EUROPEAN REVIEW

DIVERSIFICATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ACADEMIC PROFESSION

PAPERS FROM THE HERCULES SYMPOSIUM TURIN, ITALY 2009

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Diversification of Higher Education and the Academic Profession

Papers from the HERCULES symposium, Turin, Italy 2009
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From 25th January 1563, when it was founded as a charitable brotherhood, the Compagnia di San Paolo has been an institution serving the society where it has its roots. Today, the Compagnia is one of the largest private-law foundations in Europe, with its own Articles of Association which were adopted in March 2000.

Thus the Compagnia is not a bank, although it proudly continues with the civic and philanthropic traditions which were those of Istituto Bancario San Paolo, neither is it a public body, though it dialogues and collaborates with many public institutions at local, national and European levels. On the other hand it is an active member of civil society, a non profit organisation which, albeit private, pursues aims of public interest and social use, in order to foster the civil, cultural and economic development of the community in which it operates. The revenues generated by its assets accumulated over the centuries, and which we undertake to pass on intact to future generations, are made available for these aims.

In particular, the Compagnia di San Paolo is active in the sectors of scientific, economic and juridical research; education; art and the preservation and valorisation of cultural heritage and activities; health; assistance to the socially deprived categories of society.

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Higher Education, Research and CULTure in European Society (HERCULES) group of the Academia Europaea.

The group was established in 2004 to identify and deliver initiatives relevant to the practises of higher education, research and cultural scholarship at the European level. The focus is always on interdisciplinary topics of broad interest, including preparation of research policy and practise statements on behalf of the Council of the Academia Europaea.

Core members of the group involved in the running of the symposium that formed the basis of the publication of this volume include:

Coordinator: Erik de Corte (Education, Leuven, B)


In 2010 the topic will be “Interfaces of Sciences and the Arts” and in 2011 “Trust in Higher Education: ethical and quality standards in research and teaching”.

The online version of previous publications from the HERCULES series can be accessed at http://fyos.portlandpress.com

Past initiatives since 2000:

- “Formative Years of Scholars” (With the Wenner Gren Foundation). 2005
- “The University in the Market”. (With the Wenner Gren Foundation). 2007
Pre- 2000

- New challenges for the Academic Profession. May 1996. Rotterdam
- Interdisciplinarity and the organisation of knowledge in Europe. September 1997. Cambridge (UK)
- High bandwidth for European Education and Research. 1999. November. Uxbridge (HiBeer)