

Marie Curie Fellows Association



Letter to Members

Autumn 2011

Dear MCFA Member,

Welcome to the Autumn issue of the Letter to Members with news concerning our Association!

The MCFA Board

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Life of the Association

MCFA Workshop and Annual Meeting

3-4 December 2011, Leuven, Belgium

The 2011 MCFA Workshop and Annual Meeting will be held in Leuven, Belgium at the Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe. Registration is open until 20 November 2011.

For detailed programme and registration please visit:

<http://www.mariecurie.org/Drupal/content/mcfa-2011-workshops-meetings-03-04-december-2011-leuven-belgium>

MCFA Irish National Group Meeting

18 November, Dublin, Ireland

We would like to invite you to the meeting of the Marie Curie Fellowship Association – Irish Section on 18th November 2011. This meeting aims at rebuilding the MCFA – Irish Section group and bring up suggestions for future activities, to discuss issues associated with working in Ireland under Marie Curie Fellow contracts, and to communicate in an informal manner your own experience as a Marie Curie Fellow in Ireland.

The meeting will take place in room A008 in the Health Science building at University College Dublin. The building is marked number 26 on the Belfield campus map, which you can download from <http://www.ucd.ie/maps/>. As indicated above, the meeting will commence at 2.00 pm and finish around 5.00 pm. Light refreshments will be served during the meeting.

If you are interested in attending, please e-mail elena.martines@ucd.ie to confirm a place.

If you would like to give a short and informal presentation on your personal experience as a Marie Curie Fellow, please let us know at your earliest convenience so we can prepare the agenda accordingly. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need more information and wish to suggest an item to be discussed. We want this meeting to be your meeting. We look forward to seeing all of you there!

MCFA Science Policy

Written response to the EU public consultation on Green Paper – towards a Common Strategic Framework for EU research and innovation funding

Dear Members,

The Science Policy Group of the MCFA has recently submitted a written response to the EU public consultation on the Green Paper – towards a Common Strategic Framework for EU research and innovation funding. The document is published online at

http://ec.europa.eu/research/csfr/pdf/contributions/post/international_organisations/marie_curie_fellows_association_-_mcfa.pdf#view=fit&pagemode=none

The collection of all the responses are available at:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/csfr/index_en.cfm?pg=responses

The MCFA would like to specially thank all of you that have contributed to this document during the 2 phases; answering first the selection of 12 questions and later

the full online survey (28 questions). We would like to highlight the importance of your participation (92 participants), as this has allowed us to elaborate a document including the concerns and suggestions relevant to the members of the association.

If you have not joined the Science Policy Group yet, but you would like to

participate in our activities (or just be informed), please join our mail list:

http://mariecurie.org/mailman/listinfo/mcfa-science-policy_mariecurie.org

Best Regards,

The Science Policy Group

Careers, funding, and networking opportunities

Marie Curie Career Integration Grant

The call for the Marie Curie Career Reintegration Grants (CIG) is open with the next deadline on 06 March 2012.

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/people?callIdentifier=FP7-PEOPLE-2012-CIG>

Marie Curie International Research Staff Exchange Scheme

The call for the Marie Curie International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES) is open with deadline on 18 January 2012.

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/people?callIdentifier=FP7-PEOPLE-2012-IRSES>

Marie Curie Initial Training Network

The call for the Marie Curie Initial Training Networks (ITN) is open with deadline on 12 January 2012.

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/people?callIdentifier=FP7-PEOPLE-2012-ITN>

ERC: Gender aspects in career structures and career paths

This call for proposals aims at supporting ERC monitoring and evaluation strategy (gender aspects).

Deadline: 12 January 2012

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/ideas?callIdentifier=ERC-2012-Support-1>

COST call for research networks

COST invites researchers throughout Europe to submit proposals for research networks and use this unique opportunity to exchange knowledge and to embark on new European perspectives. A continuous Open Call for Proposals is used to attract the best proposals for new COST Actions. Next collection date is 30 March 2012 at 17:00 Brussels time.

http://www.cost.eu/participate/open_call

European Cultural Foundation Grants

ECF's grants programme stimulates transnational cultural collaboration, artistic

expression and the mobility of artists and other cultural players. The grants programme is devised as a two-way flow that empowers both the cultural scene and the ECF.

All kinds of artistic and cultural expression are supported: music, visual arts, theatre, dance, film, documentary, multimedia, photography, design, fashion and cultural-capacity building.

ECF has three different grant schemes

- Collaboration Grants are awarded to cultural organisations working together across different countries in wider Europe (EU Europe and EU Neighbourhood region) on multidisciplinary artistic projects.

Next deadline: 01 May 2011

- Balkan Incentive Fund for Culture (BIFC) Grants are awarded to cultural initiatives conceived by organisations in, or cooperating with, the countries of the Western Balkans

The grant scheme operates on a rolling basis throughout the year, with quarterly reviews of submitted applications.

- STEP Beyond Travel Grants are awarded to up-and-coming artists and cultural workers (priority is given to individuals up to 35 years and/or in the first 10 years of their career) travelling between EU and countries directly bordering the EU.

This grant operates on a rolling basis, so you can apply at any time.

<http://www.eurocult.org/grants>

Become an FP7 Expert Evaluator

Being an expert evaluator for Research Activities of FP7 is a useful experience to understand the EC evaluation system. You can register in the database at the FP7 Experts Management Module (<https://cordis.europa.eu/emmfp7>) from which evaluators are selected based on expertise and experience criteria. Remuneration will be in the form of a payment per day worked, plus travel and subsistence expenses.

Past meetings with MCFA participation

Marie Curie Researcher Symposium

25-27 September 2011, Warsaw, Poland

25-27 September 2011 a Marie Curie Researcher Symposium was organised under the auspices of the Polish presidency. Not only did we go this way to the country of Marie Curie, but it was also the 15th anniversary of Marie Curie actions and the occasion to launch the

forthcoming alumni platform, about which we write in another article. Several hundreds of Marie Curie fellows, both current and alumni, participated.

The Symposium was held at the exciting venue of Warsaw, the city of Marie Curie. Exactly for this reason the start of the symposium was a tour in the footsteps of Marie Curie, and a tour guide on paper was provided for those who came later. The tour included places related to the life

of the scientist, both personal and scientific, as it is shown in another article of the LtM.

The second social event on Sunday the 25th was a Chopin concert, after a short reception.

The conference itself lasted one and half days. It featured plenary and parallel sessions.

The plenary sessions were organised according to the topic of the conference:

“SCIENCE – Passion, Mission, Responsibilities”:

"PASSION: Scientific career"

"MISSION: Science and challenges"

"RESPONSIBILITIES: Science for society"

The last of these took place on the second day, on the first day being a special session "towards the Nobel prize".

In the first plenary session, the one on "passion" Marie Curie alumni and MCFA advisory board member, Silvia Giordani, Research Lecturer at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, talked about outreach activities of research.

The research content was shown in the parallel sessions, organised in six panels:

- Energy, transport, climate change,
- Health and well-being,
- Efficient use of resources and raw materials
- Biodiversity, safe food and sustainable agriculture,
- Advancement of knowledge base,
- Society, heritage, economy

There were a few oral presentations (about six) for each panel, and several poster presentations, while for all

participants the abstracts were published in the conference book. Parallel sessions of oral presentations took place on the first day, while on the second day took place the poster presentations. The oral sessions were chaired by EC officials. Gianna Avellis and Maria Bostenaru Dan took part in the "Society, heritage, economy" session.

The third social event took place at the end of the second day, allowing to do a trip in the space of stars projection and visit the exhibition at the conference venue, the Copernicus centre, just before the dinner. At the dinner itself the place was lighted in the memory of Marie Curie, and an anniversary cake for 15 years of Marie Curie actions was done.



There was a small exhibition part, featuring also a Marie Curie booth. The booth was managed by Gianna Avellis, MCFA board member and head of the M-Wiset group. Apart of interesting talks to the fellows, who would wish to join different working groups, a highlight of the booth was the distribution for the first time of the booklet on Role models for mobility of MCFA women scientists, edited by Reia M. Chmielowski and coordinated by Gianna Avellis, layout Corinne Martin, 2011 by the Women in Science working group (m-WiSET) Marie Curie Fellows Association. The booklet has 32 pages and we hope to have soon an online version of it.



Maria Bostenaru Dan and Gianna Avellis

In the closing session the Marie Curie Alumni Association online platform was launched. This can be reached at the address

<https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/>. More functions are expected to come next year. Then the prizes for the contest "Promoting science: let's be innovative!" were given, in three categories: DVD, photograph and comics, together with four honorary mentions, mainly for text.



Guggi Kofod and Maria Bostenaru Dan

Also the chair of the MCFA, Guggi Kofod, participated to the event, which took place jointly with the People Advisory Board meeting of the EC.

Maria Bostenaru Dan

Training, Career and Mobility of Researchers in the Innovation Union

28-29 June 2011, Budapest, Hungary

Gianna Avellis and Maria Bostenaru Dan attended the EU Presidency Conference in Budapest, which closed the Hungarian presidency of the European Union. The conference was organised by the Science and Technology Foundation (TÉT alap), together with EURAXESS, the National Innovation Office of Hungary, and the Hungarian Association of Women in Science (Nők a Tudományban). The conference enjoyed a wide participation, of about 200 delegates from numerous European countries. Many interesting issues were addressed in the two days conference with Opening Remarks done by representatives of the Commission DG, such as DG Research and DG Education and Culture, and of Hungarian Academy of Science. The main issues addressed the first days concerned how the research profession contribute to the Innovation Union and Intersectoral mobility with face to face presentation and round table discussions. The objectives of the second day were to Preparing the Future Generation of Researchers with an interesting roundtable on industry-university partnerships sharing best practices and increasing the attractiveness of S&T careers. The roundtable was managed by Frank Heemskerk, CEO, Research and Innovation Management Services, Belgium, a former Marie Curie Fellow.

During the conference it was discussed not only how research and researchers can help to improve the competitiveness of the European Union, but also about the improved prospects a research training gives to employability of EU citizens. One of the ideas discussed was that a better infrastructure stimulates return of researchers, and the member countries should strive towards that. Also internationalisation is an attractive point, for which reason an interesting idea from Norway was presented, the so-called 20%

professorship, which would give the possibility to work in industry and part-time research, or in two different countries (including non-European countries). Another interesting aspect arising from the presentations is the difference in the problems in Western and Eastern Europe, the last having more the problem of fighting nepotism and inbreeding, instead of low female representation. Also directions doctoral training, and recognition of titles across Europe were discussed. A problem which led to lively discussion from the public was the question of learning the language of the host country during mobility, instead of promotion of English.

Very interesting for the Women in Science WG inside MCFA was the part of the second day on Career Paths and Mobility of Women Researchers. The MCFA was represented by Gianna Avellis, administrative board member who presented the m-WISET, summarising both her own experience and experiences gathered from other MCFA women in sciences.

Also administrative board member Maria Bostenaru Dan was invited by the European Commission to share the experience of a female Marie Curie researcher, who benefited from EC Marie Curie funding in Italy and for reintegration and from national funding in Germany. There were presentations on gender related initiatives of the European Commission and gender aspects of European partnership for researchers by Fulvio Esposito from University of Camerino, Italy. Then followed the presentation by the president of the association EPWS (European Platform of Women in Science) discussing mobility in a gender-sensitive scientific culture, Brigitte Muhlenbruch, followed by the presentation of MCFA Gianna Avellis on

mobility issue in mobile women in Science Engineering and Technology. She showed the bad and good news on the mobility starting from some case stories of MCFA Women of the Women in Science WG to conclude with some hints and suggestion on a common policy to reward mobility.



Gianna Avellis from MCFA

The next presentation by Prof. Francesca Bettio, University of Siena, Italy concerned the challenges and opportunities for women in today's Europe. Finally, Maria Bostenaru Dan presented her own experience with mobility sharing with the audience the experience of a Marie Curie Fellow. The concluding Panel included the overall conclusions of the conference made by Maria Hinsenkamp, MEISc, director, rapporteur of the conference.



Maria Bostenaru Dan from MCFA

It was an interesting and fruitful conference for the contacts developed especially with the DG Research which pointed out some recent studies on

mobility done by the MORE study with facts and figures on European mobility.

The talks are on the webpage of the conference:

<http://www.tetalap.hu/eumobility/programme/presentations>

*Gianna Avellis
Maria Bostenaru Dan*

Global Summit of Women

5-7 May 2011, Istanbul, Turkey

Gianna Avellis participated to the international conference GLOBAL SUMMIT OF WOMEN 2011: Women – Bridging Solutions to the 21st Century, on 5-7 May 2011. It was a truly international forum hosted by Turkey in the lovely city of Istanbul. We were 1,000 strong women from 81 economies, who explored in three days ways of advancing women's economic futures – from micro entrepreneurship to women in corporate leadership – the full gamut of women's economic activity.

We learned so much from Credit Suisse's Marisa Drew who gave a brilliant comprehensive presentation on Megatrends affecting the global economy. We were moved by Namibia's First Lady, who reminded us that simple eloquence coming from the heart can be more effective in motivating listeners. We were impressed by the entire Malaysian delegation, led by their charming First Lady, who gave a spirited, organized 'pitch' for holding the 2013 Summit in their country. We were inspired and moved by U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon, who articulated so well and with passion the need to include women in every facet of global development. Above all, we connected, learned from, and enjoyed the company of participants from so many nations who reminded us

that in the end we are all women who share the same challenges but who persist to move forward no matter what the odds.

I know that we can truly bridge cultures and pull each other up to lead in our respective circles of influence.

Gianna participated besides the plenary sessions also to the parallel breakout sessions on Leadership Tracks, such as Effective Mentoring for Professional Growth, Communicating effectively in the workplace, the Business Case for Work/Life Policies and Practices, and Leading Teams Effectively. They were all very interesting and stimulating sessions.

Next year The GLOBAL SUMMIT OF WOMEN will be held in Athens, Greece, and we are looking forward for another exciting, dynamic and productive global forum.

Gianna Avellis

ITWIIN 2011 awards of the Best Women Inventor and the Innovator 14 June 2011, Torino, Italy

Gianna Avellis participated to the awards and Conference of ITWIIN (www.itwiin.it), the Italian Women Innovators and Inventors Network (the Italian branch of EUWIIN-the European Women Inventors and Innovators Network). It assigned in Torino, at the Congress Center TORINO INCONTRA, the awards of the 2011 edition of ITWIIN AWARDS AND CONFERENCE event. 8000 € plus consultancy services, which also include a program of contacts with venture



capitalist of California, USA, have been assigned to the Best Inventor (M.G. Clemente of the Johns Hopkins University) and to the Best Innovator (D.Ducato from Guspini in Sardinia), to the bet industrial design project (S.Pezzetti of Torino) and the most brilliant communicator (M.Carello of Torino Politechnic).

The award followed the conference "Women Experiments and Experiences from the risorgimento laboratory to the web 2.0" which faced the issue of the 150 years of the rapid change of the role, careers and results (scientific and technologic) gained by women in 150 years of Italian history. The president of the Association Rita Assogna explained the peculiarity of the Association, which recognise, also economically, the merit and exploitation of the results. Introducing the conference the moderator Elisabetta Durante underlined the importance of proposing role positive models to encourage the young women- and the women in general- to believe more in their own possibilities, to experiment new roads, also of entrepreneur type of roads, and to not remain alone, but to use all the tools and the resources available and to offer information, orienting, and support.



Elisabetta Durante, ITWIIN, UGIS, DISTI

A clear framework rich of hints has been given by the President of Bridges to Italy (business association based in Los

Angeles) Bianca Dellepiane, the President of Confindustria Piemonte Mariella Enoc, the history of science expert Paola Govoni, the expert of the technological transfer Shiva Loccisano (Politecnico di Torino), the scientific director of Telethon Lucia Monaco, town councillor Ida Vana, also representing Torino Wireless, the representative of ANFeA (Ass. naz. Fisica e Applicazioni) Silvia Viscomi. In particular, the President of UGIS (Unione Giornalisti Italiani Scientifici) Giovanni Caprara, journalist of the Corriere della Sera, pointed out the strategic role of the information, by underlining the difficulties in communicating science through Italian media. He mentioned that the New York Times has 24 scientific editor, le Monde 5 scientific editors and these numbers are not conceivable in Italy.

The projects presented by the candidates have been selected first by a technic jury, then the finalists have been examined by an entrepreneurs jury to which each candidate presented in 5 minutes time the results, the essential specifications and the main potential of their own project. There have been very interesting news in medical, pharmaceutical, energy, ambient fields and others.

ITWIIN 2011 AWARD: BEST WOMEN INVENTOR AND INNOVATOR

WINNERS

BEST INVENTOR

Maria Grazia Clemente. 47 years old, born in Sassari (SS), work in the sector of pediatric gastroenterology in Baltimore (MD), U.S.A., at the "Pediatric Liver Center" of the Johns Hopkins University. The work presented consists in the determination of the IgA anti-F actina with a new serologic method for the diagnosis of the internal mucosal lesions of the small intestine caused by gluten in people affected by the celiac disease.



ITWIIN best inventor M.Grazia Clemente, in the center between the two past ITWIINERS and Rita Assogna and Evelina Dapuzo (Soart, Torino).

BEST INNOVATOR

Daniela Ducato, 51 years old, born in Cagliari, work at Guspini (VS-Sardinia) in

the sector of bio-construction, architecture, solar Energy, ecodesign, biologic agriculture. She presented a entrepreneur project for the production and distribution of the materials realised with the surplus of agriculture, apiculture, and sheep farming. The products are certified with zero emission, zero petroleum and zero waste of agricultural soil and water resources. They are specific for the architecture, the building, the thermal solar, the energetic capitation, the biologic agriculture and the ecodesign.

Gianna Avellis

Publications

Research Media Interview with MCFA Chair Guggi Kofod

Research Media, Europe's Leading Portal for Dissemination (<http://www.research-europe.com/>) has published an interview with Guggi Kofod, Chair of MCFA. He talks about the mission of the association and highlights the impact the Scientific Visa has made in easing researcher mobility across both EU Member States and Third countries.

The interview is available at:

<http://www.research-europe.com/index.php/2011/05/guggi-kofod-chair-of-the-marie-curie-fellows-association-2/>

Sensitizing the Laboratory

Observing science at the Plasma & Materials Processing (PMP) - laboratory (Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands)

Aline Reichow is enrolled as master student in the interdisciplinary field of Science and Technology Studies at

Maastricht University (The Netherlands). As part of her MSc thesis entitled 'Sensitizing the Laboratory', she has been working for two months in the Plasma & Materials Processing (PMP) group at the Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e). Her project is linked to the NWO VICI project 'Sonic Skills: Sound and Listening in Science, Technology and Medicine, 1920s-now', whose project leader is Prof. Dr. Karin Bijsterveld.

"My project 'Sensitizing the Laboratory' tries to understand how natural scientists use their five senses to generate knowledge in laboratory settings". To answer this research question Aline observed the daily work routine at PMP group and observed how researchers use their senses and sensory skills while working with specific technologies in the laboratory. "One of the things I found is that most instruments in the lab have mechanisms that make specific sounds. For example, starting a plasma in a generator produces a certain latching sound of the moving shutter inside the

generator. This sound is used as an indication of the proper working of the instrument during an experiment. Whenever this specific sound is missing or changed (e.g. to a scratching sound), the researcher knows that the instrument is not operating normally anymore". Sounds are a good indication to assess if the equipments are working properly or not, and allow scientists to make the necessary interventions to make the setup function correctly again. This auditory information can only be interpreted by experienced researchers and technicians. "For a novice in the lab, the same scratching sound of the plasma generator is only an undefined sound without any meaning. This kind of implicit understanding of the sound of the generator needs to be gained by training under guidance of experienced scientists and technicians". During this learning process a scientist develops a feeling or tacit knowledge of the instrument being used.

The preliminary results of Aline's research at PMP indicated that developing this kind of tacit knowledge related to experimentation is directly connected with the formal and informal relationships among novices, experienced scientists and technicians, and relations of trust. "PMP

group members' trust in each other's abilities to do proper research is demonstrated by the use of their colleague's findings as starting point for their own research". Eventually these relations of trust, in addition to the scientist's own tacit knowledge on how to use his/her senses in the operation of lab instruments and subject of study, enable the development of new knowledge in a specific area of science.

Miss Aline Reichow

MSc Student

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Research on reinforced concrete blocks of flats subjected to earthquake hazard in Europe – a tale of Marie Curie fellowships

Maria Bostenaru-Dan, member of the MCFA administrative board has published her research experience through different Marie Curie Actions. The article starts on page 11 of the latest issue of the Journal of Applied Engineering Sciences:

http://www.arhiconoradea.ro/JAES/Revista_Facultatii/Issue3_sept.2011.pdf

The Speaker's Corner



We would like you to share with us your experience as a Fellow, good or bad: has your funding been taken away by someone else in the lab? Were the conditions of the contracts different than promised? Did you feel a lack of support from your lab or the EC management? Or

on the contrary everything went fine and the MC fellowship helped you start a successful career. More generally, we also welcome articles about your views on European Science policy. Please send an email to office@mariecurie.org (Subject line: "Speaker's corner") to be published in this section in the next Letter to Members.

In the footsteps of Marie Curie

Photos by Maria Bostenaru Dan, 2011.

The information to the places was added following "Warsaw in the footsteps of the scientists" (www.warsawtour.pl).



Marie Curie museum - her birth place



Corner of Marszalkowska Street and Jerozolimskie Avenue. Here was the Warsaw-Vienna railway station where Marie Curie left 1891 for her studies in Paris. The pillar marks the place.



8 Sniadeckich Street (former Kaliksta 8)

The house where there was the first radiological laboratory in Poland. Today institute of Mathematics.

Commemorative plaque placed 1997 to celebrate the centenary of the discovery of polonium and radium.



arsaw University of Technology.

1925 Marie Curie received here Doctor Honoris causa. 2005 a statue was placed in the hall.



Maria Skłodowska-Curie Institute of Oncology (former Radium Institute) opened 1925, now seat of the Society in Tribute of Maria-Skłodowska-Curie. In the courtyard there is a statue.



Vistula embankment, the favourite place to walk of Marie Curie



Warsaw University

1919 Marie Curie was proposed to take here over the chair of Experimental Physics. She refused, but participated at the inauguration 1920/21 and gave a lecture 1925, when she was awarded Doctor Honoris Causa.



Powązki Cemetery: Sklodowski family tomb
Entrance near St. Karol Boromeusz Church

More pictures can be found at <http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.2492305269541.2144762.1310055151&type=1&l=54544f71e0>

Upcoming events

European Gender Summit - Quality research and innovation through equality

8-9 November 2011, Brussels, Belgium

Knowledge and innovation are key drivers for sustainable growth and prosperity in Europe. Extensive research has demonstrated that the quality of research and development benefits significantly from adding gender as a critical success factor. The first European Gender

Summit will network key players from all sectors to initiate the much-needed changes in the culture of research and innovation.

Joint discussions will produce the first ever collective agreement on policy development on gender for innovation, the policy manifesto on "Integrated Action on the Gender Dimension in Research."

<http://www.gender-summit.eu/>

The International Year of Chemistry - closing ceremony

1 December 2011, Brussels, Belgium

The IYC closing ceremony will emphasize the creativity and the potential of Chemistry to address the challenges facing our societies. High level speakers, including Commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, and young leaders will explore and debate how chemistry is vital for solving our most critical global problems including food, water, health, energy, habitat, and more.

<http://www.iyc2011.conceptum.eu/>

ESF upcoming events

A list of upcoming events of the European Science Foundation is available:

<http://www.esf.org/activities/esf-conferences/2012-upcoming-events.html?year=2012>

Young researchers are eligible to apply for grants to cover their attendance and contribute towards their travel.

News in Brief

Marie Curie Alumni

The European Commission has launched the Marie Curie Alumni web portal where past, present and future Marie Curie researchers that have benefited, or are still benefiting, from the European Commission's Marie Curie programme for researchers' mobility can register and enjoy the benefits of membership:

<https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/>

Associated Countries and their stakeholders (e.g. research performing organisations including universities, funding organisations, researchers, private sector and civil society).

The consultation period runs until 30 November 2011.

http://ec.europa.eu/research/consultations/era/consultation_en.htm

Consultation on the ERA

Framework: Areas of untapped potential for the development of the European Research Area

This public consultation aims at gathering views and evidence from stakeholders on the key obstacles which have to be tackled to achieve a well-functioning ERA. Completing ERA will require the support and effort of all EU Member States and

The Republic of Moldova joins EU Research Programme

The EU and Moldova have forged closer ties on research and innovation. Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, European Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science and Gheorghe Duca, President of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Moldova, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the association of Moldova to the FP7. This will allow Moldovan scientists, research

institutes, universities and companies to collaborate with their counterparts across Europe in key research areas, while strengthening their own research expertise and capacity.

**“Horizon 2020”
is the new name for the future
EU funding programme for
research and innovation**

“Horizon 2020” is the winner of the "You Name it" online vote to name the future EU-funding programme for research and innovation. The full name of the legislative proposal for the new programme will therefore be: "Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation".

The competition winners are Marcela Endlova, a teacher from the Czech Republic, and Beata Zyngier, also a teacher, from Poland. The winners receive a trip to the European Innovation Convention, which will take place in Brussels in December 2011 and will have the opportunity to meet Commissioner Maire Geoghegan-Quinn and other leading political, scientific and business figures.

http://ec.europa.eu/research/csfr/index_en.cfm?pg=younameit

**Marie Curie Actions FP7
Financial Guidelines**

The new Marie Curie Actions FP7 Financial Guidelines are now available for all the Actions on the "How to manage

my project page" of the Marie Curie website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/manage.htm>

**ESOF2012 Dublin
First Newsletter**

Dublin has been chosen to host Europe's largest science conference, ESOF 2012 (Euroscience Open Forum), from 11-15 July, 2012. The first [newsletter](#) is available on the website:

<http://www.dublinscience2012.ie/>

**ICOMOS Open Archive:
EPrints on Cultural Heritage**

ICOMOS Open Archive: Eprints on Cultural Heritage is a global archive specialising in the conservation and restoration of monuments, sites and landscapes:

<http://openarchive.icomos.org/>

It is both the institutional archive of the scientific documentation produced by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and also a subject archive open to the entire international scientific community in the field of heritage conservation. Research institutes, organizations, universities and individual researchers involved in the conservation of cultural heritage and related fields, whether members of ICOMOS or not, are encouraged to make use of and contribute to this global Archive.

The ICOMOS Open Archive accepts peer reviewed scientific or technical documents, in all languages, on topics related to the field of conservation and restoration of monuments, sites and

landscapes. The only requirement is that authors wishing to submit a document must register for an account:

<http://openarchive.icomos.org/cgi/register>

Europeana: Explore Europe's cultural collections

Europeana was launched in 2008, with the goal of making Europe's cultural and scientific heritage accessible to the public.

The project is funded by the European Commission. It is based in the National Library of the Netherlands, the [Koninklijke Bibliotheek](#).

www.europeana.eu

Results of Public Consultation on the Future of Gender & Innovation in Europe

The results of the Public Consultation on the Future of Gender and Innovation in Europe are available on the European Gender Summit webpage:

<http://bit.ly/gen-consult>

ACA: Mapping mobility in European higher education

The Academic Cooperation Associations's "Mobility Study" is out:

http://ec.europa.eu/education/more-information/doc/2011/aca_en.pdf

FROM SCIENCE CAREERS

Tooling Up: I've Got a Great Idea

Two recent entrepreneurs offer advice on starting a new company.

Mind Matters: Resilience

A growing body of research and experience suggest that individuals possessing personal resilience are more likely to overcome career roadblocks.

Presentation Tips for Non-Native Speakers

Conveying complex material during a scientific presentation is difficult for everyone, but it's especially challenging for speakers who aren't fluent and confident in the conference language.

Careers for Scientists in the Patenting World

A cluster of important and popular nontraditional career paths for scientists involve filing, examining, and disputing patents.

A Tale of Two Volunteers

Two scientists tell *Science Careers* how time spent volunteering in developing countries impacted their lives and careers.

Tooling Up: Are You Likable?

Maybe it's wrong, but your success in the job search depends partly on how much people like you. Fortunately, the best way to be likable is to be yourself.

[Content Collection: International Mobility](#)

A roundup of *Science* Careers articles exploring international research experiences and what makes them successful.



[New ERC Starting Grants Awarded](#)

The European Research Council (ERC) announced the winners of its Starting Grants, which offer early-career investigators up to 2 million euros over 5 years to help them establish or build up their research groups at European institutions.

[National Groups and Mailing Lists](#)

Call for coordinators of MCFA National Groups

We are looking for MCFA members who are willing to become MCFA National Group coordinators in their country, or to participate in organizing the activities in their own country. National Group coordinators can be current or past MC fellows who are currently resident in the given country.

The National Groups can help the current Fellows meet each other to exchange experiences. This is very simple: a Coordinator announces that s/he would like to organize a meeting, then we announce it on the website, and help you write to all the current members in your country. The meeting can be in a cafe, at a university or wherever you think it is

practical. If you organize a meeting, we can help you also with some funds. We would also like your help in maintaining the Welcome Packs for your country. These can be found in <http://mcfa.eu/> homepage. If you go there and find the Welcome Pack for your country is out of date, please help us improve it.

Help us organize your NG, so we can build a strong and supportive effort for younger researchers. With your efforts, we can help researchers everywhere. For more information please get in contact with us by email: office@mariecurie.org, with the text [National groups] in the subject.

Please feel free to forward this Letter to Members to your colleagues and friends, even if they are not Marie Curie Fellows!

We also remind you that you are encouraged to use the MCFA flyers, available from the Internal Documents: <http://mcfa.eu/site/memberArea/internalDocuments.php>.

This Letter is edited by the Association des Boursiers Marie Curie a.i.s.b.l. (Marie Curie Fellows Association), <http://mcfa.eu/>. Editors: Anett Kiss, Maria Bostenaru Dan and Samer Zaky. E-mail address: editors@mcfa.eu. Director of publication: Guggi Kofod. Please send requests about articles in this Letter and submissions for the next Letter to Members to office@mariecurie.org