



Association for European Life Science Universities

Promoting life sciences through education, research and innovation



www.ica-europe.info



Who we are

Founded in 1988 as the Interfaculty Committee Agraria, ICA is an open network of more than 60 universities from the EU and neighbouring countries (European Higher Education Area). These universities focus on the life sciences relating to agriculture, forestry, food, natural resources, rural development and the environment.

ICA is also an umbrella organisation linking nine ICA Standing Committees which either have a discipline or cross discipline support focus. ICA liaises with other European and international networks, and international student associations.

We aim to

Enhance our members' success in the international market place, in Europe and globally, by providing a supportive environment to share experience, to cooperate in new ventures, and to benefit from the resulting synergy.

ICA an umbrella organisation

ICA links the nine ICA Standing Committees under the umbrella of the ICA Council. The ICA Council acts as a forum to support networking and the initiation of new ventures between Standing Committees and ICA.

AGRIMBA :

International Network for the MBA in Agribusiness and Commerce.

AGRINATURA :

The European Alliance on Agricultural Knowledge for Development.

CASEE :

The ICA Regional Network for Central and South Eastern Europe

ERABEE :

Network for Education and Research in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering in Europe.

ICA-EDU :

The ICA Network for Innovation in Higher Education in the Life Sciences

IFA :

ISEKI Food Association

IROICA :

International Relations Officers' Network of the Association of European Life Sciences Universities.

I.S.L.E. :

Association for Innovation, Teaching and Sustainable Development in the Life, Applied and Social Sciences.

SILVA :

European Forest Science Academic Network.



The benefit of ICA membership

>> Networking

ICA organises and promotes projects/initiatives/conferences that enhance networking in the life sciences to share expertise and understanding. Attendance at ICA conferences and workshops supports the establishment of communities of practice in which the members build confidence in each others capabilities which lead to new initiatives.

>> Professional updating

ICA's conferences and workshops, for university leaders, faculty and administrators, serve as a forum to discuss innovative practice and concerns, act as a clearinghouse for information exchange and provide updates on strategic issues. These conferences and workshops are regularly organised in association with the Standing Committees and our associated international networks (ACFAVM, APLU, CEDIA, GCHERA). The themes focus on education and research issues.

>> European dimension

ICA organises and promotes joint EU applications, supplies member institutions with EU information, and articulates the priorities for life science universities within the European Higher Education and Research Areas.

>> Representation

ICA represents/defends the general interest of its members in EU organisations and European Networks, supports new initiatives, and represents its members in European networks (CEDIA, IAAS, IFSA) as well as with international organizations (ACFAVM, APLU and GCHERA).

Membership of ICA not only benefits individuals and institutions but also life sciences as a whole.

Partnership with enterprises and NGOs

ICA develops strong relationships with its economic environment.

ICA offers its partners:

- access to a stratified network of contacts in the life sciences – a network of competence.
- a gateway to new knowledge.
- an opportunity to influence the development of university curricula to meet the needs of enterprises.
- an opportunity to participate in the quality assurance and accreditation of degree programmes.
- a forum for discussion between universities and enterprises to find ways to facilitate enhanced opportunities for collaboration.
- direct contact to life science students, the future employees of enterprises and NGOs.

ICA works with...

European and Global Networks:

ACFAVM

Association of Canadian Faculties of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine

APLU

Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities in the US

CEDIA

European Federation of Agronomist Associations

GCHERA

Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for Agricultural and Life Sciences

International Student Associations:

IAAS

International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences

IFSA

International Forestry Students' Association

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