



crp

**27th Conference of
Rectors and Presidents of
European Universities of Technology**

**European and International Cooperation
between Universities of Technology**

**Invitation
and
Final Programme**

September 25-26, 2008

**2008 Conference Host:
Kaunas University of Technology
Lithuania**



The 2008 Conference at Kaunas University of Technology

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to cordially invite you to the 2008 conference. While the European Research and Higher Education Area is gaining more and more momentum towards the objective of integration between the 'old' and the 'new' member states there are still great challenges that it is facing.

China, India and Russia, and others are developing rapidly and becoming major actors in science, research and technological development, and we have to address this development and its consequences for the future of research in Europe

European universities of technology are main players in the creation of the knowledge society and economy. Joining forces at regional, national and European level as well as opening to the world is a growing necessity of strategic importance. I believe the 2008 Conference will provide an excellent forum for leaders of European universities of technology for discussing these issues and for developing ideas for their future development.

I am looking forward to welcoming you to our university in September.

Prof. Raimundas Šiaučiūnas
Rector, Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania
2008 Conference Host

crp Conference of Rectors and Presidents of European Universities of Technology

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 2008 Conference:

Universities are forming the backbone of the European Research and Higher Education Area. They are preparing the next generation of engineers, provide opportunities for life long learning, are main actors in basic research and collaborate with industry. Both in education and research cooperation becomes a more and more important issue for university management and strategic development.

Themes to be addressed at the 2008 Conference will be:

- New structures of national and regional cooperation of universities;
- Integrating universities from New Member States in the European Research Area;
- European universities of technologies opening to the neighbouring countries;
- The BRIC challenge: new knowledge powers as opportunities for university cooperation;
- Attracting students and researchers from all over the world to European universities of technology.

Rector Prof. Raimundas Šiaučiūnas
2008 Conference Host

Prof. Manfred Horvat
Conference Coordinator

Programme, Day 1

September 25, 2008

Conference venue: KTU Aula, A. Mickeviciaus St. 37

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

- 11:00 - 12:00 Arrival and registration of participants at the Conference site
Coffee, tea and biscuits
- 12:00 - 17:00 **Accompanying persons' afternoon programme:**
Guided tour in Kaunas Old Town, lunch in the yacht-club at Kaunas Sea, visit to Pazaislis Monastery near Kaunas Sea.
- 12:00 - 12:20 **Welcome and Official Opening of the 2008 Conference**
Raimundas Šiaučiūnas, Rector, Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania
Algirdas Monkevičius, Minister of Education and Science of Lithuania
- 12:20 - 12:30 **Introduction to the 2008 Conference theme**
Manfred Horvat, Conference Coordinator
- 12:30 - 13:30 **European universities in the global knowledge society**

Strengthening the international role for European universities
Konrad Osterwalder, Rector United Nations University, Tokyo, Japan

A strategic European framework for international S&T cooperation
Sieglinde Gruber, Head of Unit, Analysis and monitoring of research policies around the world, Directorate General for Research, European Commission
- 13:30 - 15:00 **Lunch** (Reval Hotel Neris, K. Donelaicio St. 27)
- 15:00 - 16:45 **A European science and technology system that is open to the world**

Universities in the new member states as 'bridgeheads' of European integration in science and technology – the case of KTU
Raimundas Šiaučiūnas, Rector, Kaunas University of Technology (KTU), Lithuania

Internationalisation strategies of universities
John Smith, Deputy Secretary General, European University Association (EUA)

EU instruments and funding schemes supporting university cooperation
Luis Delgado, Unit for Universities and Researchers, Directorate General for Research, European Commission
- 16:45 - 17:00 **Conclusions from Day 1**
- 19:00 **Conference Dinner hosted by the City Mayor of Kaunas, Town Hall**

Programme, Day 2

September 26, 2008

Conference venue: KTU Aula, A. Mickeviciaus St. 37

Perspectives of European Universities of Technology on National, European and International Cooperation

09:00 - 10:30 **Session 1: New configurations of university cooperation in Europe**

09:00 - 09:30 **Regional and national strategic alliances between universities**

ParisTech –Combining the strengths of ten leading institutes of engineering research and education

Cyrille van Effenterre, President, ParisTech, France

The Central Bohemian Science and Technology Park of three universities in Prague

Václav Havlíček, Rector, Czech Technical University in Prague; Czech Republic

The 3TU.Federation in The Netherlands – Forming joint research centres of excellence and competence

Jacob Fokkema, Rector, Delft University of Technology; Chairman, 3TU Research Committee, The Netherlands

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

09:45 - 10:15 **Strengthening European engineering research, technology and innovation through trans-border university cooperation**

Regional cooperation for creating synergies between universities from ‘new Member States’ and ‘elder Member States’: The case of BALTEC – The Baltic Sea University of Science and Technology

Ivars Knets, Rector, Riga Technical University, Latvia

The IDEA League excellence clusters in energy, climate change and health

Chris Hankin, Deputy Principal of the Faculty of Engineering, Imperial College London, Chair of the Strategic Research Committee of the IDEA League

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology: Next steps

Thomas Sanders, Policy Officer, European Institute of Innovation and Technology Task Force, Directorate General for Education and Culture, European Commission

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

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

Programme, Day 2 (continued)

11:00 - 12:30 **Session 2: International cooperation of universities of technology**

11:00 - 11:30 **Creating common spaces of research and higher education between the European Union and its neighbours**

Preparing for the association of the Ukraine to the European research activities

Mikhail Zgurovsky, Rector, National Technical University of Ukraine “Kiev Polytechnic Institute”, Ukraine

The Black Sea University Network (BSUN) – A bridge between the EU and Asia

Eden Mamut, BSUN Centre for Advanced Engineering Sciences, University “Ovidius” in Constantia, Romania

Strengthening university cooperation with the Western Balkan and the Mediterranean Countries

Stavros Panas, Vice-Rector for Research, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

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

11:45 - 12:15 **Global partnerships between universities of science and technology**

Utilizing the opportunities for collaboration with China - Nordic approaches and experiences

Stefan Bengtsson, Executive Vice-President, Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenborg, Sweden

The EU-Russia Common Space for Science and Education as an opportunity for enhanced university cooperation

Yuri Pokholkov, Rector, Tomsk Polytechnic University, Russia

Cooperation with universities of technology in Latin America

Gonzalo León, Vice-Rector for Research, Polytechnic University of Madrid, Spain

12:15 - 12:30 **Discussion**

12:30 - 13:00 **Final general discussion and conference conclusions**

13:00 - 13:15 **Outlook to the 28th Conference**

Henrik Taeckholm, Corporate Secretary, Senior Advisor, Technical University of Denmark (DTU), Copenhagen

Manfred Horvat, Conference Coordinator, Austria

13:15 - 13:20 **Conference closing**

Raimundas Šiauciūnas, Rector, Kaunas University of Technology (KTU)

13:30 – 14:30 **Lunch** (Reval Hotel Neris, K. Donelaicio St. 27)

17:00 – 18:30 **Special event: Inauguration ceremony of Prof. Manfred Horvat as Doctor Honoris Causa of Kaunas University of Technology**

19:00 **Farewell reception**

2008 Conference host:

Prof. Raimundas Šiaučiūnas
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