

# CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

## Theme:

### **Higher Education Partnership Trends and Policy Issues between African and European Higher Education Institutions**

**3–4 November 2016, University of Bayreuth, Germany**

We are happy to announce that the higher education conference organized by the Workgroup “Higher Education and Society in Africa” will take place at Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS), University of Bayreuth on 3–4 November 2016. The theme of the conference will be: **“Higher Education Partnership Trends and Policy Issues between African and European Higher Education Institutions”**

Trends in institutional partnership in higher education have shown tremendous growth in the past three decades. These trends in higher education are manifested through the growing initiatives of joint programs that promote student and staff mobility, joint curriculum developments and course delivery, research collaboration, joint bidding for research projects and benchmarking. Partnerships in higher education have been used not only as instrument for institutional development through a wide range of strategic alliances but also as essential ways of introducing new voices to the operations of the universities by initiating new paradigms that bring new perspectives and bear competitive advantage on the partners. As the trend of partnership in higher education grew, scholars in higher education studies have also engaged in conceptualizing higher education partnership from academic venture providing perspectives, analyzing trends and developing models of higher education collaborations.

This conference aims to stimulate academic discussion on trends and key issues in higher education cooperation between European and African universities pointing to pressing important policy and practical issues. Are there patterns of higher education partnership among African and European universities and how do such patterns evolve overtime? What are the current debates on internationalization strategies between Africa and Europe and the circulation of knowledge in individual and institutional partnerships between the continents? Which insights can be drawn from various case studies of higher education partnerships schemes?

Addressing the above questions, the conference will shed light on the role of higher education collaborations among African and European higher education institutions crafting viable policies and strategies that facilitate exchange and interdependence of knowledge. It also aims to support the development of networks for sharing expertise, success stories, best practices and new ideas on issues of higher education partnership.

The conference is intended to bring together higher education and policy researchers, BIGSAS Partner Universities and Junior Fellows (PhD students). It will be a two-day conference stimulating discussions and debates on academic, practical and policy related issues.

Interested researchers, academics and experts in higher education development are kindly invited to submit abstracts and papers on any of the following themes:

- Trends in higher education partnership between African and European universities
- Policy and practical issues on joint programs, student and staff mobility and research collaboration among African and European universities
- Strategies in higher education partnership and internationalization
- Case studies on higher education collaboration among African and European universities
- Practical challenges and opportunities in higher education collaboration among African and European universities – student mobility, joint programs, harmonization strategies etc.

Note:

Abstracts/papers should be submitted by email to Dr. Emnet Tadesse Woldegiorgis **Emnet.Woldegiorgis@uni-bayreuth.de** or Dr. Christine Scherer **Christine.Scherer@uni-bayreuth.de**.

Abstracts should not exceed 400 to 500 words.

**Important dates:**

1. Abstract Submission: **10 June 2016**
2. Notification of Acceptance: **20 June 2016**
3. Submission of full papers: **20 July 2016**
4. Conference date: **3-4 November 2016**

At the end of the conference, papers will be published as proceedings to a special issue.

There is no conference registration fee.

**We are looking forward to welcoming you in Bayreuth!**