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Press release

University 4.0: Konica Minolta Confirms Details for International University Contest Awards Ceremony Taking Place During April

Langenhagen, Germany, 21 March 2017

One year ago, Konica Minolta Business Solutions Europe (Konica Minolta) launched the International University Contest (IUC). Now, a year on, the finalists are confirmed, with the finals taking place in Berlin on Saturday 29th April. In organising the contest, Konica Minolta aims to support tertiary education institutions to build the digital campus 'University 4.0'.

Universities, schools and teaching institutions have to focus on efficient organisation to enhance their competitiveness. As a global leader in IT services, Konica Minolta supports universities in this process with the International University Contest.

For the past year, students from universities based across Europe have had the unique opportunity to work with Konica Minolta to analyse a current document or information workflow within their university and recommend an innovative improvement.

International Award Ceremony in Berlin and Prize

Following a series of local competitions to identify national winners, winning submissions were forwarded to an international judging panel comprising of leading academics and high profile representatives from the digital imaging industry. The international winning team, which will be chosen in Berlin, will get the chance to visit the Pioneers Festival 2017 in Vienna, where smart start-ups will present innovations of the future.

Top-Class Jury and Speakers

Commenting on the awards ceremony IUC international judging panel member Steven Swift, founder of the IMPSGA alliance and industry analyst stated: "I'm looking forward to assessing the entries from the participating universities and meeting the students in person to discuss their projects. This event is a great



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opportunity for students to demonstrate innovation, and for the eventual winners to meet with some of the world's top technology investors and executives at the 2017 Pioneers Festival, which takes place at the Hofburg Imperial Palace in Vienna on the 1st and 2nd June 2017." Other members of the judging panel include Alastair Creelman a leading e-learning specialist from Linnaeus University based in Sweden, and senior managers from Konica Minolta's European business.

Additionally, two guest speakers will join the judges at the awards ceremony in Berlin addressing the theme of innovation. Oliver Csendes the CEO of Pioneers, a platform for connecting corporates with early-stage startups from across Europe and Asia, will provide an overview of this year's Pioneers Festival, and offer a personal welcome to the eventual winners of the IUC who will be lucky enough to attend the festival as part of their prize. Milan Lakhani, client principal and innovation strategist within Konica Minolta's European Business Innovation Centre (BIC) will provide insight into Konica Minolta's approach to innovation, and some of the technologies developed by industry thought-leaders based within Konica Minolta's BIC.

IUC 2018

Following on from the success of this year's contest, Konica Minolta has decided to run the competition again during 2018. Commenting on this year's submissions, Manuel Arroniz, International Business Development Manager at Konica Minolta, said: "It is clear that there is a wealth of student talent keen to contribute to the smooth-running of their university through the application of innovation. We look forward once more to working with students from across Europe and to collaborating further in the creation of the digital campus".

Konica Minolta at the 2017 EUA Conference

In addition to the IUC, Konica Minolta will again take part in the European University Association (EUA) Yearly Conference in Bergen, Norway, which will take place on 6th – 7th April. Here, the company will showcase a number of innovative workflow solutions for the Education sector.

For further information about the Konica Minolta International University Contest, please visit: <http://iuc.konicaminolta.eu/>

About Konica Minolta Business Solutions Europe

Konica Minolta Business Solutions Europe GmbH, based in Langenhagen, Germany, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Konica Minolta Inc., Tokyo, Japan, forming part of its Business Technologies business area. As a leading global services provider in the field of IT- and document processes as well as digital production printing solutions,



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the company excels in services-led business consulting, implementation and management and provides a range of world-leading printing systems and solutions. In this context, Konica Minolta's Optimized Print Services concept (OPS) combines consultancy, hardware, software implementation, and operation in order to enhance business process efficiency and cost-effectiveness. To support customers optimally with powerful and sustainable solutions, technology leader Konica Minolta continuously invests in research and development work and regularly sets new standards.

Konica Minolta Business Solutions Europe is represented by subsidiaries and distributors in more than 80 countries in Europe, Central Asia, the Middle East and Africa. With over 35,000 employees around the world (as of March 2016), Konica Minolta's Business Technologies business area earned net sales of over EUR 6.2 billion in the 2015/16 financial year.

For further information about the company, please visit: www.konicaminolta.eu and <http://newsroom.konicaminolta.eu/>.

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Contact

Melanie Olbrich

Konica Minolta

Business Solutions Europe GmbH

Phone: +49 (0)511 7404-5337

melanie.olbrich@konicaminolta.eu