

**26th Conference of
Rectors and Presidents of
European Universities of Technology**

**Industry and Technical Universities:
New and traditional modes of collaboration**

Invitation and Programme

July 5-6, 2007

**2006 Conference Host:
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH Zurich)
Switzerland**



Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

Dear colleagues,

this is to cordially invite you to the 2007 conference. The conference will address an issue of crucial importance for institutions of higher education and research in engineering and technology, and I sincerely hope that you will be able to attend. The conference will provide ample space for formal and informal exchanges of views. I am sure that you will enjoy the conference as a unique experience, and we are looking forward to welcoming you in Zurich for inspiring discussions and forward looking considerations. Finally, since I will retire soon after the conference, I will take the opportunity to say good bye to my colleagues whose cooperation I have appreciated so much during my three terms in the rectorate of ETH Zurich.

Prof. Konrad Osterwalder
Rector and President a.i., ETH Zurich, Switzerland
2007 Conference Host

crp

General background of the conference:

In 1980, this conference has been started following a joint initiative of several rectors, with the aim to establishing a forum of representatives from leading engineering universities in Europe for

- discussing topics of major common concern, that are not discussed in other fora,
- identifying differences and commonalities of existing solutions to problems of common interest,
- developing new ideas and - if appropriate - preparing recommendations on specific topics, and
- forming a „think tank“ for the future development of the universities of technology in Europe.

As an informal grouping the conference has no formal international or European organisational structure.

Background of the 2007 Conference:

Cooperation with industry has become a mainstream activity of modern institutions of higher education and research especially in the engineering field. It is commonly agreed that the interaction between the academic and the industrial world is beneficial for all partners involved, stimulating both challenging academic research at the frontiers of science and supporting competitiveness and innovation in industry and in society in general. Providing the appropriate structures and mechanisms that are capable to support fruitful interaction and cooperation in the best possible ways is an important task for university leaders and managers in industry. The 2007 conference will cover a broad spectrum of issues from innovation policies and general concepts of university-industry-government linkages to examples of best practices from leading European universities of technology.

Themes to be addressed, e.g.:

- Supportive environments and infrastructures for university-industry interaction.
- Industrial “ambassadors” at universities.
- Different approaches and instruments for university-industry cooperation.
- From “technology transfer” to collaborative research and technological development.
- Managing intellectual property. Spin offs, venture capital.
- What makes a campus an attractive place for an industrial research facility?
- Involving industry in the teaching process, Continuing education.

Prof. Konrad Osterwalder
Rector and President a.i., ETH Zurich

Prof. Manfred Horvat
Conference Coordinator since 1981

Programme, Day 1

July 5, 2007

Conference venue on July 5: ETH Zurich, ETH Center, Raemistrasse 101, 8092 Zurich
Semperaula G60 (G-floor)

Welcome, Opening and Introductory Keynote Speeches: Policy and Conceptual Framework

- 13:00 - 14:00 Arrival and registration of participants at the Conference site
Coffee, tea and biscuits
- 13:15 Accompanying persons departure for afternoon social programme
- 14:00 - 14:30 **Welcome, Official Opening and Introduction**
Heidi Wunderli-Allenspach, Rector designatus, ETH Zurich, Switzerland
Elmar Ledergerber, President of the City of Zurich, Switzerland
Manfred Horvat, Conference Coordinator, Austria
- 14:30 - 15:30 **University-industry cooperation in the knowledge society:
setting the stage**
- Creating an Innovative Europe**
Esko Aho, President, SITRA, Finland; former Finnish Prime Minister
- The Triple-Helix of University-Industry-Government Relations**
Henry Etzkowitz, Professor for Management of Innovation, University of
Newcastle Upon Tyne, United Kingdom
- 15:30 - 16:00 **Break**
- 16:00 - 17:00 **University-industry cooperation for mutual benefit**
- ETH Zurich as a reference organisation for industry**
Konrad Osterwalder, Rector and President a.i., ETH Zurich
- What makes a university an attractive partner for industry?**
Walter Steinlin, CEO, Swisscom Innovations and CTO, Swisscom;
outgoing President of EIRMA
- 17:00 - 17:30 **A European Charter for Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) at public
research institutions and universities – Results of the German EU
Presidency January - June 2007**
Klaus Uckel, Director for EU-Research Policy, Federal Ministry of
Education and Research, Germany
- 17:30 - 18:00 **Final discussion and conclusions from Day 1**

Accompanying Persons' Afternoon Programme:

Visit to ETH Zurich's Graphics Collection followed by Historic City Tour

Evening programme:

Conference Dinner in the traditional Guild House Rueden in the City centre

Programme, Day 2

July 6, 2007

Conference venue on July 6: ETH Zurich, ETH Hoenggerberg, 8093 Zurich
Lecture hall HCI J4

Perspectives of European Universities of Technology on New and Traditional Modes of University-industry Cooperation. A Benchmarking Exercise.

09:00 - 10:30 **Session 1**

09:00 - 09:30 **Providing active university interfaces for cooperating with industry**

- Kurt Kutzler, President, Berlin University of Technology, Germany
- Amandus Lunqvist, President, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands

09:30 - 09:45 **Discussion**

09:45 - 10:15 **Special organisational structures for university-industry cooperation**

- Torbjorn Digernes, Rector, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Norway
- Andrzej Sobkowiak, Rector, Rzeszow University of Technology, Poland

10:15 - 10:30 **Discussion**

10:30 - 11:00 **Break**

11:00 - 12:30 **Session 2**

11:00 - 11:30 **Integrated models of teaching, research and technology transfer**

- Hans Suenkel, Rector, Graz University of Technology, Austria
- Francesco Profumo, Rector, Politecnico Torino, Italy

11:30 - 11:45 **Discussion**

11:45 - 12:15 **Continuing engineering education as a university-industry link**

- Matti Pursula, Rector, Helsinki University of Technology, Finland
- Gyula Sallai, Vice-Rector, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary

12:15 - 12:45 **Discussion**

12:45 - 13:00 **Final general discussion and conference conclusions**

13:00 - 13:15 **Outlook to the 27th Conference**

- Ramutis Petras Bancevisius, Rector, Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania
- Manfred Horvat, Conference Coordinator, Austria

13:15 - 14:15 **Conference closing followed by a light buffet lunch**

Konrad Osterwalder, Rector and President a.i., ETH Zurich, Switzerland

Social Programme for Participants and Accompanying Persons:

Afternoon: Guided Tour ETH Zurich Science City

(Introduction by Dr. Michael Salzmann, project director Science City)

Early Evening: Informal Dinner at Restaurant Uto Kulm, Uetliberg

2007 Conference host:

Prof. Konrad Osterwalder

Rector and President a.i.

Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH Zurich)
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