

## Speakers

### Sultan Abu Orabi

#### Secretary General, Association of Arab Universities

Dr Sultan Abu-Orabi, is an organic chemist, who obtained his PHD from the University of Michigan, USA in 1982. Currently he is the Secretary General of the Association of Arab Universities, which has its headquarters in Amman, Jordan. Professor Abu Orabi previously served as President of Yarmouk University, Jordan's second largest public university, President of Irbid National University, and Tafila Technical University in Jordan. He was also President of the Jordanian Chemical Society and President of the Arab Union of Chemists. He was a visiting Professor at Bahrain University and at King Fahd University for Petroleum and Minerals, Saudi Arabia. Dr. Abu Orabi is an Editor-in-chief of two international chemistry journals, and is a member of many editorial boards. He has as well organized, served on advisory boards, and presented lectures at numerous international conferences. He has also received several research fellowships and awards, and published over seventy papers throughout his career spanning thirty five years.

### John Davies

#### Emeritus Professor

Professor John Davies has a career which includes senior institutional management and international research, consultancy and teaching in the field of higher education policy and management. He is currently an international consultant in higher education, Visiting Professor of Higher Education Management at the International Centre for Higher Education Management at the University of Bath and an International Associate of the Leadership Foundation. His previous positions have included Foundation Dean of the Anglia Business School, Dean of a Graduate School, Pro Vice-Chancellor at Anglia Ruskin University for Research and Enterprise and Pro Vice-Chancellor at La Trobe University, Australia for Quality Assurance and Organisation Development. Since 1970 he has been one of the leading commentators on European higher education management and has been a Principal Consultant with the IMHE programme of OECD, the European Rectors Conference (EUA), UNESCO, Soros Foundation, World Bank and the European Commission. He has been active nationally and internationally in establishing higher education management as a field of study in universities in UK and Europe. He has been Academic Director of the CRE/IMHE programme for New Rectors since its inception in 1979 – 2002; Director of the Southern Universities Management Programme (1977 – 1993); Director of the Australia Vice-Chancellors' Committee Leadership Programme (1991 – 1995); Academic Director of the Latin American Rectors programme (1994 – 1998); Consultant in Higher Education Management with OECD (1977 – present); Chair of the Faculty of the Russian Universities Project of the Salzburg Seminar (1997 – 2005); and Academic Director of various Leadership Foundation International Programmes (2005 – present). He had undertaken numerous strategic consultancy projects in higher education, recently in UK, Wales, India, Turkey, Australia, Republic of Ireland, Netherlands, Argentina, Finland, Sweden, Italy, South Africa, New Zealand and Russia. He is very active internationally as a leader and team member of strategic audits/reviews of universities especially with the EUA Institutional Evaluation project; the International Quality Review Project undertaken jointly by EUA, OECD (IMHE) and ACA; the Salzburg Seminar's Visiting Adviser Programme; the Australian Universities Quality Agency; the Bahrain Quality Assurance Authority for Education and Training; the Irish Universities Quality Board; the Holy See Quality Agency and the Finnish Higher Education Evaluation Council.

**Eva Egron-Polak**

**Member of the Council, Magna Charta Observatory**

Eva Egron-Polak, Secretary General, International Association of Universities (IAU) Eva Egron-Polak was educated in the Czech Republic, Canada and France. She studied French Literature, Political Science and International Political Economy. During nearly 20 years at the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) she has held several senior positions including Vice President, International, prior to becoming the Secretary General of IAU in 2002. At IAU, an independent, global association of universities and associations of higher education institutions based at UNESCO in Paris, Eva Egron-Polak is involved in various policy issues in higher education – internationalization, provision of equitable access to and success in higher education, the contribution of higher education to sustainable development, to the Millennium Development Goals, among others, with a continuing preoccupation with issues of ethics, academic values and higher education's responsibility to society. Eva Egron-Polak is a member of many committees at UNESCO, the European Commission, OECD, etc. She serves as a Member of Council at Mykolas Romeris University in Lithuania, and is a member of international advisory bodies in the Netherlands, Ireland and Romania. She has taken part in system level reviews of higher education in Egypt and Spain. She has co-authored the 3rd Global Survey Report on Internationalization of Higher Education in 2010, and written and presented numerous papers on a variety of higher education topics.

**David J. Lock**

**Secretary General, Magna Charta Observatory**

David Lock has had a varied career in international higher education and university leadership. As Director of International Projects at the UK's Leadership Foundation for Higher Education, David was responsible for instigating and delivering projects with over 30 different countries, some at Governmental level. Projects have included major programmes for Rectors and Ministry Officials to implement national HE reform and autonomy strategies over several years and building partnerships between universities in different countries. Until October 2007 David was the founding Registrar and Acting Chief Executive of the British University in Dubai where he structured, built and then led the University following its legal creation by the Ruler of Dubai as a not-for-profit provider of Higher Education to UK standards. Prior to going to Dubai David was Secretary to the University of Huddersfield and Registrar and Secretary to the University of Hull in the UK for a total of 14 years. A teacher and Chartered Secretary by background, David has served on a number of international bodies and undertaken a range of consultancy assignments including international development and UK HE governance projects. He is Chairman of the Gulf Education Conference and serves on the International Advisory Committee of the British Council. He has been appointed Secretary General of the Magna Charta Observatory in September 2014.

**Mohamed Loutfi**

**Member of the Council, Magna Charta Observatory**

Mohamed Loutfi is a Professor of Internationalisation and the Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) with responsibility for the development and implementation of the University's Internationalisation Strategy at home and abroad. Nationally, Professor Loutfi is a member of the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education's International Governance Group and the British Council - Going Global Steering Committee. Internationally, he is a council member at the Magna Charta Observatory of Fundamental University Values and Rights in Bologna and a member of the board of the European Quality Assurance Agency. He holds a BSc in Economics and Political Science, an MSc in Information Technology and a PhD in Systems Thinking. Before joining Cardiff Metropolitan University, he held the posts of Senior Lecturer, then Principal Lecturer, then Head of Transnational Education at the University of Sunderland, UK. Professor Loutfi has worked on many EU projects for Education Reforms, Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Ukraine, Russia, Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt. He is currently working with the ministries of Higher Education in Lebanon, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia and Morocco to develop a framework for building capacity for leadership in Higher Education through European experiences in this field. In addition to this, Professor Loutfi is currently coordinating six Erasmus Mundus projects; these projects aim to enhance institutional cooperation among partners by facilitating student and staff mobility exchanges.