

Go8 Chair to address National Press Club

On Wednesday 4 May Professor Paul Greenfield AO, Go8 Chair and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Queensland will give a televised address at the National Press Club in Canberra.

"New national 'quality' arrangements for higher education will lead to disappointment for students and the Australian community without international benchmarking.

"The government's new research rating system, ERA, at least attempts to compare university research on international standards, but there is no similar approach to teaching and learning.

"To continue to be a major economic earner for the country Australian higher education must obsess about being internationally competitive and cannot rely on any inherent comparative advantage."

To book a place in the audience at the press club please visit:
www.npc.org.au/speakers/professor-paul-greenfield.html



*Professor Paul Greenfield
Go8 Chair and Vice-Chancellor
of the University of Queensland*

Selection and Participation in Higher Education

The Go8 recently released a report on how university selection procedures can better support student diversity and success in higher education.

The report was prepared by the Centre for the Study of Higher Education (CSHE) at the University of Melbourne, with funding from the Go8 and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

The report finds that while tertiary entrance rank (ATAR) is a good indicator of likely success at university, there are other indicators which can be used in combination with the ATAR to support social inclusion in higher education.

"Universities face the challenge of identifying student potential by selecting in an open, fair and defensible way," said Professor Sue Willis, Chair of the Go8 Social Inclusion Strategy Group.

"The report finds that employing a wide range of criteria in selection offers universities the best chance of identifying the student characteristics associated with success".

The lead author of the report, Research Fellow at the CSHE Nigel Palmer, said "the challenge of improving equity of participation in higher education is directly linked with the process of selecting for admission, and with efforts to improve prospects for student success".

The full report can be found on the Go8 website: www.go8.edu.au/university-staff/go8-policy-and-analysis

The Conversation • Go8 universities are content partners in a new website called The Conversation which aims to communicate university research directly to the community. The Conversation's charter states it aims to "unlock the knowledge and expertise of researchers and academics to provide the public with clarity and insight into society's biggest problems".

The Conversation encourages staff of Go8 universities to participate and contribute. Editors provide assistance in polishing articles for publication. Authors have final sign-off on their articles, headlines and accompanying images and receive feedback about the number of people who have read their articles. Visit: <http://theconversation.edu.au>

Go8 welcomes new Chief Scientist

The Go8 has welcomed the appointment of Professor Ian Chubb to the role of Chief Scientist.

“Ian brings extensive experience in university research with a truly global perspective to the challenges facing Australia, and an understanding of the power of science to contribute to solutions,” said Go8 Chair, Professor Paul Greenfield.

“Ian also knows well the realities of working in universities and with government. He will bring balance and wisdom to the consideration of complex issues. Australia will benefit greatly from his contribution as Chief Scientist.”



Professor Ian Chubb
Chief Scientist

CONFERENCE SUPPORT

Staff of Go8 universities will receive a 10% discount on registration for the upcoming higher education conferences.

AFR Higher Education Conference

28-29 June in Sydney

The Role of Tertiary Education in Improving Australia's Productivity

www.afr.com/p/financial_review_higher_education_6cepRaeM8AK5Cq0pKebRUJ

International Education Strategy

19-20 July in Melbourne

To register email executive.director@go8.edu.au to receive the form or register online with the code CC*GO8.

www.internationaleducationstrategy.com/index.php

Measuring and Enabling University Research and Innovation Capacity

26-27 July in Sydney

Quote CC*GO8 to receive the 10% discount.

www.uniresearchinnovation.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Go8 Chair, Professor Paul Greenfield, addresses the National Press Club in Canberra on 4 May
- Go8 Deans of Graduate Studies meet in Perth on 4 May
- Go8 Advancement Directors meet in Sydney on 24 May
- Go8 Commercialisation Directors meet in Sydney on 24 May
- Go8 Marketing Directors meet in Sydney on 24 May
- Go8 Social Inclusion Strategy Group in Sydney 24 May
- Go8 Directors' event in Sydney on 25 May
- Go8 Board meeting in Sydney on 26 May
- Go8 Data Sharing Network meets in Sydney on 26 May
- Go8 Human Resources Directors meet in Sydney on 26 May
- Go8 Research Integrity and Ethics Group meets in Canberra on 6 June
- Go8 International Directors meet in Sydney on 20 June
- Go8 Deans of Medicine meet in Canberra on 21 June
- Go8 DVCs Research meet in Auckland on 24 June

Go8 Directors' event

The Go8 offers a trusted network through which ideas and expertise are shared. Various committees of Go8 directors meet regularly to share information and ideas and to work jointly on projects.

The first Go8 Directors' event, held in Melbourne in May 2009, brought together the various director groups (commercialisation, human resources, international, research, data sharing and more) with a view to developing understanding, increasing operating efficiency and improving collaboration across the Go8 network.

The next event will be held at UNSW in Sydney on 25 May. Sessions on the changing operating environment for Australian universities, university/business interactions and Go8 strategic directions will include university Vice-Chancellors as well as senior representatives from government and industry.

Due to venue capacity attendance is by invitation only. The draft program is available to download at:

www.go8.edu.au/university-staff/events/go8-directors-event-2011



John Niland Scientia Building
The University of New South Wales

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

The *Go8 Update* is published online to keep the Go8 network of committees and staff at Go8 universities informed about the organisation's activities.

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