

## PRESS RELEASE

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*European Association for International Education*

### **Constance Meldrum Award presented to Ulf Lie**

At the Closing Event of the 17th Annual EAIE Conference held in Kraków, Poland, Ulf Lie was presented with the EAIE's Constance Meldrum Award for Vision and Leadership.

Ulf Lie has more than 30 years' experience in international collaboration in higher education and research. The Director and CEO of The Norwegian Center for International Cooperation in Higher Education (SIU) in Bergen, Norway, Mr Lie is an outstanding representative of the leaders in international education in Europe. He has earned his reputation both through his groundbreaking work in SIU and through his role as a visionary and generous leader. With SIU, Ulf Lie has created one of Europe's finest internationalisation agencies. SIU manages the ERASMUS Action in Norway, but also all other parts of the SOCRATES programme. The non-bureaucratic and very user-friendly way in which this has been implemented by SIU has been experienced as a blessing by international officers and policy-makers in Norway, and similarly for the implementation of the Nordplus programme, a higher education collaboration programme of the Nordic Council of Ministers.

From the founding of the EAIE, Ulf Lie has participated in all its annual conferences and also encouraged his staff to take part actively in the EAIE's work. Mr Lie has also been a Vice-President of one of the EAIE's sister organisations, the Academic Cooperation Association (ACA) in Brussels. With his informal leadership style and respect for people from other cultures, he has contributed significantly to the present high profile of Norwegian international collaboration and has also greatly aided the image of the EAIE worldwide.

In a break with tradition, Ulf Lie's award is the second Constance Meldrum Award presented by the EAIE this year. At the conference's Opening Plenary, Axel Markert (Director of International Relations at the Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen, Germany) also received the Constance Meldrum Award. The EAIE is delighted to be able to honour both of these men in this way for their vision and leadership in the field of internationalisation of higher education.

#### **Constance Meldrum Award**

The Constance Meldrum Award for Vision and Leadership is dedicated to the memory of Constance Meldrum who was a staunch supporter of the EAIE during her years at the European Commission, where she had worked diligently for the cause of international education. When she died, she left a substantial bequest to the EAIE, which the Executive Board decided should be used for an annual EAIE award for vision and leadership in international education. The Constance Meldrum Award was the first EAIE award ever to be presented, and was launched at the EAIE conference in Vienna 2003. It is given to a senior practitioner in international higher education with a documented track-record of high professional standard over a considerable period of time. The winners are widely recognised figures who have been central to processes as well as results in the field, with abilities such as innovation, leadership and inspiration and demonstrated sustainability, dedication and perseverance. The winners have also been very active in promoting and/or advancing the EAIE as an organisation for professionals.

#### **EAIE conference**

The 17th Annual EAIE Conference was held from 14 to 17 September 2005 in Kraków, Poland. Each year the EAIE conference brings together some 2000 international education professionals, who come to the conference to network and to update themselves on innovations and developments in the internationalisation of higher education.

#### **Further information**

More information regarding the EAIE and the conference can be obtained from the EAIE Secretariat, PO Box 11189, 1001 GD Amsterdam, The Netherlands, tel +31-20-525 49 99, fax +31-20-525 49 98, e-mail [eaie@eaie.nl](mailto:eaie@eaie.nl) or consult the EAIE website: [www.eaie.org](http://www.eaie.org)

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