vertical stripes of green, white, and red, with the green at the hoist side. Its current form has been in use since 19 June 1946, and was formally adopted on 1 January, 1948.

Official language: Italian

Religions: Christianity 91.6%, None 5.8%, Islam 1.9%, Buddhism 0.3%, Hinduism 0.2%, Sikhism 0.1%, Judaism 0.1%

International Dialling Code: +39

Currency: Euro (sign: €; code: EUR) is the official currency of the Eurozone

Italy and Trentino - Historical Background and Geography

The capital of Italy, Rome, was the political core of Western civilisation for centuries since it was the capital of the Roman Empire. After its decline, Italy underwent numerous invasions by foreign people, from Germanic tribes, such as the Lombards and Ostrogoths, to the Byzantines and later, the Normans, among others. Centuries later, The Renaissance began in Italy and this movement was an immensely fruitful intellectual one that would prove to be integral in shaping the subsequent course of European thought.

Italy is a southern European country and its boot-shaped peninsula is bordered on the western side by the Tyrrhenian Sea and on the eastern one by the Adriatic Sea, and then, there are the two large islands, Sicily and Sardinia. The country shares its northern alpine boundary with France, Switzerland, Austria and Slovenia. The independent countries of San Marino and the Vatican City are located within the Italian territory. The Apennine Mountains form the peninsula's backbone and the Alps form its northern boundary. Italy is subdivided into 20 regions. Five of these regions have a special autonomous status that enables them to enact legislation on some of their local matters.

Trentino Region

It is located in the north-eastern part of Italy, in the heart of the Alps. Trentino-Alto Adige borders Switzerland to the north-west and Austria to the north. The province of Trento is situated mainly on mountainous ground, with a valley, the Adige Valley, running through the middle of it. The most important towns of Trentino lie along this valley, as it is the largest one and has been a historical passage connecting Italy with northern Europe. Unlike other regions in the northern part of the country, Trentino has one of the lowest concentrations of population in Europe and this is mostly due to the fact that about 50% of the territory is covered by mountains and forests.

The climate in Trentino

Trentino has a relatively mild climate with four distinct seasons during the year:

- Winter, from December to February, with temperatures from - 6°C to + 5°C
- Spring, from March to May, with temperatures around +15°C
- Summer, from June to August, with temperatures from +15°C to +35°C
- Autumn, from September to November, with temperatures from +10°C to -3°C

During the beginning of spring, the end of autumn and winter, you are advised to bring warmer clothing, such as an overcoat, a jacket, a hat and gloves while, in summer, you will only need light jackets, t-shirts, shirts, light trousers and summer shoes. Any further information about the weather forecast can be found on the website of the local weather forecast service, Meteotrentino.

www.meteotrentino.it

Visa

All non-EU citizens intending to visit Italy must be in possession of the required documents in order to justify the reasons for, and duration of, their stay. In some prescribed cases, it may also be necessary to have proof of adequate economic means and of lodgings. Citizens of certain nationalities may need a visa. They can apply for this at the Italian Diplomatic and Consular Representations in their country of residence. Depending on your citizenship, the stability of the country you are from and the duration of, and reasons for, your stay, you may need to obtain the visa before coming to Italy. For information, please visit the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs web site.

www.esteri.it/visti/index_eng.asp

Currency information

In Italy, as in most of Western Europe, the official currency is the euro (€). The euro is divided into 100 cents (centimes, centesimo), with two decimals after the comma. So, a price will often be displayed as €10,00 (ten euros) or €2,14 (two euros and 14 cents), etc.

Notes are in denominations of € 500, € 200, € 100, € 50, € 0, € 10 and € 5. Coins are in denominations of € 2 and € 1, and 50, 20, 10, 5, 2 and 1 cents.

Electricity

Italy's standard electricity supply is 220 volts AC with a frequency of 50 hertz.

Note: A country's available voltage is printed on the glass of a light bulb, or the light bulb packet.

Plugs: two or three-pin plug (spine). There can be a combination of socket types within the same room or property. In general, low voltage appliances use two pin plugs and higher voltage appliances (televisions, washing machines, kettles) require the three pin plug which has an earthed (or grounding) third pin. Participants are invited to bring their own adapters and transformers.

Venue: Levico Terme (Trento, Trentino)

Levico Terme is located in Trentino, a renowned tourist destination: It is an area rich in cultural traditions, able to offer many different activities in each season and meet the holiday expectations of everyone. rest and relax, health and wellness and a wide range of sport activities.

Trentino is a blessed area, from the geographical viewpoint: its treasures include a variety of fascinating natural resources: lakes, streams, waterfalls, woods, meadows, and above all fascinating mountain chains, which include the majestic Dolomites, which have been included in the list of UNESCO's World Heritage List.

Trentino also offers numerous interesting monuments, to be found all over its territory: museum, castles and attractions. To find out more visit www.trentino.it/en.

Levico Terme is located about 20 km from Trento. To find out more about the town of Trento visit the web site of tourism office www.apr.trento.it/en.

How to reach Trento

If you fly to Verona (or reach Verona by train, should you fly to another Italian airport) we are able to arrange a pick-up service with shuttle buses for groups of participants, according to the arrival time.

We will provide you with more information about this service after receiving your registration form containing arrival and departure times.

By plane

The nearest airports - in order of proximity - are Verona (90 km), Venice (150 km) and Milan (210 km).

- From the Valerio Catullo airport (www.aeroporto.verona.it/index_en.asp) in Verona there are also buses every 20 minutes to Verona train station.
- From the Marco Polo airport (www.veniceairport.it/) in Venice the fastest solution is to reach directly the Mestre train station by bus.
- From the Malpensa airport (<http://www.sea-aeroporto.milano.it/en/>) in Milan one can reach Milan train station by train and by bus.
- From the Linate airport (www.sea-aeroporto.milano.it/en/) in Milan one can reach Milan train station by bus.
- For railway connections look at Italian railways website (www.ferroviedellostato.it/homepage_en.html) or the German railways (www.bahn.de/i/view/GBR/en/index.shtml).

By train

Two main lines reach Trento: the Brennero line (from Rome to Innsbruck) and the Valsugana line (from Venice to Trento). For further information visit the Italian railways website (www.ferroviedellostato.it/homepage_en.html).

How to reach Levico Terme

Levico Terme is located about 20 km from Trento, along the Valsugana road (Strada Statale SS n. 47) that connects Trento to Padova and Venice. You can reach Levico Terme from Trento by train, by bus or by taxi.

By train:

Levico Terme can be reached directly by train from Trento and Venice. Two main train lines reach Trento: the Brennero line (connecting to Verona and Rome towards south and to Innsbruck, Munich and northern Europe towards north) and the Valsugana line towards Venice. Levico Terme train station is along the Valsugana line. The journey from Trento to Levico Terme lasts about 45 minutes and the last train leaves at 21:05, see the Timetables in the Italian railways website (www.ferroviedellostato.it/homepage_en.html)

The journey from Venice to Levico Terme via the Valsugana line lasts about 2-3 hours and the last train leaves around 7.70. See Timetables in the Italian railways website. Alternatively you can travel via Verona and Trento. Further information on railway connections can be found in the Italian railways website or the German railways. (www.bahn.de/i/view/GBR/en/index.shtml).

By bus:

Levico Terme can be also reached by local buses from Trento Coach Station (about 50 meters on the right side from Trento Railway Station). Buses are about every 40 min on week days and the journey takes about 1 hour. The timetables can be found on the web site Trentino trasporti (in italian): www.ttesercizio.it/Default.aspx.

By car:

Coming from Northern Europe: Take the motorway A22 Brennero-Modena and exit at Trento Centro. Then take the national road (strada statale) SS n. 47 and follow the signs for Padova-Venezia (the Valsugana highway). After about 20 km exit at Levico Terme.

Coming from Milan and Western Europe: Take the motorway A4 Milano-Venezia and at Verona follow the signs for the A22 Brennero-Modena towards Brennero. Exit the motorway at Trento Centro and then continue as above.

Coming from the South: take the motorway A22 Brennero-Modena and exit at Trento Centro.


Coming from Venice and Eastern Europe: take the motorway A4 Venezia-Milano and at Verona follow the signs for the A22 Brennero-Modena towards Brennero. Exit the motorway at Trento Centro and then continue as above. Alternatively you can exit the A4 motorway at Padova Ovest and take the SP 47. Close to Cittadella take the SS 47 towards Bassano del Grappa and Trento. Follow the SS 47 for about 85 km and exit at Levico Terme.

Taxi:

Radio Taxi Trento
tel. +39 0461 930002







Events, Magazines and Internal Communication Office
University of Trento
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