

PRESS RELEASE

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Professor Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen succeeds Professor Enric Banda as President of Euroscience

The six years mandate of Professor Enric Banda as President of Euroscience has come to an end. Professor Banda handed over officially his presidency to the newly appointed Euroscience President Professor Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen at the General Assembly held at ESOF2012 on 14 July in Dublin.



Euroscience is the grassroots organisation of European scientists and of all those interested in science, technology and their application and relation to society across countries, disciplines and academia, industry and research institutes. It is the voice of research and researchers in Europe, and organises the biennial Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF) events (www.euroscience.org).

Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen was appointed Rector of Aarhus University in 2005. Besides being the President of Euroscience he is Vice President of EUA. He is Vice-Chairman of Universities Denmark (DU). In 2008 he was appointed to serve as a commissioner in the Danish Prime Minister's Africa Commission and in 2010 to the Prime Minister's Growth Forum. During his career he was rector of the Danish Research Academy and chairman of the Nordic Academy of Advanced Study, and he has served as Chairman of the Danish Science Research Council, a number of other funding councils and as chairman of the Board of Trustees of several international agricultural research organizations.

He started his career as an academic in the field of botany, and was Dean of the Faculty of Science at Aarhus University from 1976 to 1979 – a position he left to take up a professorship in Ecuador. He has published a long series of research papers on tropical plants and ecology. Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen has spent eighteen years working abroad, twelve of these at the World Bank, Washington DC, where he formulated strategies for further education, training and research, and managed the planning and implementation of higher education sector investments in a wide range of emerging economies – for example in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Mexico, Venezuela, Indonesia and Iran. During his career he has also published many papers on higher education, science and technology, innovation, and globalisation. His latest publications are concerned change processes in universities exemplified by the case of Aarhus University.

The Euroscience General Assembly members thanked and expressed their gratitude to Professor Enric Banda for his devoted work at Euroscience and its active representation worldwide.

Euroscience would like to equally welcome the new President of Euroscience Professor Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen and wish him a smooth start in his new position.

If you wish to receive more information about this topic, please write to office@euroscience.org.