

# Informatics Europe

Informatics Europe (<http://www.informatics-europe.org>) is the association of computer science/IT/informatics departments of universities and research organizations, public and private, in Europe and neighboring areas.

The mission of Informatics Europe is to foster the development of quality research and teaching in information and computer sciences.

Informatics Europe was created as a result of the first two European Computer Science Summits (ECSS), held at ETH Zurich in October 2005 and October 2006, where heads of computer science departments from all over the European region joined forces for the first time to define and promote common policies and study common issues.

Informatics Europe is a nonprofit membership organization; members are organizations such as CS departments of universities as well as public or private research laboratories. Informatics Europe maintains close ties with other academic and professional organizations.

The association pursues its goals through meetings, working groups, newsletters and other activities. Currently five working groups are active, each with a mailing list and a Wiki page:

- Evaluation criteria for informatics research (what are the appropriate measures for evaluating the work of researchers in computer science and information technology?)
- Curriculum issues (what is an appropriate informatics curriculum, how do we assess equivalences for exchange students etc.?)
- Facts and figures (collecting the basic data about informatics in Europe, from the mere list of departments to bachelor/master/PhD graduation figures, faculty salaries etc.).
- Lobbying and strategy (making our voice heard by political authorities and others).

Informatics Europe also publishes the weekly “Tech Watch Digest”, a concise summary of the latest development in the field, with a European accent. Subscription is free and open to anyone; see <http://www.informatics-europe.org/techwatch.html>.

The next annual meeting of Informatics Europe, the European Computer Science Summit 2007, will take place in Berlin on 8–9 October 2007.

Informatics Europe is currently building up its membership; major universities from across the region have already joined. Membership is for the calendar year and covers access to all activities of Informatics Europe; it is the opportunity to engage in contacts with many colleagues facing the same issues, learn from their experience, and help the recognition and progress of informatics in Europe.

*This note was received from  
prof. Bertrand Meyer, ETH Zurich, Switzerland*