



## RECTORS SEMINAR 2012

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR  
CANADIAN STUDIES AND THE UNICA NETWORK

**Under the patronage of Mrs Androulla Vassiliou,  
European Commissioner for  
Education, Culture, Multilingualism, Sport, Media and Youth**

**EUROPE – CANADA: THE FUTURE OF ACADEMIC COOPERATION**

*European and Canadian academic leadership engaging in university  
collaboration*

**24-25 September 2012**

Université libre de Bruxelles, Solvay Building (R-42),  
Avenue F. D. Roosevelt, 42, 1050 Brussels

**Organising universities:**



Vrije  
Universiteit  
Brussel

## DESCRIPTION

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The academic cooperation between Canadian and European higher education institutions has a **long-established tradition**. The first formal EU-Canada agreement was signed in 1995, and aimed initially to promote greater understanding between Europeans and Canadians and to foster high-quality human resources. Under the successive agreements, joint projects on curriculum development, vocational and language training, and student exchange schemes were developed. By October 2011, a total of 107 transatlantic consortia were funded, involving 765 European and Canadian partners. More than 5,600 students have participated in transatlantic exchanges<sup>1</sup>.



**The Rectors Seminar 2012 "Europe-Canada: The Future of Academic Cooperation"** will give an impetus for strengthening the existing links between Canadian and European higher education institutions. It will aim to address the global challenges faced by universities on both sides of the Atlantic, and encourage university leaders to jointly develop new paradigms for collaboration.

The Seminar is organised by **UNICA (Network of Universities from the Capital Cities of Europe)**, associating 43 universities from 32 capitals with a combined strength of over 120,000 staff and 1,500,000 researchers and faculty members; **European Network for Canadian Studies (ENCS)**, gathering all the associations of Canadian Studies in Europe at the national and multinational levels; **and the two leading universities in Brussels: Université libre de Bruxelles and Vrije Universiteit Brussel.**

The conference will bring together Rectors/Presidents from European and Canadian universities, high-level policy makers from the European institutions, representatives of the Canadian government, and the media.

Through presentations on Canadian and European higher education landscapes delivered by experienced keynote speakers, the Seminar will seek to provide useful examples of best practices, and allow the participants to bring new approaches and ideas for collaboration

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<sup>1</sup> European Commission. (2011). "EU-Canada co-operation in higher education, training and youth". Available: [http://ec.europa.eu/education/eu-canada/doc1563\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/education/eu-canada/doc1563_en.htm). Last accessed 21th Nov 2011.

back home. The results of the Seminar will be disseminated as policy recommendations to European and Canadian decision-makers.

**The Seminar will be held under the patronage of Mrs Androulla Vassiliou, Member of the European Commission.**

## LIST OF SPEAKERS & CHAIRS

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### Canada

- **Britta Baron**, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President International University of Alberta
- **Gilles Breton**, former Vice-Rector for International Relations, University of Ottawa
- **Guy Breton\***, Rector, Université de Montréal
- **Hélène David**, Vice-Rector International Relations Université de Montréal
- **Suzanne Fortier**, President, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada
- **Chad Gaffield**, President, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
- **Louis Maheu**, former Vice-Rector for Graduate Studies, Université de Montréal, Fellow of Royal Society of Canada
- **Kenneth McRoberts\***, Principal, Glendon College, York University
- **Andrew Petter**, President, Simon Fraser University

### UNICA Universities

- **Dominique Arlettaz**, Rector, Université de Lausanne
- **Uta Balbier\***, Head of Institute of North American Studies, King's College London
- **Inga Bostad**, Pro-Rector, University of Oslo
- **Jean Chambaz**, President, Université Pierre et Marie Curie (TBC)
- **Paul De Knop**, Rector, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- **Guido Fabiani\***, Rector, Roma Tre University
- **Serge Jaumain**, Vice-Rector, Université Libre de Bruxelles
- **Michael Kämper-van den Boogaart\***, Vice President for Academic and International Affairs, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin
- **Melita Kovacevic**, Vice-Rector Research and Technology, University of Zagreb
- **Jan Skrha**, Vice-Rector, Charles University Prague
- **Didier Viviers**, Rector, Université Libre de Bruxelles
- **Lode Wyns\***, Vice-Rector Research, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- **Stavros A. Zenios**, UNICA President, former Rector University of Cyprus

### European institutions & organisations

- **Androulla Vassiliou**, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism, Sport, Media and Youth, European Commission
- **Jordi Curell**, Director of Lifelong Learning: Higher Education and International Affairs, DG Education and Culture, European Commission
- **Anneli Pauli**, Deputy Director-General, Directorate General for Research and Innovation, EC
- **Donald B. Dingwell**, Secretary General of the European Research Council
- **Maria Helena Nazaré**, President, European University Association
- **Véronique Halloin**, General Secretary of the Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique-FNRS, Member of EUROHORCs (European Heads of Research Councils), an independent association dedicated to promoting excellence in all branches of research
- **Michel Praet**, Member of the Cabinet of Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council; portfolio: Research & Development, Innovation, Information Society and Media, Education, Youth, Sport and Multilingualism

### \*Chairs

## PROGRAMME

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### Sunday 23 September:

Arrival of participants	
15:00	Social programme: Visit to the Magritte Museum <i>A shuttle bus will take the participants to the museum at 14:30. Meeting point for all the participants: Reception Hall of Hôtel Métropole.</i>
19:00	Welcome drink

### Monday 24 September:

<i>A shuttle bus will take the participants to the venue at 08:00. Meeting point for all the participants: Reception Hall of Hôtel Métropole.</i>	
08:30-09:00	Registration and coffee
09:00-09:30	<b>Welcome</b> by Didier Viviers, Université libre de Bruxelles, and Stavros A. Zenios, UNICA President <b>General introduction</b> by Serge Jaumain, ENCS President
09:30-10:00	<b>Key messages</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Androulla Vassiliou</b>, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism, Sport, Media and Youth</li><li>• <b>Michel Praet</b>, Member of the Cabinet of Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council</li></ul>

## Session I. Learning From Each Other: Education and Research

Chair: Uta Balbier, Head of Institute of North American Studies, King's College London

10:00-11:00	<b>Background and newest trends in the Canadian and European education landscapes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Jordi Curell</b>, Director of Lifelong Learning: Higher Education and International Affairs, DG Education and Culture, European Commission</li><li>• <b>Gilles Breton</b>, former Vice-Rector for International Relations, University of Ottawa</li></ul>
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-13:30	<b>Latest developments in Canadian and European research fields: how to get the most out of it?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Anneli Pauli</b>, Deputy Director-General, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission</li><li>• <b>Donald B. Dingwell</b>, Secretary General of the European Research Council</li><li>• <b>Chad Gaffield</b>, President, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada</li><li>• <b>Véronique Halloin</b>, General Secretary of the Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique-FNRS, Member of EUROHORCs (European Heads of Research Councils)</li><li>• <b>Suzanne Fortier</b>, President, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada</li></ul>
13:30-14:30	Lunch

## Session II. Europe-Canada Mobility

Chairs: Michael Kämper-van den Boogaart, Vice President for Academic and International Affairs, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, and Guy Breton, Rector, Université de Montréal

14:30-16:00	<b>Different Dimensions of Europe-Canada Mobility (Students, PhDs, Postdoctoral researchers, staff, academics)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Jan Skrha</b>, Vice-Rector, Charles University Prague</li><li>• <b>Andrew Petter</b>, President, Simon Fraser University</li><li>• <b>Britta Baron</b>, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President International University of Alberta</li><li>• <b>Dominique Arlettaz</b>, Rector, Université de Lausanne</li></ul>
16:00-16:30	Coffee break

## Session III. Doctoral education and knowledge society: new ways of collaborations between Europe and Canada

Chair: Lode Wyns, Vice-Rector for Research, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

16:30-18:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Jean Chambaz</b>, President, Université Pierre et Marie Curie (TBC) /<b>Melita Kovacevic</b>, Vice-Rector Research and Technology, University of Zagreb</li><li>• <b>Louis Maheu</b>, former Vice-Rector for Graduate Studies, l'Université de Montréal, Fellow of Royal Society of Canada</li><li>• Contributions by UNICA and Canadian Rectors/Presidents</li></ul> <p><i>A shuttle bus will take the participants to Atomium at 18:30. Meeting point for all the participants: Entrance Hall, Solvay Building.</i></p>
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19:00-22:30	Dinner at Atomium* * Originally built for World Exposition '58, Atomium is a 102 metre (335 ft) tall monument with 9 connected steel spheres that form a unit cell of an iron crystal magnified 165 billion times. Its popularity and success made it a key landmark of Brussels and Belgium. More than a half a century later, it remains a symbol of innovative thought and continues to embody an optimistic vision of the future in a new, modern world.
22:30	A shuttle bus takes the participants back to Hôtel Métropole

## Tuesday 25 September:

*A shuttle bus will take the participants to the venue at 08:30. Meeting point for all the participants: Reception Hall of Hôtel Métropole.*

### **Session IV. New opportunities for cooperation**

Chairs: Guido Fabiani, Rector, Roma Tre University, and Kenneth Mc Roberts, Principal, Glendon College, York University

09:00-11:00	<b>Exploring and identifying innovative approaches for Europe-Canada academic cooperation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Maria Helena Nazaré</b>, President, European University Association</li><li>• <b>Hélène David</b>, Vice-Rector International Relations Université de Montréal</li><li>• <b>Inga Bostad</b>, Pro-Rector, University of Oslo</li></ul>
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-13:30	<b>Closing session</b> Moderator: Serge Jaumain, ENCS President <b>Closing remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Guy Breton</b>, Rector de l'Université de Montréal,</li><li>• <b>Paul De Knop</b>, Vrije Universiteit Brussel</li><li>• <b>Stavros A. Zenios</b>, UNICA President</li></ul>
13:30-14:30	Lunch
<i>A shuttle bus will take the participants back to Hôtel Métropole. Meeting point for the guided tour: Reception Hall of Hôtel Métropole.</i>	
15:00-17:00	<b>Social programme:</b> Guided tour of Brussels by Eric Corijn, Professor of Urban Geography, Head of the Department of Geography Vrije Universiteit Brussel
17:00-18:00	<b>Farewell cocktail</b> at the Historic Brussels Town Hall (TBC)

## ORGANISERS

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### Scientific Committee

- Chad Gaffield, President, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
- Gilles Breton, former Associate Vice-President Academic International, University of Ottawa
- Stavros Zenios, UNICA President
- Didier Viviers, Rector, Université libre de Bruxelles
- Paul de Knop, Rector, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- Serge Jaumain, ENCS President and Vice-Rector for International Relations, Université libre de Bruxelles
- Don Sparling, ENCS, Former Head of the International Relations Office, University of Mazaryk (Brno)

### Organising Committee

- Gilles Breton, former Vice-President Academic International, University of Ottawa
- Serge Jaumain, ENCS President and Vice-Rector for International Relations, Université libre de Bruxelles
- Elena Tegovska, International Relations Office, Université libre de Bruxelles
- Jean-Pierre De Greve, Vice-Rector for International Relations, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- Kris Dejonckheere, UNICA Secretary General
- Marta Wasowska, UNICA Assistant

### Information and Registration:

Elena Tegovska  
Université Libre de Bruxelles  
International Relations Office,  
52, av. Jeanne (CP 131)  
B-1050 Brussels,  
BELGIUM

[Elena.Tegovska@ulb.ac.be](mailto:Elena.Tegovska@ulb.ac.be)

Tel. +32 - (0)2/650 67 05

Fax. +32 - (0)2/650 35 82