

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

### Planetary Collegium wins the World Universities Forum Best Practice Award

We are very pleased to announce that the Centre for Advanced Inquiry in the Integrative Arts (CAiA) – Planetary Collegium is the 2011 recipient of the [World Universities Forum Award](#) for Best Practice in Higher Education. Each year, the Award recognizes some of the most significant higher education practices, including curricula and research.

Founded and directed by Professor Roy Ascott, the CAiA – Planetary Collegium is a PhD research program located in the School of Art and Media at Plymouth University, with nodes at the Nuova Accademia de Belli Arte, Milan and Hochschule fuer Gestaltung und Kunst, Zurich. The Collegium brings together a geographically and professionally diverse group of people, including artists, scientists, theorists, architects, and scholars, for doctoral and

post-doctoral learning and research. Meeting on-line, and face-to-face in research sessions, conferences and symposia, members of the CAiA – Planetary Collegium focus on the intersection of emerging forms of art and architecture, new media, and technology, science and consciousness. This collaborative — and syncretic — approach, one nominator of the award explained, “opens the exchange of ideas, where discovery, creativity and personal and professional development can flourish, with the support of the exceptional Planetary Collegium’s academic faculty.

The Best Practice Award was announced formally at this year’s World Universities Forum, which was held at the University of the Aegean, Rhodes, Greece in Janu-



ary 2012. This marks the fifth year of the Forum.

The 2012 Forum will continue the discussion of the current role and future possibilities of the university. We are pleased that this discussion will include recognition of the CAiA – Planetary Collegium, Plymouth University, and the inspiration it provides for reinventing the ways in which universities develop degree programs and conduct research.