
ICA in support of change in the Life Sciences

for Agriculture – Food – Forestry - Natural Resources –
Rural Development – and the Environment

Simon Heath

Secretary General



Overview

- ICA in its Landscape
 - ICA and the Standing Committees – synergy
 - ICA Conferences - European & Global Dialogue
 - ICA Representation - Europe & Globally
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ICA's Role

- The only open general network covering all of Europe
 - Supports networking and professional updating through European conferences
 - Acts as an umbrella for the ICA Standing Committees
 - Partnership with global HE associations
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ICA's mission

is to enhance our members' success in the international market place, in Europe and globally, by providing the environment to support the sharing of experience, to cooperate in new ventures, and to benefit from the resulting synergy.

Focus 2014 on Representation

ICA not only aims to benefit individuals and institutions, but aims to represent life science universities at the EU level and globally

- Joint international conferences
 - Affiliate member of EUA
 - Development of the ICA Bioeconomy Task Force
 - Engagement in GCHERA
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ICA's Structure

- ICA General Assembly of Rectors and Deans
 - ICA Council linking ICA Board and Standing Committees
 - ICA Board of Rectors/Deans
 - ICA Secretariat
 - ICA Bioeconomy Task Force
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ICA Board

- **Guido VAN HUYLENBROECK**, ICA President, Ghent University, BE
 - **Martin GERZABEK**, Vice President, University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (BOKU), AT
 - **Jiri BALIK**, Secretary to the Board and Rector of Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague (CULS), CZ
 - **Mika REKOLA**, Treasurer and University of Helsinki, FI
 - **Lena ANDERSSON-EKLUND**, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, (SLU), SE
 - **Astrid BALLESTA**, University of Lleida
 - **Philippe CHOQUET**, Institut Polytechnique LaSalle Beauvais, FR
 - **Valeriy DUBROVIN**, National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine
 - **Krystyna GUTKOWSKA**, Warsaw University of Life Sciences, PL
 - **Agnieszka WOJCIECHOWSKA DE COKERE**, President IROICA
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ICA and ICA Standing Committees

ICA defends general interests, whilst Standing Committees deepen actions in particular fields – together we present shared interests at the European level

Credentials of an ICA Standing Committee

- Responsible for the organisation of a **certain discipline** within the scientific field of the ICA, **or** for certain **horizontal activities** within the general aims of the ICA.
 - The Standing Committee, in terms of governance, **acts independently** of the ICA General Assembly, but is invited to report annually on its activities
 - The Standing Committee signs a **MoU** with ICA which sets out the expectations of both parties for working together
 - The Standing Committee is a member of the **ICA Council** comprising the ICA Board + Standing Committees + Student Association
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ICA Standing Committees

Discipline focused

- **AGRIMBA**, International Network for the MBA in Agribusiness and Commerce
 - **IFA, ISEKI Food Association**
 - **ERABEE**, Education and Research in Bio-systems Engineering in Europe Network
 - **SILVA**, European Forest Science Academic Network
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ICA Standing Committees (2)

Horizontal activities

- **AGRINATURA**, European Knowledge Alliance for Agricultural Development
 - **CASEE**, The ICA Regional Network for Central and South Eastern Europe
 - **ICA-Edu**, The ICA Network for Innovation in Higher Education in the Life Sciences
 - **ISLE: Association for Innovation, Teaching and Sustainable Development in the Life, Applied and Social Sciences**
 - **IROICA**, European Network of International Relations Officers at Higher Education Institutes for Agricultural and Related Sciences
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ICA Conferences

European and global dialogue for
professional updating and networking

Annual Conference Structure

- ICA Forum for Rectors and Deans
 - International scientific OR global policy development conferences
 - Education Conference to support innovation in Higher Education in the Life Sciences
 - new initiative ICA-Edu Standing Committee
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Conferences 2014:

- **ICA Rectors and Deans Forum: Challenges and Policy Implications of the new EU Programming period 2014 - 2020 for Life Science Universities (23 & 24 Oct)**
 - **AMEAS with ACFAVM-APLU-ICA: Food security and Climate Change - the response of Agricultural Higher Education Institutions to the Challenges in Mexico (18 – 21 Nov)**
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ICA Representation - Europe and Globally

To represent and defend the interests of
European life science universities within the EU
and globally

Collaboration with Global Networks

Memorandum of Understanding with

- Association of Canadian Faculties of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine (ACFAVM)
- Association of Public and Land Grant Universities in the US (APLU)

Board Member of

- Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for the Agricultural and Life Sciences (GCHERA)
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Recent Action at the EU and Globally

- ICA has become an Affiliate member of EUA, this engagement has to be developed to be fully beneficial for ICA
 - Successful ICA-APLU-CFAVM conference in 2012
 - ICA Board supported the EU-India conference on food and health 2013 (Ghent University initiative)
 - The ACFAVM-APLU-ICA engagement has been extended towards AMEAS (Mexico) with the planned conference 2014
 - ICA now also endorses conferences from its members or standing committees (under established rules)
 - Establishment of the ICA Bioeconomy Task Force
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The Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for Agricultural and Life Sciences



GCHERA's Profile in development

- GCHERA was established in 1988 with membership of individual universities
- 2011 constitution changed to be a **confederation** of Higher Education Associations, whose members are individual universities and other organisations
- Governed by a Board representative of those Associations

ICA is an example of a higher education association linking universities on a regional basis

Global Networking – GCHERA

to encourage mutual understanding and global co-operation of the global Higher Education Associations, with their member institutions, in supporting innovation, and providing leadership in education, research, innovation and outreach

GCHERA the Confederation

- Confederation of 13 Regional or National Higher Education Associations like ICA
 - Partnership with global organisations
 - GFAR Steering Committee, TAP Global Task Force
 - Linkage to International organisations
 - Linkage to International organisations UNESCO, OECD
 - ★ Student associations – IAAS, IFSA
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GCHERA Steering Committee

- **John KENNELLY** President GCHERA, Canadian Faculties of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine (CFAVM) & University of Alberta, Canada
 - **Ian MAW** Vice President GCHERA, & Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU), USA
 - **Lara HANNA** Vice President GCHERA Conference, & Holy Spirit University of Kaslik, Lebanon
 - **Zhou GUANGHONG** Chinese Association of Agricultural Science Societies (CAASS) & Nanjing Agricultural University
 - **Paul NAMPALA** Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), Uganda
 - **Jose ZAGLUL** (co-opted) Earth University, Costa Rica
 - **Simon HEATH** GCHERA Secretary General
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GCHERA aims to make a difference by

Looking outward and upward:

- GCHERA will support the engagement of universities in the agendas of global organisations

Looking towards the universities:

- GCHERA will enhance the capacity of agricultural and life sciences universities to deliver their mission in education, research, innovation and extension
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GCHERA Making a Difference

GCHERA will support each higher education association member to:

- ❑ **play an enhanced role at the regional or national level** through a shared understanding of the global contexts and innovative approaches in addressing the challenges facing agriculture, food and natural resource management systems
 - ❑ **enhance the success of** its higher education institution members in **delivering graduates** which have the skills, entrepreneurship and creativity to succeed in the global, regional and national contexts.
 - ❑ **incubate collaborations** and joint activities/conferences between the higher education associations to support these actions.
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GCHERA Kick Starting Activities

- **GCHERA World Agriculture Prize** to recognise the distinguished contribution of an individual to the mission of agricultural and life science universities – **a beacon for others to emulate**
 - GCHERA World Dialogue: **Fostering Agriculture Innovation Systems through the linkage of University, Industry and Government**, 20 & 21 Sept at Nanjing Agricultural University
 - Supporting the implementation of **Outcome 4 of the GFAR Mid term Plan** – Collective initiatives fostered to improve capacity in AR4D
 - Member of the **TAP Global Task Force**
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ICA Bioeconomy Task Force

Aims are to:

- Define ICA as representing the European Life Science Universities in the development of the Bioeconomy at the European level
 - Contribute to the implementation of the EU action plan for bioeconomy in education, research and innovation by seeking synergies among ICA members and other EU and international institutions, industries, and networks
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by networking within ICA

we share and gain

expertise and understanding, and

in doing so we become important agents of change

within our **own institutions**



BUT!

**ICA not only benefits individuals and
institutions,
but life sciences as a whole**



ICA

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Association for European Life Science Universities

relating to agriculture, forestry, food, natural resources, rural development and the environment

We aim to enhance our members' success in the international market place, in Europe and globally, by providing a supportive environment to share experience, to

www.ica-europe.info

Who we are

A network of more than 60 life science universities involved in agriculture, food, forestry, natural resources, rural development and the environment <more>

[download ICA Flyer](#)

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Benefit of ICA Membership

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News and Upcoming Events for ICA-Europe

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Mar 12: Launched the GCHERA World Agriculture Prize 2014 - Call for nominations until 3 May 2014. A 50.000 USD award for excellence in leadership in agricultural & life science universities

Jan 16: The ISEKI Food Association (IFA) was elected an ICA Standing Committee at the last ICA General Assembly - see details of this Association

Jan 16: The Association for Innovation, Teaching and Promoting Sustainable Development in the Life, Applied and Social Sciences in Europe and worldwide (I.S.L.E) was elected an ICA Standing Committee at the last ICA General Assembly - see details of this Association

Jan 12: ICA Rectors and Deans Forum 2014 will be held on 23 and 24 October 2014, with the ICA General Assembly on 22 October, at Ghent University, Belgium. The Forum will focus on challenges and policy implications of the

ICA Member Up Coming Events

22 – 24 April 2014, the **II international Forum Agroforum Balticum**, organised by the Estonian University of Life Sciences and the Saint Petersburg State University in cooperation with the Estonian Ministry of Agriculture and the FAO will take place for the second time as a companion of the Agricultural Fair **Maamess 2014**, one of the biggest rural fairs in the Baltic Sea region, in Tartu, Estonia. The topic of the Forum is – fair and free trade in agricultural products.

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