



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



HRK German Rectors' Conference
The Voice of the Universities

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

DIES IDC LA Alumni Network Meeting 6th Alumni Conference in Latin America Santa Cruz, Bolivia 11 April – 12 April 2025

Scope of the event and the call

This year's Alumni Conference will offer a combination of networking opportunities, workshops, and conference sessions designed to equip participants with critical skills for obtaining European funding and to explore the topic of "Current Challenges and Opportunities in Latin American Higher Education." The event will conclude with the "IDC Alumni Roundtable," a new format designed for meaningful exchanges among alumni and university leaders, tailored to address evolving challenges in Latin America.

The Alumni Conference has two main objectives. Firstly, it aims to strengthen alumni engagement and networking by bringing together alumni of the DIES IDC program. Secondly, it seeks to address the emerging challenges and opportunities for higher education institutions in Latin America.

This call is aimed at all DIES IDC LA Alumni. The meeting organizers invite abstracts for consideration to form part of the 6th DIES IDC LA Alumni Conference in Latin America to be held in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, from April 11 to April 12, 2025. Please note that participation in the conference will be at one's own expense, as we are unfortunately unable to provide funding for travel or accommodation. However, we are pleased to cover the costs of joint meals, including the welcome and farewell dinners, to ensure a warm and engaging experience for all attendees.

Submission of abstracts and roundtable proposals

Abstracts: We invite alumni to submit abstracts that address the conference topic. These may include research results, case studies, and/or presentations based on experiences gained through practice and decision-making. Abstracts must be a maximum of 500 words, excluding references, and should be provided in English. We also invite brief statements for the participation in the roundtable.



Please specify in your abstract whether you want to take part in the conference or in the roundtable!

Please note that alumni are also more than welcome to attend the conference without submitting an abstract.

Conference topic Current Challenges and Opportunities in Latin American Higher Education

In an era of rapid transformation, higher education institutions (HEIs) face both external and internal challenges. From the impact of AI on research and teaching to shifts in the relevance of study programs, universities must continuously adapt. How do these technological and societal changes shape decision-making at HEIs? What new responsibilities do deans and faculty members take on in response to these developments?

We invite contributions that explore these questions and examine how HEIs navigate current challenges and opportunities in areas such as **governance, international collaboration** and **innovation in teaching and research**.

Topic for the Roundtable Artificial Intelligence and the Unforeseeable Future for Higher Education

What opportunities does the use of Artificial Intelligence provide to Higher Education to improve the students' learning experience? Are there any risks and ethical considerations associated with the use of AI in higher education and how can your university/or how has your university reacted in order to ensure responsible use of new technologies? Are there any best-practice examples that we can learn from? Are there any strategies that can be applied to other universities?

Important dates

10 February 2025	Launch of registration for the Alumni Conference
18 February, 2025	Submission of abstracts and proposals (23:59 CET)
26 February, 2025	Notification of acceptance of abstracts and proposals
28 February 2025	Publication of the preliminary agenda
28 February 2025	End of registration for the Alumni Conference
15 March 2025	Publication of the final Agenda
11 April-12 April 2025	Alumni Conference

Review process and preconditions

- For quality assurance, each submission will be reviewed by members of the DIES IDC LA Team.
- Each contribution must have a title.
- Abstracts should be written in English. No other language will be accepted.
- Author name(s), affiliations, and contact details should be provided on a separate title page, in the same document.

Program Committee

The Program Committee comprises members from countries in Europe and Latin America:

- Ms. Yvonne Visarius, *DAAD* (Germany)
- Ms. Iris Danowski, *HRK* (Germany)
- Prof. Dr. Astrid M. Fellner, *Saarland University* (Germany)
- Prof. Dr. Joaquín Marhuenda, *Universidad de Alicante* (Spain)
- Ms. Carolina Madeleine, *Universidad de Alicante* (Spain)
- Ms. Eva Nossem, *Saarland University* (Germany)
- Ms. Natalia Villalba, *Saarland University* (Germany)
- Prof. Dr. Marina Sansiñena, *Universidad del Salvador* (Argentina)
- Prof. Dr. Arbelio Pentón, *Universidad de La Habana* (Cuba)
- Prof. Dr. Carlos Lever, *Tecnológico de Monterrey* (Mexico)
- Prof. Dr. Roberto Cortés, *Tecnológico de Costa Rica* (Cost Rica)
- Prof. Dr. Verónica Botero, *Universidad Nacional de Colombia* (Colombia)
- Prof. Dr. Mónica Bonifaz, *Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú* (Peru)

More information on the DIES IDC LA website: www.idc-latinamerica.com

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