



Latvian Presidency
2007–2008



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CBSS high level meeting “Higher Education and Science for Sustainable Development and Competitiveness of the Baltic Sea Region”

September 13, 2007
Riga, Reval Hotel Latvia

PROGRAMME

- 09:00 – 10:00 Registration
- 10:00 – 10:15 Welcome address by **Baiba Rivža**, Minister of Education and Science of Republic of Latvia
- 10:15 – 11:15 **PANEL DISCUSSION I:
Higher education and science for competitiveness**
Chair: Tatjana Volkova, President of Latvian Rectors' Council and rector of Banking Institution of Higher Education
Guest speakers:
- **Hans Brask**, Director of Baltic Development Forum: **Top of Europe – creating a centre of gravity for talent and educational excellence**
 - **Elise Kvarnström**, EU Relations Manager of ScanBalt: **ScanBalt Campus – From Idea to Market in ScanBalt BioRegion**
 - **René Buch**, CEO of NORDUnet: **Enabling Science & Education in a Globalized economy**
 - **Alf Vanags**, Director of Baltic International Centre for Economic Policy (BICEPS): **Higher education and competitiveness: is there a linear connection?**
- 11:15 – 11:30 *Coffee break*
- 11:30 – 13:00 Round table discussion of participants
Chair: Baiba Rivža, Minister of Education and Science of Republic of Latvia
- 13:00 – 14:00 *Lunch*

- 14:00 – 15:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION II:
Higher education and science for sustainable development**
- Chair:* **Carl Lindberg**, Member of UNESCO´s High Level Panel on Education for Sustainable Development and Special Advisor to the Swedish National Commission for UNESCO on ESD
- Guest speakers:*
- **Paula Lindroos**, Director of the Centre for Continuing Education at the Åbo Akademi University: **Strategies and challenges of education for sustainable development in higher education**
 - **Lars Rydén**, Professor Emeritus, Uppsala University, Director of Baltic University Programme: **Education for Sustainable Development – a competence programme for the whole society**
 - **Ilga Salīte**, Dean of the Faculty of Education and Management, daugavpils University: **Higher education and education for sustainable development: Experience of Institute of sustainable education**
- 15:00 – 15:15 *Coffee break*
- 15:15 – 16:45 Round table discussion of participants
- Chair:* **Giedrius Viliūnas**, Secretary of the Ministry of Education and Science of Lithuania
- 16:45 – 17:00 Closing of the meeting by **Baiba Rivža**, Minister of Education and Science of Republic of Latvia

Speakers

Hans Brask

Hans Brask has a background in international diplomacy and has amongst other positions been an advisor to the Estonian and Latvian governments. He has worked as Head of Section for Russia and the Baltic Sea Region and later as Deputy Head of Departments for respectively Globalisation and European Affairs in the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He has previously been posted to Brussels and Paris.

René Buch

René Buch is the CEO of NORDUnet, The Nordic Infrastructure for Research and Education (www.nordu.net).

René Buch joined NORDUnet in 2005 and has since evolved an all ready capable network organization to a service oriented eInfrastructure company that serves Scientists, Students and Staff at universities and educational institutions in the Nordics countries. René Buch heads the evolution of the NORDUnet Network into a Dark fibre based versatile infrastructure that enables a range of services for the Nordic and Global user communities. In addition to the NORDUnet Network René Buch has added the capabilities of NUNOC, the Nordic University Network and Infrastructure Operations Centre to the NORDUnet portfolio of services alongside heading the Nordic Data Grid Facility (www.ndgf.org) that support the Nordic Grid

community with highly capable production environment. René Buch represent the Nordic Countries in the GEANT2 Policy Committee and has also been a member of The Nordic Council of Ministers eScience Workgroup.

René Buch came to NORDUnet from MCI (Now Verizon Business) where he served as Managing Director and board member for MCI in Denmark and Norway and as the company representative with the Telecommunications Industry association in Denmark.

Prior to this René Buch has significant international experience within Design, Installation & Maintenance of high availability computer and communications systems for a number of large international companies. Adding to this René has substantial experience within IT Education and Training and a broad operating systems background within UNIX & Windows OS.

René Buch holds a B.Sc. degree in computer engineering from Odense University College of Engineering which has been supplemented with management courses from several acknowledged Management Schools.

Elise Kvarnström

Short CV:

- Degree from Lund University, (Archaeology and languages)
- Further Education in IT and communication with specialisation on database design
- IT consultancy 1999 -2002.
- Employed in Medicon Valley Academy 2002 as IT manager.
- Started in ScanBalt as project manager for "Biotech One Click away" in February 2003. Has worked as project manager with special focus on Information, communication and data management in the projects: Biotech one click away, ScanBalt Competence Region, ScanBalt Campus, Scandinavian Life science database, ScanBalt Clinical research Network, Trayss Prime and Boost Biosystems. Created the ScanBalt Yellow Pages.

Carl Lindberg

Short CV:

- Special Advisor to the Swedish National Commission for UNESCO on ESD from Nov. 2005
- Member of UNESCO´s High Level Panel on Education for Sustainable Development from July 2004
- Chairman of the Swedish National Committee on ESD 2003-2004
- Deputy State Secretary in the Ministry of Education and Science 1994 – 2004
- Political advisor to members in the Standing Committee on Education and Science in the Swedish Parliament 1989-1994
- Press Officer to the Minister of Education 1985-1989
- Vice President in the Swedish United Nations Association 1984-1986

Paula Lindroos

Paula Lindroos, PhD, is director of the Centre for Continuing Education at Åbo Akademi University in Turku. She also works as an expert in several national and

international working groups, networks and projects. She is an adviser to the coordinator of the Baltic21Education sector, and a member of the international board of the Baltic University Programme (www.balticuniv.uu.se). She is coordinating the project National resource centre in higher education(2007-2009).

Lars Rydén

Prof Lars Rydén is initiator and former Director of the Baltic University Programme, at Uppsala Centre for Sustainable Development at Uppsala University. He was an Associate Professor of Biochemistry at Uppsala University, appointed Professor by the Swedish Government in 1999 and Doctor HC at Kaunas University of Technology in 2001. Lars Rydén has initiated and worked with a series of projects to promote sustainable development in the Baltic Sea region countries and, together with co-workers in several countries, written and edited books on environmental science, sustainability science and regional development. Recent publications include Environmental Management I-IV (2006-07); Sustainable Community Development. I-IV (2004); Environmental Science (2003) 824 pp (with P. Migula and M. Andersson,), The Baltic Sea Region – Cultures, Politics, Societies (2002) (W. Maciejewski, editor), and A Sustainable Baltic Region (1997) I-X.

Ilga Salīte

Ilga Salīte, professor, Dr. pedagogy, Daugavpils University.

Dean of Faculty of education and management since 1996, founder of Institute of sustainable education in 2003.

Scientific interests: education and research for sustainable development and teacher education for sustainability.

Participant in collaborative networks: (1) European-Australian network for environmental educators (1995-2000); (2) UNESCO networks for teacher educators [UNESCO/ UNITWIN global project on reorientation of teacher education toward sustainable development (2000-2005) and implementation of teacher education guidelines prepared by teacher reorientation project (2006-2010); UNESCO-UNEVOC International Consultation on Education for Sustainable Development: technical and vocational teacher education towards sustainability]; UNESCO network for development of educational research strategy for sustainable development; (3) Pacific Circle consortium in education research; (4) President of Baltic and Black sea circle consortium in educational research (BBCC).

Alf Vanags

Alf Vanags is the Director of the Baltic International Centre for Economic Policy Studies (BICEPS) in Riga, Latvia. He was born in Latvia but lived in the UK and was educated at University College London, Kings College Cambridge and the London School of Economics. He is a professional economist and has worked as an academic economist in many countries, including in Australia, Canada, China, Denmark, the UK and Sri Lanka as well as acting as a consultant for governments, international organisations and the private sector. Since 1997 he has worked full time in Latvia – from 2001 as BICEPS Director. He has been involved in reform of the social science curriculum in the Baltic states and has an interest in the role of higher education in the economy. He has a wide portfolio of research in areas such as international trade (including services trade), regulation, macroeconomics and labour markets. He is currently leading a project which aims to evaluate the impact of the structural funds in Latvia where the role of human resource development is a crucial element.

Tatjana Volkova

Professor Volkova is the Rector of Banking Institution of Higher Education (Latvia) and President of Rector's conference of Latvia. As well as working in the academic arena she has worked extensively in the private sector. She was Training Officer of World Council of Credit Unions (USA) representative office in Riga. Professor Volkova is very active as an international lecturer in Finland, Spain, Greece and throughout Western Europe. She teaches Strategic Management and her special areas of interest are also entrepreneurship and innovation.

Since 2002 Tatjana Volkova has been editor, chief editor as well as the author of series of books about economic consequences of Latvia's joining EU. The most popular among them is "What entrepreneur should know about EU?" (2 editions), Riga, Rasa ABC, 2003, 310 pp.

Professor Volkova is a Regional Editor - Latvia of Baltic Journal of Management, published by Emerald and very active in different professional bodies. She is a Member of European University Association Council, a Member of Board of Baltic Management Development Association (BMDA), a Member of Board of Association of Professor's Council of Latvia, former Member of Board of Business Consultants of Latvia, and Member of Board of European Movement in Latvia.

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