

**Speakers Conference The Future of Higher Education**  
**Europe Building, Amsterdam, March 9, 2016**



**Samuel Abraham**

President of Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts/  
Managing Director of ECOLAS

Studied International Relations at the University of Toronto and at Carleton University in Ottawa where he obtained PhD in Political Theory. Since 1996 he is the publisher and editor-in-chief of journal Kritika & Kontext. For almost two decades he toughed political science courses at Comenius University in Bratislava. He is author of three books: "An Attempt to

Analyze Slovak Society" (2002), "A Crisis of European Identity" (2012) and "Slovakia: Pure Theory vs. Political Reality" (2012). He is co-founder and managing director of ECOLAS -- European Consortium of Liberal Arts and Sciences which is a network of over twenty liberal arts schools and programs in Europe. Since 2006, he is Professor at and rector of Bratislava International School of Liberal Education (BISLA).



**Edwin Bakker**

Professor of (Counter-)Terrorism Studies University of Leiden  
Scientific Director of the Institute of Security and Global Affairs,  
University of Leiden

Edwin Bakker is the scientific director of the Institute of Security and Global Affairs at the University of Leiden, Faculty of Governance and Global Affairs and professor of (Counter-)Terrorism Studies at the same university. He also holds the position of research fellow at the International Centre for Counter Terrorism – The Hague. In addition, he is a member of the editorial board of (academic) journals like Security and Human Rights and Internationale Spectator and member of the

Netherlands Helsinki Committee. From 2007 to 2011, Bakker was a fellow at the Netherlands Institute of International Relations 'Clingendael'. He was head of the Security and Conflict Programme .Bakker's research interests include radicalization and jihadi terrorism, characteristics of (jihadi) terrorists, dealing with (fear of) terrorism and its policy implications.



**Ron Bormans**

President of the Executive Board of Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences

Ron Bormans has been president of the Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences' Executive Board since 1 September 2012. Bormans graduated in political science (Katholieke Universiteit Nijmegen), specializing in Public Administration. He worked for the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science as a deputy chief executive higher education and as chief executive student grants, for Capgemini as a consultant and for Netherlands Quality Agency (NQA) as chief executive. He was a member of the Executive Board of the Universities of Applied Sciences in Amsterdam and Arnhem/Nijmegen, at the latter he became president in 2008. He was a member of the Veerman committee that advised on 'future-proof higher education'. Ron Bormans' non-remunerated additional position include the membership of the Board The Netherlands Association of Universities of Applied Sciences, Portfolio: Secondary Teacher Training.



### **Jet Bussemaker**

Dutch Minister of Education, Culture and Science

Jet Bussemaker began her career at the University of Amsterdam in 1985. From 1985 to 1993 she was a research assistant, researcher and lecturer at the university. From 1989 to 2007 she worked for one day a week at VU University, Amsterdam, where her work included a research project financed by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO). She was also a visiting fellow at Harvard University. On 19 May 1998 Jet Bussemaker became a member of the

House of Representatives for the Labour Party (PvdA). On 22 February 2007 she was appointed State Secretary for Health, Welfare and Sport in the fourth Balkenende government. After serving as State Secretary, Dr Bussemaker worked for a short period as an independent consultant. On 1 March 2011 she joined the Executive Board of the University of Amsterdam and the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences. She has also been a crown-appointed member of the Social and Economic Council (SER). On 5 November 2012 Dr Bussemaker was appointed Minister of Education, Culture and Science in the Rutte-Asscher government.



### **Anthony Camilleri**

Knowledge Innovation Centre (Malta)

Mr. Camilleri is a senior partner at the Knowledge Innovation Centre, and is an expert in quality assurance of education, with a specific focus on quality as it relates to innovation and to the social dimension. As such, Mr. Camilleri has created and promoted the EQUNet Project which produced two reports comparing the social dimension in Higher Education across

Europe, and the IDEAS Project which is collecting a database of grass-root equity initiatives with proven success. Mr. Camilleri also serves as secretary to ISO PC288/WG1 which is drafting a global standard for Educational Organization Management Systems, and is certification manager for the ECBCheck quality label for e-learning programmes.



### **Maurice Crul**

Professor of Sociology at the VU University of Amsterdam

Maurice Crul is a Professor of Sociology at the Free University in Amsterdam and the Erasmus University in Rotterdam. In the last twenty years Maurice Crul mostly worked on school and labour market careers of children of immigrants in a comparative European and Transatlantic context. He coordinated the international TIES project, the first international comparative project on the second generation in Europe <http://www.tiesproject.eu/>. His new ERC project ELITES: <https://www.elitesproject.eu/elites> looks at the pathways of successful

second generation professionals in four countries. Maurice Crul is the president of the international IMISCOE network, a network of 38 research institutes on migration and ethnic studies in Europe. In 2014 he was a distinguished visiting professor at the City University in New York. He has published numerous books and articles among others.



### **Nienke Fabries**

Program manager Student mentors of Rotterdam at Center of Expertise for Social Innovation (Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences)

Nienke Fabries is program manager for Student mentors of Rotterdam (mentoren op zuid). The program was rewarded with the national prize for education in 2015. She was involved in building the center of expertise for social innovation, one of the centers of expertise of Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences since 2011. In 2011, she completed her master thesis at TIAS Nimbis Master of

management in education on the subject of partnership between the development of Rotterdam South and Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences. Before joining Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences, she worked for the city of Breda as social program manager between 2007 and 2011 and for the burrough of Charlois (Rotterdam South) as department head of social and economic development from 2002-2007. In the years between 1994-2002 she worked as accountmanager/business development manager for various companies in the fields of e-learning, IT-advisory, professional language training and staffing.



### **Fernando Galán Palomares**

Chairperson ESU

Fernando Galán from Spain is Chairperson of ESU since July 2015, having served as vice-chairperson and, a year earlier, as a member of ESU's Executive Committee. Since he began his university education as medical student at the University of Cantabria (Santander, Spain) he has been involved in different levels of student representation at national and university level. He has also been Erasmus student at the Università Degli Studi di Bari (Bari, Italy) and participated in several international student exchanges. Fernando's work as a student representative has been mostly focused on the fields of student-centred learning, online education, rankings, recognition and quality

assurance. As ESU representative, Fernando has participated in the Bologna Follow-Up Group and different experts' groups of the EU, Council of Europe, OECD and UNESCO.



### **Tony Gaynor**

Ministry of Education and Skills Ireland

Dr. Tony Gaynor is Head of the Higher Education Equity of Access and Qualifications Unit in the Ministry of Education and Skills in Ireland. He has policy responsibility for issues relating to social inclusion, quality assurance, and qualifications in the higher education sector. Key priorities for 2016 include the implementation of the new (December 2015) National Plan on Equity of Access to Higher Education, a quality review of learning outcomes in higher education, a national policy on Recognition of Prior Learning, and the development of measures to address non-completion in Higher Education.

**John Goddard**

Emeritus Professor at Newcastle University

John Goddard is emeritus Professor at Newcastle University UK. He was previously founding Director of the Centre for Urban and Regional Development Studies (CURDS), Dean of the Faculty of Law, Environment and Social Sciences and Deputy Vice-Chancellor with responsibility for the University's links with the city and region, in particular the development of Newcastle as one of the UK's six Science Cities. He is currently leading a programme of policy orientated research on the role of universities in city and regional development and a comparative study of the leadership and management of civic engagement which links academic work on universities and on territorial development with his experience as a university manager. He is an advisor to various Directorates of the European Commission and the European Universities Association on the role of universities in 'smart specialisation', a Council member of the UK Academy of Social Sciences and Fellow of the Academia Europaea. In 2012 he was awarded the UK Lord Dearing Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to higher education.

**Jeff Haywood**

Vice-Principal Digital Education University of Edinburgh

Professor Jeff Haywood is Vice-Principal Digital Education at the University of Edinburgh, leading the university's digital education strategy, including its expanding portfolio of taught online Masters degrees and CPD, distance PhDs, and MOOCs. Until 2015, he was Vice-Principal for Knowledge Management, Chief Information Officer and Librarian at the University of Edinburgh, responsible for the University's integrated Information Service and leading initiatives in expanding online distance and open education, high performance computing services, research data management & storage services, the redesign of the University website, selection of the next generation VLE, development of technology-rich study spaces, and e-assessment. Jeff is also Professor of Education & Technology in the University's School of Education. Jeff was academic lead on a study for the European Commission looking at options for EU governments for modernising their HE systems using technology.

**Margarita Jeliaskova**

Assistant Professor University of Twente

Dr. Margarita Jeliaskova is an educator and researcher in the area of citizenship education, democratic deliberation, and comparative public policy. At the University of Twente, she teaches at the Master of Social Science Teaching Program, and at the Master Programs in Public Management and Risk Management. Jeliaskova has been working at Center for Higher Education Policy Studies in the field of Strategic Management and Quality Assurance in higher education, as well as a consultant, trainer and policy researcher. Jeliaskova is a graduate of Sofia University, Bulgaria (MA in philosophy), Rutgers University, USA (MA in political science) and the University of Twente (PhD).



**Timo Kos**

Director Education and Student Affairs TU Delft

Timo Kos is Director of Education and Student Affairs at Delft University of Technology (TU Delft) and one of the initiators of TU Delft Extension School for Open and Online Education. One of Timo's specialties is open and online education. He founded the non-profit foundation Khan Academy NL, a Dutch branch of the [khanacademy.org](https://www.khanacademy.org) with the goal to make the Khan academy available in Dutch for all students.

**Khadija al Mourabit**

ECHO ambassador and member Advisory Board Amsterdam United

Khadija al Mourabit works as an Admissions Officer of the Sociology MSc tracks for the Graduate School of Social Sciences at the University of Amsterdam. She studied Philosophy at the University of Amsterdam specializing in Logic. She is currently finishing her study Brain & Cognition. Besides studying she has been involved in different boards. At the present time she is a member on the Advisory Board of the student platform called Amsterdam United at the University of Amsterdam. This is a

network of students that deal with diversity in the broadest sense, tackling issues concerning: ethnicity, gender, religion, sexuality and politics. Furthermore she is also an ECHO ambassador for the ECHO Foundation. The ECHO ambassadors network consists of excellent students and young professionals who were nominated for the ECHO award.

**Anka Mulder**

Vice President Executive Board Delft University

Anka Mulder became TU Delft's Vice-President in 2013 and is responsible for education, finance and operations. She is also a member of the edX University Advisory Board, a global network of universities that produce Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and promote innovation in education worldwide. In 2015, she joined the University of Sorbonne's Comité d'orientation stratégique. In 2008 she was a member, from 2011 to 2013 president of the board of the international OpenCourseWare Consortium. The Consortium is a

global organisation in the field of free online provision of education. Anka Mulder studied History at the University of Groningen, where she later lectured in International Relations. She worked in Brussels, Vienna and The Hague before she joined TU Delft as Director of Education in 2004. From 2011 to 2013 she combined the post of Director with that of Secretary General of the university.



### **Tibor Navracsics**

European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sports (2014 – 2019).

Before this mandate, he started his career as a university professor and was subsequently appointed Head of the Prime Minister's Office, member of the Hungarian Parliament, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Administration and Justice and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade. He is responsible for improving the quality and efficiency of the EU education systems, notably through the European Semester and ET

2020. In a context of high youth unemployment and skills mismatch, the modernisation of education in the EU is crucial to meet the challenges of employability and innovation in the digital age. He is also in charge of the education dimension of the Europe 2020 Strategy, the implementation of Erasmus +, the EU's Youth, Sports and Culture policies.



### **Barbara Oomen**

Dean Roosevelt University College

Barbara M. Oomen is the Dean of University College Roosevelt, one of Utrecht University's Liberal Arts and Sciences honors colleges based in Middelburg. UCR is the lead partner in the Erasmus + program BLASTER – The Best of European Liberal Arts and Sciences Teaching expanded and Reinforced. As Dean of a University College – a phenomenon labelled as the 'one true innovation in Dutch higher education in the past decades' - prof. Oomen has been involved in discussions on the reform of Dutch higher education, amongst others in the Science in Transition initiative. She also chaired the Netherlands Platform on Human Rights Education, and led the Going Global program, destined to strengthen education for global citizenship in institutions of higher learning. Prof. Oomen holds a

chair in the Sociology of Human Rights at Utrecht University, and publishes on law and cultural diversity and human rights. She holds a variety of administrative and advisory positions, like member of the Advisory Board of the Netherlands Institute of Human Rights. She is a former member of the Constitutional Review Commission and the UNESCO Science Commission.



### **Jet de Ranitz**

Chair of the Executive Board of Inholland University of Applied Sciences

Jet de Ranitz (1970) is Chair of the Executive Board of Inholland University of Applied Sciences since December 2014. Prior to taking up office at Inholland, Jet de Ranitz was Chair of the Executive Board of the Amsterdam School of the Arts. She has also served as Managing Director of the Nederlands Dans Theater dance company in The Hague, and before that, Managing Director of the School of Economics and Management at Tilburg University. Besides Inholland, she is active as vice-chairman of the Netherlands Association of Universities of Applied Sciences, chairman of the Jury of Excellent Schools of

the Inspectorate for Education, vice-chairman of the Erasmusprize Board and vice-chairman of the Supervisory Board of NTR broadcasting company, among other things. De Ranitz holds a Master's degree in French Language and Literature from Leiden University.



### **Luc Soete**

Rector Magnificus Maastricht University

Professor Luc Soete (1950: Brussels) obtained an economics degree from Ghent University and a PhD in economics from the University of Sussex. He then embarked on a research career in Britain and the United States, producing new economic insights on the Schumpeterian dynamics of innovation. In 1986 he was appointed professor of International Economic Relations at the Maastricht University School of Business and Economics. Two years later he established the Maastricht Economic Research Institute on Innovation and Technology (MERIT), which became part of United Nations University (UNU) in 2005. He was appointed dean of the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance (MGSoG) in 2010. Professor Soete is also a member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) and Chairman of the High Level Group "Research, Innovation and Science Policy Experts" (RISE) at the European Commission. Over the past 30 years, Soete has authored, co-authored, edited and co-edited no fewer than 11 books, 50 articles and 100 book chapters. Professor Luc Soete is the Rector Magnificus of Maastricht University as of 1 September 2012.



### **Henk Swart**

Senior Policy Adviser and member of the Management of KPZ University of Applied Sciences, a teacher training centre

Since 1976 Henk Swart has worked at a Teacher Training Centre, for several departments and in different roles. As a lecturer in history, social sciences and culture, he has been teaching about *The scapegoat-mechanism in the classroom, in an organisation, in society and history*. In the International Minor his has been teaching about *the relationship between personal, cultural and professional identity*. In his function as member and President of the taskforce of Interactum-University (early nineties of the 20<sup>th</sup> century till the beginning of the new millennium) Henk and colleagues developed common curricula for (at first four) Interactum -Teacher Training Centres. He was involved in several curriculum renewals at KPZ. He has played a key role and is still involved in the formulation of the ideological basis and the performance of spiritual identity and community-life of KPZ. He is the co-author of several self evaluation reports/critical reflections. He played his part in establishing firm and sustainable relationships between KPZ and school boards as well as primary schools. He is a member of the national task force 'Bildung'. He is a member of the advisory committee for Higher (Vocational) Education.



### **Farid Tabarki**

Chairman of the conference

Farid Tabarki is the founding director of Studio Zeitgeist. He is a sought-after keynote speaker, debate moderator and event host. He advises corporations, educational institutions and non-governmental organisations on their strategy of how to cope with the challenges of the liquid society. Every Thursday, Farid publishes a column in Het Financiële Dagblad, a Dutch daily newspaper, focusing on finance and the economy. March 2016 will see the launch of Farid's first book 'The end of the middle - What a society of extremes means to people, businesses and government'. Farid received the Trendwatcher of the Year 2012-2013 Award. In 2013, Farid became the youngest person on the list of the 200 most influential people in the Netherlands, according to the Volkskrant, a Dutch daily morning newspaper. Farid is a member of various boards and committees. Among other positions, he is a member of Platform Onderwijs

2032, a commission which has presented a vision for Dutch education policy towards the year 2032. Farid is a true world traveller: he wishes to visit all countries of the world. The counter currently stands at 135, with 63 to go.



**Mary Tupan**

Executive director of ECHO

Mary Tupan-Wenno is the executive director of ECHO, Center for Diversity Policy in The Hague. ECHO develops and implements programs in collaboration with universities to improve access and success of underrepresented groups, especially ethnic minorities in (higher) education and at the labor market. For this purpose ECHO collaborates with schools, universities, businesses, governments, student- and community organizations. ECHO challenges herself within a continuously changing society to direct itself to influencing the image of ethnic minorities by revealing their talent through the ECHO Foundation ([www.echo-net.nl](http://www.echo-net.nl)). Mary is a founding member of the European Access Network (EAN 1991) and is currently the President of the Executive Board of EAN. She is also the Vice Chair of the Board of a new global entity GAPS (2016), Global Access to Postsecondary Education.



**Adam Tyson**

Head of Unit for Higher Education and Erasmus, European Commission

Adam Tyson is acting Director for EU education policy, the education strand of the Erasmus+ programme, innovation, the European Institute for Innovation and Technology and the Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions at the Directorate General for Education and Culture of the European Commission. He has previously held posts dealing with EU higher education policies and programmes, the policy coordination of education, youth, culture and sport policies and has led EU work on issues such as combating social exclusion and fighting discrimination. He has been responsible for communication and speechwriting for various Commissioners.



**Ulrike Wild**

Director online and open learning Wageningen University

Ulrike Wild works as program director online and open learning at Wageningen University and Research Centre, Netherlands. She is responsible for strategic questions around open and online learning and leads the implementation of a portfolio of online degree programmes and (free) open and online courses for professional learners. Previously she worked at Schouten and Nelissen, an international organization for training and coaching, as a business development manager and project manager for online program's and as a freelance musician and teacher at the Rotterdam Conservatory. She is a trained work-psychologist and classical musician. Her motto: when the winds of change blow, some people build walls, other build windmills.



**Marcel Wubbolts**

Chief Technology Officer of Royal DSM

Marcel Wubbolts holds a PhD from the department of Biochemistry, University of Groningen, NL, and was Post-Doctoral research associate and subsequently Assistant Professor at the Institute of Biotechnology at the ETH in Zürich, CH leading a research group on biocatalyst development and remained there until late 1997.

Following his positions in academia, he joined the Life Sciences and Material Sciences company DSM in Geleen, where he has held several positions. Since October 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 he is at his current position, responsible for Royal DSM's global Science and Technology portfolio, which is at the heart of DSM's Bright Science. Brighter Living™ brand promise. He is passionate about developing sustainable Scientific solutions that address global challenges in health, nutrition, energy and resource scarcity at DSM, in conjunction with partners from academia and industry. He is a member of boards and steering committees in several scientific organizations and acts a chair of the board of the consortium for biomedical and biobased materials Chemelot InSciTe in Geleen (NL) and as chair of the board of the Biobased Industries Consortium (BIC) in Brussels (BE) as part of the Biobased Industries Initiative called BBI, a JTI partnership with the European Commission in the context of Horizon 2020.