



A Snap-shot of Durham Engagement with Coimbra Group Events and Initiatives

Updated January 2023

Prepared by Emma Moore, International Partnerships Manager

2022

- Acting PVC Education **Professor Tony Fawcett** represented Durham at the CG high-level Education Policy Seminar hosted by Uppsala University in November 2022, centred around the theme of Learning Spaces and Environments.
- Five delegates from Durham attended the annual CG conference in May 2022. Along with time for working group meetings, networking opportunities and a plenary session on the theme of Academic Freedom, the programme featured presentations and updates from senior CG delegates and colleagues from the European Commission on topical matters pertinent to European Higher Education, such as the European Degree Label and European Universities (Alliances) initiative. **Professor Charlotte Clarke** was also invited to lead a discussion on research assessment during a closed Rector's Meeting.
- In Academic Year 2022/23 Durham added the University of Graz as an institutional exchange partner; a positive outcome of DU's participation in the CG Student Exchange Network (SEN). The SEN gives DU students access to exchange places at 23 additional universities within the network and in 2022/23, 21 DU students benefited from Durham's participation in this network.

2021

- In April 2021 Durham hosted its first CG event; a full day virtual workshop on the theme of "Employability in the Curriculum" featuring input from the universities of Turku, Dublin, Barcelona, UC Louvain, Edinburgh, and Durham. Led by **Professor Tony Fawcett**, the event brought colleagues together from the CG 'Education Innovation' and 'Employability' working groups to explore approaches to including, and recognising, employability in formal modules and in co-curricular activities.
- In Spring 2021 Durham's **Vice Chancellor** signed up to the [Poitiers Declaration](#), a Coimbra Group initiative highlighting the importance of community engagement and of working in collaboration with the local council.

2019 / 2020

- **Professor Janet Stewart** and **Professor Charlotte Clarke** accepted an invitation to join the CG Social Science and Humanities Working Group. Details on the focus and recent highlights from this thematic working group can be found here: [Social Sciences & Humanities | Coimbra \(coimbra-group.eu\)](#)
- In April 2020 Durham participated in an in-depth survey on the medium to long term impact of the coronavirus pandemic coordinated by the Coimbra Group. Members' policies and practices have

been collated into a report which can be accessed here: [Practices at Coimbra Group Universities in Response to the Covid-19 pandemic](#)

- Durham's former Vice-Chancellor, **Professor Stuart Corbridge**, accepted a nomination to join the Coimbra Group 'Rectors Advisory Group' and contributed to a piece on Brexit for the CG newsletter in late 2019: <https://www.coimbra-group.eu/brexit/>
- In his capacity as Executive Board member, **Professor Danny Donoghue** led the Coimbra Group Benchmarking for Internationalisation project. Results and findings were presented at the CG High Level Seminar on Education held in Tartu in December 2019 which included representatives from the European Commission.
- Four colleagues represented Durham University at the CG Annual Conference held in Krakow in June 2019. This conference included meetings for all working groups, themed key note speeches (Women in the University; Past, Present and Future), campus tours, mix of informal / formal dinners and networking opportunities, live final of the 3MT competition and the AGM. The 2020 Annual Conference has been postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Further Information

For more information, please visit the network's website: www.coimbra-group.eu/ or contact Durham's Coimbra Group Coordinator, Emma Moore: international.partnerships@durham.ac.uk