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## ASSEMBLY OF COLUMBUS MEMBER UNIVERSITIES

### Conference: "Strengthening the role of universities in sustainable development"

Universidad del Pacífico, Lima – Peru  
House H, Room Magna 404  
3rd and 4th of October, 2016.

#### Opportunities, challenges and strategies

Universities are incorporating the environmental dimension into their activities in response to sustainable development's challenges, in an increasingly interconnected and global world. Also, they attempt to meet demands of public and private actors, as well as the recommendations of international and national agencies.

Moreover, various networks have multiplied the initiatives, among which are the Environmental Training Network for Latin America and the Caribbean (ETN-LAC), coordinated by the UNEP (United Nations Environmental Programme); the ISCN (International Sustainable Campus Network); the GUPES (Global Universities Partnership on Environment and Sustainability); the ARIUSA (*Iberoamerican Alliances of University Networks for Environment Sustainability*) and the Global Action Programme on ESD Partner Networks, coordinated by UNESCO.

It should be noted, however, that the demand for greater participation of universities, and education in general, in fulfilling sustainable development' goals and the wide proliferation of networks, have not been accompanied by a greater amount of resources to stimulate concrete action.

#### Objectives

The main objective of the conference is to provide a greater understanding of the opportunities and challenges of universities to meet the sustainable development goals in an increasingly interconnected and global world.

The Conference will include general presentations by representatives of national and international organizations. Experiences and best practices will also be shared. On this basis, bilateral cooperation initiatives and projects that could be driven by the Columbus Association will be explored, identifying strategies to strengthen the contribution of universities to sustainable development goals.

#### Participants

Rectors and senior academic leaders of the Columbus Association member universities and other invited universities.

#### Statement of Principles

Discussions' results will be reflected in a Statement of Principles to strengthen teaching, learning and research collaborative actions in sustainable development. The recommendations will also strengthen the role of Columbus as a catalyst of opportunities for international collaboration.

# PROGRAM

Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>

*Location: Universidad del Pacífico*

8:30 – 9:00

Registration

9:00 – 9:45

## **Opening session**

David Mayorga Gutiérrez, Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs and Rector (Ad Interim), Universidad del Pacífico, Peru.

Prof. Manuel Assunção, President of Columbus and Rector of Universidade de Aveiro, Portugal.

Gunther Merzthal, General Director of Education, Citizenship and Environmental Culture, Ministry of Environment, Perú

Jaime Saavedra, Minister of Education, Peru.

9:45 – 10:45

## **Panel: Sustainable development of higher education: opportunities and challenges.**

Sara Hoeflich, Programme Manager, United Cities and Local Governments. Barcelona, España.

Aromar Revi, Director of the Indian Institute for Human Settlements – IIHS (via web-platform). Bangalore, India.

Guido Schmidt-Traub, Executive Director SDSN, Paris, France (Video-Conference).

*Moderator: Daniel Samoilovich, Executive Director, Columbus Association.*

10:45 – 11:00

Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30

## **Panel: Competencies for an enhanced contribution of universities to sustainable development.**

### ▪ **Applied research: knowledge for decision-making.**

Prof. Carlos Amat y León, ex-minister of Agriculture, Lima, Peru.

Augusto Castro, Director of the Institute of Nature, Territory and Renewable Energies Ciencias (INTE), Pontificia Universidad Católica del Peru, Peru.

- **Incorporating sustainability in university life: Curriculum, teaching, research and liaison.**

Jhoniers Guerrero Erazo, Vice- Rector Academic, Universidad Tecnológica de Pereira, Colombia.

➤ [Debate with participants](#)

- **Fundraising from private sources for environmental sustainability projects:**

Anna Mundell, Partner, More Partnership Ltd. (via Web Platform).

➤ [Debate with participants](#)

*Moderator: Cynthia Sanborn. Vice-Rector of Research. Universidad del Pacífico, Peru.*

12:30 – 14:00

Lunch

14:00 – 15:30

**Panel: Competencies for better contribution of universities to sustainable development. (Continued)**

- **Instruments for measurement and assessment: Sustainable Literacy Test.**

Jean Christophe Carteron, Director of the Sustainable development, Kedge Business School, France (via Web Platform).

➤ [Debate with participants](#)

- **Opportunities and requirements of a certificated environmental management system and Climate Strategy 2011-2015 at the University of Gothenburg – a whole institution approach,**  
Ullika Lundgren, Sustainability Controller, University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

- **Student participation in sustainable development initiatives.**

María Matilde Schwalb, Director of the Center of Leadership, Ethic, and Social Responsibility, University of Pacifico, Perú.

➤ [Debate with participants](#)

*Moderator: Roberto Urrunaga, Deab of the Faculty of Economics and Finance, Universidad del Pacífico, Peru.*

15:30 – 16:00

Coffee break.

16:00 – 17:00

### Identifying collaboration opportunities

- **Sustainable Campus.**

Ullika Lundgren, Sustainability Controller, University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

Kelly Henao, International Innovation Projects Manager, Columbus Association, Bogotá.

- **Benefits of a collaborative action: CityLab Project.**

Enrique Bonilla, Dean of Architecture Department, Universidad de Lima, Peru.

Magalí Boffet, International Cooperation Coordinator, Universidad del Rosario, Colombia.

- **Columbus Hub Academy.**

Kelly Henao, International Innovation Projects Manager, Columbus Association, Bogotá.

➤ [Debate of participants](#)

*Moderator: Felipe Londoño, Rector, Universidad de Caldas, Colombia*

17:00 – 17:45

### Conclusions and Statement of Principles.

Daniel Samoilovich, Executive Director, Columbus Association.

17:45 – 18:00

### Closing of the Conference.

David Mayorga Gutiérrez, Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs and Rector (Ad Interim), Universidad del Pacífico, Peru.

Daniel Samoilovich, Executive Director, Columbus Association.

18:30

Cocktail “dinatoire”

# Assembly of Columbus member universities

(Activity reserved for the members of Columbus' Governing Board)

**Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>**

*Location: Universidad del Pacífico  
House H, Room Magna 404*

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|---------------|--|
| 10:00 – 11:15 | Assembly of Columbus member universities <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Report of the Presidency</li><li>▪ Report of the Secretariat and guidelines for the period 2016-2018.</li></ul> |
| 11:15 – 11:30 | Coffee break.  |
| 11:30 – 13:00 | Strategy and activity planning for 2016-2018   |
| 13:00 – 14:30 | Lunch  |
| 14:30 – 16:00 | Second part of the Assembly: proposal of candidates for the Columbus Governing Board.  |
| 16:00 – 16:30 | Coffee Break.  |
| 16:30 – 17:00 | Election of members of the Columbus Governing Board, for the period 2016-2018.   |
| 17:00 – 17:30 | Conclusion of the Assembly.  |
| 18:00 – 19:00 | Meeting of the Governing Board.  |