Entrepreneurship education and development, especially for SMEs has been receiving increase attention at all level in national economy. The Entrepreneurship Education and Research Network among the Universities of Central and Eastern Europe ERENET, consisting of university academicians, government representatives, experts from business services providers and responsible entrepreneurs, has contributed to the promotion of entrepreneurship at the university curricula, harmonisation and development of entrepreneurial education, evaluation and development of government’s SME national policies, promotion of communication and dissemination of best practices in SME promotion related issues.

ERENET, as an open-ended network based on mutual trust, cooperation and recognition, having more than 150 members from 41 countries, becomes a significant source of entrepreneurship development and has been contributes to strengthening the set of cultural and educational values and promoting the cross-boarder cooperation among the universities and institution in Central-Eastern Europe.

It is my great pleasure to invite you to the Jubilee 5th Annual Meeting of the ERENET to be organized on 20 May 2011 at the Budapest Corvinus University in Budapest, Hungary. It is our great pleasure that this event is coincides with the Hungarian EU Presidency.
INVITATION FROM THE CORVINUS UNIVERSITY OF BUDAPEST

Dr. László Kállay,
Director of the Small Business Development Centre at the CUB

It is my honor to invite you for the 5th Annual Meeting of ERENET. Europe as an economic region has to face one of the biggest challenges of its history. In the dynamically developing world economy European competitiveness seems to be eroding, at least in relative terms. SMEs are one of the determining factors of economic performance in both traditional and new market economies. We have to realize that by now small firms themselves also became players of the global markets, small manufacturers, traders, service providers in China, India, or Brazil may be rivals of small firms in Europe or the USA. National policies to provide favorable legal and regulatory environment or running efficient SME development programs may contribute to the improvement of small firm’s economic performance, while instability, unnecessary involvement of governments or distorting competition will make opposite impact. On the long run education is a key factor of SME development, we have to think responsibly about what we do today. So, we have a lot to discuss, come and join the meeting in Budapest.

INVITATION FROM ESBA

Tina Sommer
President of ESBA

2010 has been a turbulent year for Small and Medium sized Enterprises. The financial crisis seems to have been a wake-up call for the European Union’s Institutions, as they have experienced first hand that without a healthy SME sector it is virtually impossible for a European economy to exist. ESBA has been highly active in helping to shape new policy and legislation affecting small business, and curbing legislation that had the potential to be detrimental to the small business community. Cooperation between ERENET and ESBA has been of continued significance in this respect, which manifested itself, amongst other things, in a joint effort to guide the European Commission from a small business perspective regarding the revision of one of the most important EU policy frameworks for SMEs: the Small Business Act for Europe (SBA). The revised version of the SBA is set to be published only weeks from now, taking on board ERENET and ESBA’s comments.

After the Lisbon Treaty was implemented, the EU published the EU2020 strategy, divided in flagship initiatives, many of which heavily affecting SMEs. At the same time, an academic piece was turned into one of the most important EU communications of recent years when Professor Mario Monti’s report resulted in Commissioner Barnier’s ‘Single Market Act’. This act, which serves the purpose of working towards the completion of the EU Internal Market, consists of 50 concrete proposals, all of which require our undivided attention to ensure that SMEs will not be disadvantaged. For this reason, now more than ever, the cooperation between ERENET and ESBA is of the utmost importance. By sharing knowledge and best practice examples, by combining research and academics with advocacy, we will continue to inform the EU institutions and thereby help shape future legislation, creating a healthy environment for SMEs.

For questions or contributions, please visit our website at: www.esba-europe.org.

Global Entrepreneurship Week connects people everywhere through local, national and global activities designed to help them explore their potential as self-starters and innovators. Students, educators, entrepreneurs, business leaders, employees, non-profit leaders, government officials and many others participated in a range of activities, from online to face-to-face, and from large-scale competitions and events to intimate networking gatherings.

The 5th ERENET Annual Meeting is one of the events highlighted also by GEW.
PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

09.00 – 10.00 Delegate arriving, Registration, Refreshment on arrival + Networking

10.00 – 10.25 OPENING Ceremony
Dr. Tamás Mészáros, Rector of the Corvinus University of Budapest, Budapest
Tina Sommer, President of the European Small Business Alliance
Dieter Ibielski, Presidential Councillor of the Union Mittelständischer Unternehmen e.V., Honorable Member of the ERENET
Dr. László Kállay, Director of the Small Business Development Centre, CUB
Dr. Antal Szabó, Scientific Director of ERENET

10.25 – 10.30 Inauguration of new ERENET Honorable Members
Dr. Tamás Mészáros, Rector of the Corvinus University of Budapest, Budapest

10.30 – 10.40 Development of the Entrepreneurship and SME Policy under the Hungarian EU Presidency
Representative of the Ministry of National Economy

10.40 – 10.50 ESBA lobbying activity to reshape Europe SME support activities in the line of the EU New 2020 Strategy
Tina Sommer, President of the European Small Business Alliance

10.50 – 11.00 Report on the activities of the ERENET Network in 2010 – Future orientation
by Dr. Antal Szabó, Scientific Director of ERENET
Co-referent from the SEE Secretariat
by Dr. Eric Dejan, Director of the Institute of Economic Sciences, Belgrade

11.00 – 11.30 Achievements of ERENET supported projects

Achievement of the V4 project
Dr. Renata Vokorokosová, Assistant Professor, Technical University of Kosice

Achievement of the EDUARO project
Dr. Zsuza Anna Szabó, Dean of the Economic and Administration Faculty of the Petru Maior University

Achievement of TÁMOP project of CUB
Dr. Peter Szirmai, project manager, Former Director of SBDC, CUB

11.30 – 12.00 Cafe Break

12.00 – 13.30 SESSION I: University Entrepreneurial Education in Europe
Chaired by László Kállay
Call for papers and presentations is opened for ERENET members

13.30 – 14.30 Lunch

14.30 – 15.30 SESSION II: Presentation of PhD Students on Development of doctoral theses and about their participation in researches

15.30 – 17.00 Discussion of the ERENET Work Program for 2011-2013
Chaired by Antal Szabó and Eric Dejan
17.00 – 17.30 CLOSING, Roundtable summarizing of the main statement of the conference

For information please contact
Ms. Ágnes Kiss at agnes.kiss@uni-corvinus.hu
or
Dr. Antal Szabó at erenet.hu@gmail.com