

## PRESS RELEASE

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*European Association for International Education*

### Successful NAFSA/EAIE Bologna symposium in Amsterdam

On 22 and 23 March 2007, the European Association for International Education (EAIE) and NAFSA: Association of International Educators organised a joint symposium, 'The Bologna Process: advancing transatlantic collaboration in a changing higher education landscape,' which brought together 16 European and 16 American senior professionals in international education for two very intensive days of discussion and debate on the Bologna Process and its impact on transatlantic cooperation.

Fiona Hunter, EAIE President, said afterwards: "I am convinced each one of us came away wiser on the developments of the Process itself but also on the related issues that impact on many aspects of international education on both sides of the Atlantic. The task lies before us now to disseminate the outcomes to ensure that as many colleagues as possible can share the information that emerged."

Diana Bartelli Carlin, Chair of the NAFSA Bologna Task Force, commented: "Our goal from the North American side was to learn as much as possible about Bologna and its potential impacts on study abroad, admissions, joint degree programs, and research collaborations to assist our constituents in making sound policy decisions related to Bologna degrees and to maximise the many collaborative opportunities. The symposium provided an extensive body of information that will fulfill our goals. We are committed to disseminating what we have learned in multiple formats and also look forward to continuing the trans-Atlantic conversation as the Process continues on both sides. The quality of discussion among the participants and their eagerness to share and learn from one another was exceptional."

#### European-US dialogue

The symposium took place in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, and was designed to create a dialogue between European and US colleagues concerning the ongoing developments in the Bologna Process. The event was co-sponsored by NAFSA's Bologna Process Task Force (including three European members) as part of its ongoing effort in 2007 to develop useful, practical information that policy-makers on US campuses can use to respond to the rapidly changing landscape in the European Higher Education Area.

#### Results

The results of the symposium will be featured in sessions at the NAFSA conference in May, in a special issue of NAFSA's *International Educator* magazine in September, and will feed into a toolkit for campus staff and faculty who need to understand the current and anticipated impact of the Bologna Process better. The EAIE will also feature the results of the symposium on its website and in its magazine *Forum*.

#### Further information

For more information, please see [www.eaie.org/seminars/index.asp?wat=past](http://www.eaie.org/seminars/index.asp?wat=past).

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