



European Platform of Women Scientists NEWSLETTER, Issue 14, September 2007

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Editorial

Dear Readers,

The European Platform of Women Scientists is the *voice* of women scientists in EU research policy representing more than 10 000 women scientists all over Europe. To let you get to know the *face(s)* behind that voice, EPWS will portray its member networks and their activities on the EPWS website. Go to "Membership" on www.epws.org to find information on EPWS members in a nutshell as well as links to their websites for further reference and for establishing contact. We thank our members for their support in compiling the information. Up-loading will start mid-October.

Recent information on members' up-coming activities can also be found in this newsletter under the heading "News from EPWS Members". Let us know your activities and we will make them visible at the European level and beyond. Attending each other's events is a great opportunity for members to stay in touch between General Assemblies and might result in common projects and future cooperation.

If established networks of women scientists are very active these months – so are networks in formation!

These initiatives deserve our special attention and encouragement. Furthermore, EPWS keeps close contacts to founders of networks, fostering an exchange of ideas, experiences, good (and bad) practices as well as offering the Platform's support with respect to any questions which might arise.

The Platform feels therefore honoured to have been invited to attend and actively participate in two special network events in October 2007. Founding members of the Network on Ethnicity and Women Scientists (NEWS) will convene in Brussels to discuss their goals and strategies and BASNET – Baltic States Network: Women in Sciences and High Technology will meet in Vilnius to take stock of its past development and project its continuation into the future. The European Platform of Women Scientists wishes both initiatives a successful event and is looking forward to our future collaboration.

EPWS is also continuously acquiring new members. A new set of membership applications is up for decision right now.

Whether you already run a network or plan to create or found a network, whether you are looking for networking partners or want to tap on others' experience – contact us and let us know your goals and activities, your queries and endeavours. We would like to spread the news and we are here to act on it if needed.

Maren Jochimsen
EPWS Secretary General

CALL FOR MEMBERSHIP

Applications for Full, Associate,
Organisations Supporting and Individual
Supporting Membership are

OPEN.

The formal application forms are available online and must be accompanied by several documents according to the type of membership requested.

For further information, please contact
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tel.: +32 2 234 37 51

A Membership Application Form is included at the end of this newsletter.

NB. There will be no membership fees during the year 2007.

PARTNERSHIP OFFER

**EPWS, your successful partner in
European projects!**

To be successful, applicants to European projects need to demonstrate a certain experience in communication and their capacity to disseminate project findings. Should you lack time and knowledge to focus on this issue, EPWS is the solution.

Conveniently located in the centre of the European Union, the European Platform of Women Scientists will be the perfect partner for European project consortia willing to gain high-level expertise in communication and dissemination of information.

EPWS has a strong expertise in dissemination of information and organisation of conferences, as well as the capacity to address the European research community and European research decision-makers. EPWS would therefore be a helpful partner for your project.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you look for a partner to execute the communication and dissemination of information work package of your project.

For more information contact Emmanuelle Causse: emmanuelle.causse@epws.org

News from EPWS Members

1. GARNET - Network of Excellence on Global Governance, Regionalisation and Regulation: The Role of the EU, organises a workshop on “Gender Analysis of Macroeconomic Policy Rules” in Muenster (Germany), on 5-6 October 2007.

<http://www.garnet-eu.org>

2. Delft Women in Science (DEWIS) organises the symposium “Women Sustaining the Future”, in Delft (The Netherlands) on 9 October 2007.

Furthermore, DEWIS organises training for women associate professors and assistant professors 8 October 2007, 27 November 2007 and 10 January 2008.

<http://www.tudelft.nl/live/pagina.jsp?id=ace3c4ca-9096-4e4a-9519-e58c95cc1a91&lang=nl>

3. The Centre for Women in Science & Engineering Research (WiSER), is hosting the conference “From Surviving to Thriving: Women in Science” at Trinity College Dublin (Ireland), on 22 October 2007.

<http://www.tcd.ie/wiser/conference/index.php>

4. BASNET – Baltic States Network: Women in Science and High Technology meets for a conference in Vilnius (Lithuania), on 22-23 October 2007.

<http://www.basnet-fp6.eu/>

5. PROMETEA - Empowering Women Engineers Careers in Industrial and Academic Research organises the international conference “Women in Engineering and Technology Research”, in Paris (France), on 26-27 October 2007.

<http://www.prometea.info/conference2007/>

6. The National Contact Centre - Women and Science, from the Czech Republic, organises a series of events in Prague in the framework of the FP6 project “Stimulating Policy Debate on Women and Science Issues in Central Europe”: the conference “Trans/formations: gender, science and society” (1 November 2007), the workshop “Feminism in Academia” (2 November 2007) and the workshop “The PhD studies. Reflections on the process of the studies – mobility – responsible research” (8 November 2007).

<http://www.zenyaveda.cz/html/index.php>

7. *Femmes et Sciences* (Women and Science) will organise the seminar “Sciences et techniques: un avenir pour filles et garçons!” (Science and technology: a future for girls and boys!) in Paris, on 24 November 2007.

http://www.int-evry.fr/femmes_et_sciences/accueil/index-2.htm

The role of JRC in promoting women scientists



“The JRC must do its bit to raise the profiles of talented women scientists”, says Dr. Anneli Pauli, Deputy Director-General of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) and former Vice

President of the Academy of Finland.

In an interview with Cordis, Anneli Pauli recently addressed the issue of women in science and the role that her institution should play in promoting them.

The JRC performs well in recruiting women at senior management level, with three women nominated for top positions in 2006. However, the case is different at the middle management and expert levels, where the JRC counted 360 women among its 1476-strong staff in 2004.

Commenting on these data, Anneli Pauli states: “This is a common phenomenon, it's the same in the Member States and it's not very encouraging”. She adds “some women don't get started in their career, and many work part time because of children. (...) Societies in Europe in general are not planned to promote equality. It's a structural problem”.

In relation to the JRC's short-term priorities, Dr. Pauli considers that the ex-post evaluation of the Sixth Framework Programme calls for particular attention on the gender balance within the panel. “We are not always happy in terms of the gender balance in the panels, but at least we are keeping an eye on it”. JRC is a research based policy support organisation and an integral part of the European Commission. It is a Directorate General, providing the scientific advice and technical know-how to support EU policies.

Source:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS&ACTION=D&SESSION=&RCN=28265

For further information on the JRC, please visit:
<http://www.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

Better use of European research, innovation and cohesion funding

On 10 September 2007 the European Commission presented a policy paper, which offers guidance to national and regional authorities on how to interlink Cohesion Policy programmes with innovation and research funding under the Seventh Research Framework Programme (FP7) and the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP). Furthermore, the document proposes a number of ways in which the Commission will work to enable the various sources of funds to be used in the most effective way. The paper also clearly calls upon Member States and the regions themselves to play a leading role in making the best use of the European funds at their disposal to harness their research and innovation potential, in order to develop economically.

The European Commission proposes various actions to make better use of European funding:

- A practical guide, by the end of the year, to help research institutions and companies to identify the most appropriate source of funding for them.
- Improving information exchange with national/regional authorities so that they know what organisations receive FP7 and CIP grants, with a view to providing complementary support from national, regional and European funds.
- Regular events at which those involved in research, innovation and regional development can come together to share ideas, exchange best practice and access support and advice.

For further information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=newsalert&lq=en&year=2007&na=na-100907>

European Commission - the world's largest public investor in nanotechnology

On 6 September 2007, the European Commission (EC) adopted the Communication

"Nanosciences and Nanotechnologies: an action plan for Europe 2005-2009. First Implementation Report 2005-2007".

According to this document, the EU's 6th Research Framework Programme (FP6) accounts for one-third of total public funding for nanotechnology and is the world's largest single funding agency worldwide for the field of nanosciences and nanotechnology this field, with €1.4 billion allocated to 550 projects.

Under FP7, EC funding for nanotechnologies and nanosciences is expected to increase significantly. The average yearly funding is likely to be more than double that in FP6, taking into account actions across the programme. In addition, the Risk-Sharing Financing Facility established by the Commission jointly with the European Investment Bank should provide access to new funding sources.

For more information on the report:

http://ec.europa.eu/nanotechnology/policies_en.html

For more information on nanotechnologies at EU level:

<http://cordis.europa.eu/nanotechnology/>

Prizes of the EU Contest for Young Scientists awarded

Teams from Germany, Hungary and Ireland won the three first prizes of €5000 each at the 19th European Union Contest for Young Scientists, held in Valencia (Spain) on 14-19 September 2007.

The projects, selected from among 81 entries by an international jury of 15 experts, covered a wide range of scientific disciplines, from astronomy and earth sciences to biology, medicine and social sciences.

Other top prizes went to projects from Austria, the Czech Republic, France and Israel.

The contestants in the projects are aged between 14 and 20, representing 30 countries from across Europe, as well as China and the United States, and covering a wide range of disciplines.

The European Union Contest for Young Scientists is part of the EU's Science in Society programme. Its aim is to encourage young

people to pursue their interest in science and embark on scientific careers.

For further information:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/youngscientists/valencia/press-centre_en.htm

Bibliography of ILO tools for gender mainstreaming

The Bureau for Gender Equality has compiled an annotated bibliography of tools that have been developed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) over the last few years to promote gender equality in the world of work. The 134 tools included in the bibliography have been compiled from across the ILO's sectors and field offices and have been organised in seven categories comprising good practices; guidelines and training material; reports and case studies; discussion and working papers; briefing notes and information sheets; books; and audio-visual material.

For more information:

www.ilo.org/dyn/gender/genderresources.details?p_lang=en&p_category=NEW&p_resource_id=538

TANDEMplusIDEA - mentoring and human resource programme

The IDEA League – Imperial College London, TU Delft, ETH Zürich, RWTH Aachen and the associate member ParisTech – develop the EU funded project TANDEMplusIDEA. Foreseen to take place from 2007 to 2010, the project involves the development, implementation and evaluation of a human resource programme for qualified female researchers.

As a modular mentoring and human resource development programme, TANDEMplusIDEA supports female scientists to apply for and to obtain a professorship in natural science and engineering.

The programme supports 16 participants (four from each of the universities) to plan their scientific career and to help them build and consolidate relevant networks.

For further information:

<http://www.idealeague.org/tandemplus/index>

Upcoming Events

1. *The Future of Science and Technology in Europe*, Lisbon (Portugal), 8-10 October 2007
http://ec.europa.eu/research/conferences/2007/fst/index_en.htm
2. *FemStart – Fostering the Public Debate on University Support of Female Scientists to Start a Business*, Wrocław (Poland), 17-18 October 2007
www.femstart.eu
3. *The governance of European universities post 2010: mission diversity, autonomy and accountability*, Wrocław (Poland), 25-27 October 2007
<http://www.eua.be>
4. *The University in the Market*, Stockholm (Sweden), 1-3 November 2007
<http://www.acadeuro.org>
5. *Surviving as a Woman in Science*, Welwyn Garden City, (UK), 2 November 2007
<http://www.lifescienceevents.com/blog/archives/2007/5/10/2935244.html>

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References

Articles published in the EPWS Newsletter are based on articles featured in different EU publications and information portals, booklets, advertising, seminars, conferences, etc.

Membership Application Form

Please fill in this form in **CAPITAL LETTERS** and **READ** all necessary documents on <http://www.epws.org>

Name of Association:
Name(s) and position(s) of the person(s) authorised to represent:
1.
2.
Address:
Telephone Number/ Fax Number:
E-mail:
Website:
Research Area(s) Covered:
Membership Type Requested (fee for 2008)¹
Full Member (120 €)
Associate Member (100€)
Individual Supporting Member
Professor (30€)
Researcher (30€) (please specify)
Student (no fee) (please specify)
Supporting Organisation
Choice of Standing Committee
Monitoring the Policy Debate
Gender Dimension in Science
Promotion of Women Scientists
Information and Public Relations
Structural Reinforcement
Is your organisation/are you a member of any other network(s)?
I accept EPWS' Terms and Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> (online at www.epws.org)
Date, Place, Signature :

Your personal data are for EPWS internal use only and will not be transmitted to third parties.

¹ **NB: There are no membership fees for 2007**