

Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen has been Rector of the Aarhus University in Denmark since 2005, as well as Vice-Chairman of the Danish Rectors' Conference, Vice-Chairman of Universities Denmark, Chairman of the Nordic Universities Association and a Member of the Board of the European University Association. He started his career as an academic in botany, and was Dean of the Faculty of Science at the University of Aarhus from 1976 to 1979 – a position he left to take up a professorship in Ecuador. Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen also spent 12 years from 1993 to 2005 at the World Bank, where he formulated strategies for further education, training and research, financed these projects, and saw them to fruition in a wide range of emerging countries – most recently Columbia, Chile and Mexico. He has also published many papers on higher education, science and technology, innovation and globalisation. His latest publication (2008) concerns the mobility of talent.