

## NEWS OF THE CENTER

Hans de Wit officially takes up his position as director of CIHE as of September 1, 2015. Welcome, Hans! Philip G. Altbach remains founding director and will be actively engaged in Center projects.

The Center has nearly completed its cooperative project with the National Research University–Higher School of Economics (HSE) in Moscow, looking at the impact of global rankings on universities around the world. The resulting book will be published by Routledge in early 2016, under the title *The Global Academic Rankings Game: Changing Institutional Policies, Practice, and Academic Life*. We are also in the midst of yet another project with our HSE colleagues, which will provide an 11-country analysis of the experiences of international faculty.

Philip G. Altbach is working with Jamil Salmi, formerly of the World Bank and CIHE graduate assistant Georgiana Mihut on a research project on the role of International Advisory Councils worldwide.

In May, Hans de Wit, along with CIHE founding director Philip G. Altbach, and CIHE associate director Laura E. Rumbley all participated in various sessions of the annual conference of NAFSA: Association of International Educators, held in Boston. On May 28, 2015 the Center hosted an event to mark the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Center. Featured speakers included Francisco Marmolejo (lead of the Global Solutions Group on Higher Education at the World Bank) and Eva Egron-Polak (secretary-general of the International Association of Universities). A video of the event can be accessed online at <http://frontrow.bc.edu/program/cihe>.

Founding director Philip G. Altbach participated in the Russian government's "5-100 excellence committee" meeting in Tomsk, Siberia in March, as an international member of the committee. He also gave a presentation at a conference of rectors of Saudi Arabian universities in Riyadh in April. Altbach's new book, *Global Perspectives on Higher Education*, will be published by Johns Hopkins University Press in early 2016. His book *The International Imperative in Higher Education* was published by Sense Publishers in English and by Shanghai Jiao Tong University Press in Chinese.

In June, Hans de Wit and Laura E. Rumbley presented at the annual conference of the Academic Cooperation Association (ACA) in Brussels. Hans also spoke in June at various events at the University of Costa Rica, to mark the 40th anniversary of the founding of that institution's international office, while Laura E. Rumbley spoke at the University of Costa Rica in August, during festivities marking the university's 75th anniversary. In July, Hans de Wit participated in a review of the internationalization strategy and activities of the Autonomous University of Puebla (Mexico).

Hans de Wit and Laura E. Rumbley both attended the International Education Association of South Africa's (IEASA) annual conference, held in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, in August, followed by meetings at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa, with Damtew Teferra, founder and director of the International Network for Higher Education in Africa (INHEA). CIHE and INHEA are jointly supported by funds from the Carnegie Corporation to enhance various activities focused on African higher education issues and developments.

Doctoral research assistant Georgiana Mihut attended the kick-off event of the Erasmus+ Students and Alumni Association (ESAA) in Brussels in June. She was there in her capacity as a board member of the Organization for Cooperation and Networking among Students, and as the chair of the Course Quality Advisory Board of the Erasmus Mundus Students and Alumni Association. Doctoral research assistant Ariane de Gayardon is spending the summer at the Vrije Universiteit (Free University) in Amsterdam, assisting with research and activities related to the "Mastermind Europe" project, a European Commission-funded initiative exploring admissions needs and good practices in master's programs across Europe.

The Center is advancing its plans to launch a new master's degree in international higher education in 2016/2017. More information on this program will soon be forthcoming.

In September, the Center is launching a new project with the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile's (PUC) Center for Research on Educational Policy and Practice, under the direction of Prof. Andrés Bernasconi, on identity and internationalization issues in relation to Catholic universities.

In December 2015 or January 2016, we expect to release our second special issue of *IHE* focused exclusively on internationalization in higher education, in collaboration with the Centre for Higher Education Internationalisation (CHEI) at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, in Milan, Italy. The first special issue was released in December 2014.

Our summer 2015 roster of visiting scholars included Daniel Kontowski (University of Warsaw, Poland), Suaad Al-Harhi (Princess Nora University, Saudi Arabia), Armagan Erdogan (Social Sciences University of Ankara, Turkey), and Bie Dunrong (Xiamen University, China). During fall 2015, Kara Godwin remains affiliated with CIHE as a research fellow, as does Kai Jiang (Peking University, China) as a visiting scholar. We also warmly welcome Liu Jin of the Beijing Institute of Technology, who joins us as a visiting scholar as of September 2015.