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1. NEW LEGAL STATUS IN EFFECT

The Danube Rectors' Conference is now an international association without lucrative purpose based on Belgian law. This a great chance for the further development of our network. We kindly invite all DRC members to come up with ideas and suggestions for new projects and collaborations using the benefits of our new structure. Currently, we are opening a new DRC bank account. As soon as the new bank account is active, you will receive your membership fee invoice for 2013. For more details about our legal status see our new statute:

<http://www.drc-danube.org/drc-at-a-glance/statute-in-english/>

2. NEW WEBSITE & INTRANET ONLINE

We are very happy to announce the launch of our new DRC website www.drc-danube.org. The new website is very soon also available via www.d-r-c.org. The structure of our new website is clear and user-friendly. Please help us to improve our new web pages by sending comments and suggestions to info@drc-danube.org.

We integrated an intranet solution for DRC members which is easy to use. To get access, open www.drc-danube.org/intranet and enter the current password "478sz". The intranet contains minutes of conferences, forms and detailed contact data. Some files are still missing (especially minutes of previous meetings). If you have some of the missing documents, we kindly ask you to send them to info@drc-danube.org.

And, visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/drcdanube

3. NEW NEWSLETTER SYSTEM

Please note that we changed our newsletter system, too. Now everybody can easily subscribe to our newsletters on www.drc-danube.org or unsubscribe by using the link at the end of this newsletter. Your current address has been already added to our new system. Therefore, you do not have to sign up for the new system.

4. DRC ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN CLUJ-NAPOCA

Prof. Doru Pamfil, rector of USAMV in Cluj-Napoca and acting as DRC vice-president, is in charge to organize our next Annual Conference in Cluj-Napoca, Romania on 7 and 8 November 2013. He cordially invites all DRC members to participate in our upcoming conference. We are on the way to finish a draft program for our 2013 Conference focussed on research and innovation partnerships in the Danube region and we received the confirmation of participation from Commissioner Mire Geoghegan-Quin, Commissionaire Johannes Hahn and Commissionaire Dacian Ciolos. Taking in consideration the subject of the conference, the participation of more than 50 DRC rectors or representatives and the potential impact on the new European Innovation Partnerships (EIPs), your presence will honor our reunion. Our annual conference will be under the patronage of the Romanian Prime Minister Victor Ponta and we have the conformation for the participation of the Minister of Education, Minister of Agriculture and a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The president of the Romanian Academy Ionel Haiduc will present the implication of the Danube Academies in the Danube strategy. Recently DRC signed an agreement with JRC for an initiative to provide Scientific Support to the Danube Strategy and we are hoping to have some conclusions from JRC General-Director Dominique Ristori for the time of conference. Our University of Agriculture Sciences belongs to the ICA and CASSE consortia of Life Science Universities and it was recently classified as the best Agriculture University in Romania. I am acting as the president of the organizing committee for this reunion but also as the president of the Union of Cluj-Napoca Universities which group more than 100.000 students and 5000 staffs in our campuses.

5. DRC SUMMER SCHOOL IN BUDAPEST - CALL FOR APPLICATION

Apply now for the next Summer School in Budapest (July 2013). The DRC Summer School promotes regional co-operation among young social scientists to establish a network of young scientists who deal with the issue of regional co-operation. The 10th edition of the Summer School lies its focus on the countries of the Danube region. Get more information here: www.drcsummerschool.eu

6. DIANET SEMINARS - CALL FOR REGISTRATION

In the framework of the EU project iDIAnet - Danubian Initiative and Alps Adriatic Network, AREA Science Park, the multi-sectoral Science and Technology Park in Trieste (north-eastern Italy) organizes 15 thematic seminars focused on internationalization, innovation and tools to support mobility, addressed to sharing good practices and transfer competences, intended firstly for technical, administrative and managerial staff working for the DIAnet network member institutions. The first three seminars will be held in Trieste, from May 6th to 8th, 2013

Register and get more information here: www.drc-danube.org/2013/03/25/register-now-for-dianet-seminars/

7. CONFERENCE ON "CULTURAL ENCOUNTERS" - CALL FOR PAPERS

The University Network of the European Capitals of Culture has the pleasure to announce the VII. UNeECC General Assembly and Annual Conference held on 17-18 October, 2013 in Marseille, France. The conference will be hosted by EHESS and Aix-Marseille Université. The title of the Conference is "Cultural Encounters. The Mosaic of Urban Identities". The conference focuses on multiculturalism in urban environments. At the same time, it hopes to contribute to the on-going debates on European Citizenship. Click here for more information: <http://www.drc-danube.org/2013/03/25/conference-on-cultural-encounters/>

8. FFG COMET K-PROJECTS - CALL FOR PAPERS

The competence centres programmes launched in 1998 are among the most successful technology policy initiatives in Austria. Today, some 1,500 researchers from science and industry are jointly defined research programmes at more than 40 centres. The programmes are internationally recognised as Best-Practice models. Special support will be given to those research activities which operate at the cutting-edge and which also promise a high international profile. The competences of the players working at the centres are to be bundled to a greater extent than in the past, with the aim of systematically leveraging content-related synergies in order to obtain a global competitive advantage. Finally, the programme should also make a major contribution to developing human resources in Austria with attractive offers for researchers. The programme addresses existing competence centres and networks, as well as new consortia with participants from science and industry. All three programme lines are thematically open. However, every centre and every research project must have a defined theme. More information (in German):

<http://www.ffg.at/ausschreibungen/comet-5-ausschreibung-k-projekte>

9. INTERNATIONAL SUMMER UNIVERSITY IN KOSZEG - SCHOLARSHIPS

"Who is Sovereign? Citizenship in Europe and Beyond". Participate in the Summer University, June 22 - July 7, 2013.

Scholarship opportunity for the International Summer University 2013 in Koszeg. Accommodation and subsistence expenses are covered for 20 CEI students. Apply now if you are a citizen of one of these countries: Albania, Austria, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine. <http://www.ises.hu/news/international-summer-university>

10. INTERNATIONAL DANUBE CONFERENCE ON CULTURE - CALL FOR REGISTRATION

15th/16th April 2013 in Ulm, Germany. The International Danube Conference on Culture is held within the framework of the development and funding programme of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUDRS). To achieve the aim of an international network of arts, culture and politics in the Southeast European region, the conference hosts want to invite cultural policy delegates as well as representatives of arts and cultural mediation. Their aspiration is to exchange experiences involving cultural work in the Danube adjacent states, to introduce implemented projects, to discuss questions of cultural policy and to vitalize the chances of our region of a wide cultural diversity by multinational cooperation. Conference languages are German and English, entrance free. Register here: <http://www.donauakademie.eu/index.php?S=conference>

11. WKO EUROPATAG "WISSENS- UND WIRTSCHAFTSREGION DONAURAUM" - CALL FOR REGISTRATION

Organized by IDM Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe, in collaboration with WKO Austrian Economic Chambers and WIFI. The event will take place on April 22, 2013. Event language is German, entrance free. Register here http://www.idm.at/veranstaltungen/aktuelles_programm/224-930-Uhr-WKOEuropatag-Wissens-und-Wirtschaftsregion-Donauraum--a1395.html

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