

# Marie Curie Fellows Association



## Letter to Members

*October November December 2012 January 2013*

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Dear MCFA Member,

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

*The MCFA Board*

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## Life of the Association

We would like to wish all the members a

**Happy New Year 2013!**

### MCFA Annual General Assembly and Career Workshop

The 4<sup>th</sup> MCFA workshop on soft skills was held in Rome, at the Sapienza University, on the 30th of November and the 1st of December, 2012.

We started 29<sup>th</sup> of November with an informal meeting at Giufà, a bookshop where you could serve soft drinks and snacks.

The Horizon2020 program was introduced by Marie Curie Actions representative Dr. Mike Rogers on the first day. The talk was followed by “soft skills” (Natalia Balcazar), “publication ethics” (André van Steirteghem) and “time management” (Luke Herbert). The evening concluded with an “evening passeggiata” in the region of Piazza Navona, and with a dinner in Trastevere.

We had the pleasure to have with us Ana Solange Leal from Innovamais, one of the partners in the winning consortium for the call for tenders of Marie Curie Alumni.

On the second day we started with discussing with her future collaboration between the MCFA and MCAA. It was followed by the young researchers’ panel (MCFA, Euroscience, Eurodoc and Italian Association of Biotechnologists), a highlight being the presentation of a COST action proposal on young scientists. You will find a related proposal already running on women scientists on

the next pages. It concluded with the Annual General Assembly: Annual Report, Financial Report and elections. We celebrated the elections at

You can find the reports in the member area on a page dedicated to the [documents of the MCFA AGA](#) accessible only to full members.

In a subsequent board meeting, which took place 6th of December on Skype, also the distribution of roles within the administrative board was agreed for, and the composition is as follows:

chair *Maria-Antonietta Buccheri*  
 vice chair *Rui Guimaraes*  
 secretary general *György Székely*  
 vice secretary general *Irene Marco Ruis*  
 treasurer *Natalia Balcazar*  
 vice treasurer *Eric Buchlin*  
 LtM editors *Maria Bostenaru, Anett Kiss*  
 Science policy working group  
*Axelle Viré, Dilnoza Shaumanova*  
 mWiSET working group  
*Gianna Avellis, Maria Bostenaru*  
 Young Researchers Group  
*Irene Marco Ruis, György Székely*  
 National Group Coordinator  
*Axelle Viré*

The advisory group is still to be named. Should you be interested to be part of it, please Email the board at [mcfa-board@googlegroups.com](mailto:mcfa-board@googlegroups.com)

The detailed agenda of the workshop is available at

<http://mcfa.eu/workshop2012>



### Membership renewal 2013

We would like to thank all of you who already renewed their membership for 2012 and also the new Fellows who have recently joined the Association. We would

like to remind fellows to pay also for 2013 (unless they are lifetime members). Members who have not paid will be considered as “MCFA Affiliates”, with limited access to the MCFA membership benefits. If you are currently an Affiliate, we invite you to upgrade your status to Full Member. To do so, you only have to pay the fee for the current year.

Membership fee is payable either by international bank transfer, PayPal or by credit card on our website (<http://mcfa.eu/newmcfasite/membership-fees>). Please keep in mind that the MCFA membership is endorsed by the European Commission and the annual membership fee can be charged to the Marie Curie project (eligible participation costs). MCFA membership is open to researchers who have benefited from mobility research training grants by the European Commission. Finally, if you know any other Marie Curie Fellows in your institution, please invite them to join the MCFA.

Thank you for your support!

*MCFA Board*

### COST action genderSTE

The European Networking Scheme COST has a new action, hosted under COST governance, called “*Gender, Science, Technology and Environment – genderSTE*”

genderSTE - Gender, Science, Technology and Environment - is the first Targeted Network approved by the COST Committee of Senior Officials. The kick off meeting was held on 28 November 2012, in conjunction with the 2<sup>nd</sup> European Gender Summit.

[http://www.cost.eu/about\\_cost/governance/genderste](http://www.cost.eu/about_cost/governance/genderste)

Maria Bostenaru Dan applied on behalf of the MCFA to adhere as international organization.

The Non-COST Institution Request, Reference NCIR-TA1201-XI-1184 is currently in the status: MC Approval.

Given that contributing the concerns of its members to the wider science policy discussion in Europe, and particularly in the context of Horizon 2020 is one of the benefits our association is offering its members, the aim of genderSTE of enhancing the implementation of such gender related science policy issues will lead to mutual benefits of both the association, represented through the mWiSET group and the genderSTE COST action. The role models for women in mobility just described above contribute to objectives of genderSTE of promoting women's careers in Science and Technology through dissemination of examples of best practice. Given the international scope of our association, it can contribute to a cross-country roadmap as genderSTE aims for.

Instruments of the action allow researchers in the field of women studies to come to non-COST institutions, and also publication funding.

A next management committee meeting is scheduled for late March in Brussels, in conjunction with a related event.

Further management committee members in the action include representatives of the Women in Landscape Architecture project about which we wrote in a previous issue, organizers of the Hungarian presidency conference where we presented our working group in 2011, as well as colleagues from the ESF network NeDiMAH about which we wrote.

## Role Models wanted from Marie Curie women Fellows

m-WiSET (Mobile Women in Science, Engineering and Technology) (<http://mcfa.eu/site/public/workingGroups.php>) is the working group funded in 2006 inside the Marie Curie Fellows Association aiming mainly at promoting and encouraging mobility amongst women scientists.

The Working Group will help raise awareness of the different career obstacles faced by women researchers when they consider to uptake mobility programmes. Basic questions arising from our m-WiSET group are whether mobility effectively enhances the scientific career and which difficulties are envisaged and/or actually encountered at all stages of their mobility programmes. Our activities are also in the field of women participation in SET, career development, excellence, decision-making.

Aims of m-WiSET:

1. Promoting mobility among women scientists
2. Empowering women scientists in Europe and discouraging discrimination and marginalisation
3. Fostering gender equality and scientific excellence in SET
4. Encouraging the promotion of equality policies at national and European level

The m-WiSET WiS working group intends to investigate on the issue of Role Models inside MCFA, taking into account the relationship with glass ceiling issue, to publish a booklet of MC women Fellows, starting from the biography of Marie Curie herself. The aim of this booklet is to mention and promote the knowledge of the large heritage of scientific culture that

women have built up during these years since the foundation of Marie Curie Fellows Association. Last but not least the aim is also to raise awareness especially in young researchers on the career paths that could be taken and see success stories encouragements for their current research.

In 2011 a first version of the Role models booklet was published, and presented at a booth during the Marie Curie conference in Warsaw. In 2012 the booklet was promoted in a special session at the ESOF in Dublin.

<http://mcfa.eu/site2/?q=women-science-working-group-mwiset>

We welcome MC women Fellows to participate to the m-WiSET WiS working group and to send one page of their achievements of the current CV to be included in an updated version of the booklet published in 2011.

Specifically we look for models of moving to Eastern Europe (feedback arriving) and for intersectorial mobility.

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**Interviews with Marie Curie  
women Fellows**

In September Irish journalist Sean Duke conducted a series of interviews with women who had held a Marie Curie Fellowship, following the ESOF role models session, including two members of the administrative board: Dr. Natalia Balcazar and Dr. Maria Bostenaru. The interviews were published 20<sup>th</sup> of September in an article called “Women who travel” in the “Women in science” part in “The research report magazine” of the European Commission:

[http://tablet-dg-research.artwhere3.com/article/women-who-travel\\_en.html](http://tablet-dg-research.artwhere3.com/article/women-who-travel_en.html)

or

[http://mobile-dg-research.artwhere3.com/article/women-who-travel\\_en.html](http://mobile-dg-research.artwhere3.com/article/women-who-travel_en.html)

Another interview on Marie Curie background and current common endeavours of Marie Curie Fellows has been done by the Karlsruhe Institute for Technology alumni newsletter with Maria Bostenaru Dan

<http://www.rsm.kit.edu/3759.php>

**Mobile women in literature  
Marie Curie project**

Marie Curie Hungarian-Irish researcher is undertaking a project on Gender studies:

[Migrant Women Writers on The Margins Of Europe: The Case Of Hungary.](#)

currently funded under FP7 People programme.

The central objective of this research project is the investigation of Hungary's

immigrant women textual production in the comparative context of European migrant literatures.

[https://gender.ceu.hu/profiles/visiting-faculty/borbala\\_farago](https://gender.ceu.hu/profiles/visiting-faculty/borbala_farago)

In 2013 a conference will be organised in frame of the project.

Transnational Women's Literature in Europe

<http://www.femtranslit.eu/>

The project sensefully continues the issue of women writers in history about which we recently wrote.

### **New Marie Curie actions facebook page**

<http://www.facebook.com/Marie.Curie.Actions>

## **Careers, funding, and networking opportunities**

### **Open for 2013: Marie Curie Career Integration Grants (CIG)**

[Marie Curie Career Integration Grants](#) are intended to improve considerably the prospects for the permanent integration of researchers who are offered a stable research post in Europe after a mobility period in a country different from the country where the researcher has been active during the past years. The duration of these grants is between 2 and 4 years.

Experienced researchers (with at least 4 years full-time postgraduate research experience or a doctoral degree) of any nationality can apply who, at the time of the relevant deadline for submission of proposals, have not resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc) in the country of their host organisation for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the reference deadline. A researcher who has benefited or is benefiting from a FP6 or FP7 Reintegration Grant is ineligible for funding under this call.

Next cut-off deadlines:

7 March and 18 September 2013

### **Still open: Marie Curie COFUND Fellowships**

Within approved COFUND schemes the following calls for a mobility stay are currently open:

ETH Fellows – for researchers within 2 years from obtaining a doctorate, to spend time at the ETH Zürich. Researchers apply jointly with a professor, who submits the application. Eligibility condition is to have apart of the doctorate an award for the doctorate or a publication in a peer reviewed journal. The doctorate certificate must be available before start of the fellowship, but the defense date must be fixed when the application is submitted.

Deadlines 2013: 1. March and 1. September

<http://www.ethfellows.ethz.ch/>

On the same model the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne launched the scheme of EPFL Fellows, postdoctoral fellowships of 12 to 24 month, under the supervision of an EPFL mentor.

Deadlines: 1<sup>st</sup> of October of the year.

<http://commission-recherche.epfl.ch/EPFLFellows>

Also the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation increased the number of their postdoctoral fellowships with the COFUND scheme

<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/humboldt-fellowship-postdoc.html>

Deadline: continuously.

More COFUND fellowship schemes can be found [here](#)

### **100<sup>th</sup> COFUND fellowship programme goes to Croatia**

On 12 December 2012, the Marie Curie Actions celebrated the 100th COFUND Research Fellowship Programme in Brussels. On the same page you can find a map with an overview of all COFUND fellowship programmes.

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/news-events/news/2012/marie\\_curie\\_cofund\\_reaching\\_further\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/news-events/news/2012/marie_curie_cofund_reaching_further_en.htm)

### **European Research Council Synergy and Consolidator Grants**



For 2012 the ERC has introduced the 'Synergy Grant', which is intended to enable a small group of Principal Investigators and their teams to bring together complementary skills, knowledge, and resources in new ways, in order to jointly address research problems.

Deadline: 10. January 2013

ERC Consolidator Grants are designed to support researchers at the stage at which they are consolidating their own independent research team or programme.

The scheme will strengthen independent and excellent new individual research teams that have been recently created. These grants are for researchers of any nationality with 7-12 years of experience since completion of PhD (or equivalent degree) and scientific track record showing great promise.

Deadline: 21 February 2013

<http://erc.europa.eu/funding-schemes>

The next ERC Work Programme and calls (2014), which are usually due to be published in 2013, will be the first ones under the new EU Research Framework Programme 'Horizon 2020' (2014-2020). However, the negotiations on this future programme are still on-going, which is why the publication dates of both the next ERC Work Programme and ERC calls may be different from the usual calendar.

### **ERA chairs pilot call**

“Universities or other eligible research institutions with currently low levels of participation in the Framework Programme, with a demonstrated potential and a concrete plan for research excellence, will be selected by the Commission to appoint outstanding research leaders: the "ERA Chairs" and his/her research team. This will permit these institutions to develop, in a particular field, the level of excellence required to successfully compete internationally and effectively widen participation.” Future ERA Chair calls will be published under Horizon 2020. (source [http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/era-chairs\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/era-chairs_en.html) )

The call is launched [under the "Capacities" programme](#)

Deadline: 31 May 2013

## Scientific Exchange Programme New Member States-Switzerland

[Crus.ch](http://www.crus.ch) the Rectors' Conference of Swiss Universities, is promoting a mobility programme between New Member States of the EU (EU-12) and Switzerland. Doctoral researchers can apply for fellowships between 6 months and 2 years, provided they are enrolled in an institution in a NMS. Postdoctoral researchers can apply for fellowships between 6 and 18 months, provided they are employed as researchers at an institution in an NMS deemed eligible by the respective country. In both cases there are two mentors, one from the NMS and one from the Swiss side, and funds are provided also for the exchange of the mentors. The programme will have open calls also in the following years, ending 2016.

Next deadlines (depending on country) 2013: 1. April and 1. November (last calls within the programme).

<http://www.sciex.ch/>

## Voice of the Researchers

Voice of the Researchers is a bridge between individual researchers and decision-makers, bringing together researchers and enabling them to take an active role in shaping the European Research Area.

In March 2012, the European Commission (through the EURAXESS portal) launched a call for expressions of interest targeting researchers of all ages, nationalities and disciplines residing in Europe. 25 researchers (list available to the board) out of more than 400 respondents were selected by the Commission to take part in a brainstorming session in April 2012 in Brussels and went on to form the “core group” of VoR. This session was followed by a meeting with other stakeholder

organizations (including the MCFA represented by its chair) and was the starting point of VoR. The core group reconvened for a meeting in October 2012 to set up the VoR management and communication structure.

The first VoR brainstorming session produced a memorandum highlighting some of the most pressing concerns of researchers. This was presented to the stakeholders and formed the basis for a first survey to the researcher community. The results of this survey are currently being analyzed and compiled into a report. VoR was also represented at several events, including ESOF (Jul. 2012, Dublin), Naturejobs (Sep. 2012, London), Shaping the Future of Young Academies (Oct. 2012, Amsterdam), EURAXESS Links 1st Global Conference (Nov. 2012, Beijing).

Voice of the Researchers is organizing itself and will soon launch a website. Already available are an account on Twitter

([https://twitter.com/Research\\_Voice](https://twitter.com/Research_Voice) ) and on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/VoiceOfTheResearchers> ) to keep up to date with

events, press statements, initiatives, and policies affecting researchers throughout Europe. LinkedIn Group: Voice of the Researchers

There is no membership of VoR like with other researcher organizations. You can join this network for free – by submitting your ideas and comments on the VoR interface you will already be a part of this initiative. If you want to become even more involved and be part of the core group, stay tuned for future calls for interest. The composition of the core group will be renewed periodically (every two years) on the basis of EU-wide calls for expressions of interest.

## **Experts for Horizon 2020 Advisory Groups**

### **Call for expressions of interest**

The European Commission is widening its search for experts from all fields to participate in shaping the agenda of Horizon 2020. The experts of the advisory groups will provide high quality and timely advice for the preparation of the Horizon 2020 calls for project proposals. The call for expressions of interest will stay open for the lifetime of the Horizon 2020 programme. Individuals in their personal capacity, representatives of collective

interest groups and representatives of organisations can express their interest. Experts can [register](#) at any time; however only those having expressed their interest no later than 6 March 2013 at 17.00, Brussels local time (CET) will be taken into account for the setting up of the first Horizon 2020 Advisory Groups. Expressions of interest received after this date will be taken into account for the renewal of groups at the end of each mandate.

## **Past meetings with MCFA participation**

### **Horizon 2020 seminar**

**14 September 2012, Budapest**

György Székely represented the MCFA during the event and gave a talk: “Marie Curie Actions and young researchers’ career development”. The event was organized by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences targeting young researchers. The participants were mainly early stage researchers and undergraduates. They were given practical information about Marie Curie Actions and how to gain more information and apply using the European Commission's websites. Additionally, the importance of early career planning was highlighted and practical advice was given. Open discussion was held at the end of the session in order to address the particular questions of the audience.

researchers’ needs and expectations” during which he illustrated the first results of the questionnaire promoted by the MCFA Young Researchers Group.

<http://www.mcfa.eu/site2/?q=online-questionnaire-young-researchers>

### **Marie Curie Conference 2012**

**5-6 November 2012, Nicosia**

In frame of the Cyprus presidency of the European Union the Marie Curie Conference 2012 took place in Nicosia.

<http://www.marie-curie2012.eu/>

Maria Antonietta Buccheri, the chair, represented the association as an invited speaker. She gave a talk in the plenary session III, “EU funding for research and mobility under the researchers’ microscope”, Moderator: Gregory Makrides, Director of Research and IR University of Cyprus, President of the European Association of ERASMUS Coordinators, Executive Director of the European Office of Cyprus

Panel

### **CESAER2012 Seminar**

**18 October 2012, Delft**

György Székely represented the MCFA during the event and gave a talk: “Young

- Alessandra Luchetti, Head of Unit Marie Curie Actions, DG Education and Culture, European Commission
- Wolfgang Eppenschwandtner, Initiative for Science in Europe
- Maria-Antonietta Buccheri, Chair, Marie Curie Fellows Association
- Katrien Maes, League of European Research Universities

### Winners of the Marie Curie Prize

In frame of the conference the first Marie Curie Prizes were given in three distinct categories:

- Communicating Science. There were 43 entries, 10 shortlisted. Winner: Dr. Claire Belcher, Marie Curie fellow at the University College Dublin, Ireland from 2007 to 2010 and at the University of Edinburgh, UK from 2010 to 2012) is currently a Senior Lecturer in Earth System Science at the University of Exeter, UK, specialising in the study of fire;

- Innovation and Entrepreneurship. 21 entries, 10 shortlisted. Winner: Dr. Sarit Sivan, Marie Curie fellow at the University of Oxford, UK from 2006 to 2007) is currently a Senior Research Fellow at Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, Department of Biomedical Engineering;
- Promising Research Talent. 26 entries. Winner: Gkikas Magiorkinis, Marie Curie Research Fellow at the Department of Zoology and the Emanuel Lee JRF at St Cross College, both at the University of Oxford. He is an honorary lecturer and consultant in Virology at the Department of Hygiene, Epidemiology and Medical Statistics, University of Athens.

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/news-events/news/2012/and\\_the\\_winner\\_is\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/news-events/news/2012/and_the_winner_is_en.htm)

## Publications

### **The Immigrant Exodus: Why America Is Losing the Global Race to Capture Entrepreneurial Talent. By Vivek Wadhwa.**

"A nation that can attract the cleverest people in the world can innovate and prosper indefinitely. Unless it does what America has done since September 11th

2001, which is to make the immigration process so slow, unpredictable and unpleasant that migrants stay away"

<http://www.economist.com/news/books-and-arts/21564812-america-needs-rethink-its-immigration-policy>

## 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](mailto:office@mariecurie.org) (Subject line: "Speaker's corner") to be published in this section in the next Letter to Members.

## Upcoming events

### Women's International Research Engineering Summit 3

9-12 September 2013, Athens

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Women's International Research Engineering Summit is going to be held in Athens in September. Aim of the Summit is to promote international collaboration. The conference is mainly aimed at associate professors, since international cooperation is required to become full professor, but welcomes also full professors to present their international experience, and junior researchers starting with postgraduate students.

Application deadline: Still open  
<http://wires.womenandtechnology.eu>

Maria Bostenaru Dan has been invited to apply, but she will be that time completing a one month residency in Washington D.C.

The WIRES Network is participating in the Global Marathon E-week event [https://presentations.inxpo.com/Shows/NEWF/NEWF\\_Site/events.htm](https://presentations.inxpo.com/Shows/NEWF/NEWF_Site/events.htm) and we invite you to join in on the on-line discussions that will be in 30 minute sessions discussing topics related to:

- 1) Leadership: Never Underestimate the Power of Example (March 6, noon-2:30 US Eastern Time)
- 2) Emerging Leaders & Entrepreneurs (March 7, 9am-12:30am US Eastern Time)
- 3) Changing the World: One Woman at a Time (March 8, 8:00-11:00 am US Eastern Time).

The WIRES Network will be hosting on-line discussions with WIRES participants. Each on-line discussion will be facilitated by different WIRES women. The outcomes of these on-line meetings will be identification of other researchers interested in forming collaborative teams, identification of funding sources for international collaborations and identification of interesting research questions that can be addressed by WIRES participants. The first of these on-line discussions will be on Tuesday, March 5 from 11am – 12 noon US Eastern Time. We will be using the "Go-To-Meeting" software to host the on-line meeting. This will allow participants to share information with the other participants.

**ESOF 2014****June 21-26, 2014, Copenhagen**

The 2014 edition of ESOF will take place in Copenhagen, Denmark, June 21-26, 2014 and is organised in collaboration between the Danish Ministry for Science, Innovation and Higher Education and the founder of ESOF, Euroscience.

The MCFA organized in the past sessions in the ESOF careers programme, being also represented by Natalia Balcazar, administrative board member, in the committee.

The call for scientific sessions and for “science in the city” is now open. If you want to take part in this dialogue and contribute with activities you can read more in the [call for expression of interest](#).

**European Studies Fair****Brussels, 9 February 2013**

Directorate General "Education and Culture" will be presenting its European Exchange Programmes at the European Studies Fair. Among them are the Marie Curie Actions and who could better present them to potential applicants than you - our former fellows. Come and join the European Commission team and share your experiences with enthusiastic young people interested in research. More information on the fair, exact timing and venue available [here](#).

**CYSENI 2013****10th Conference of Young Scientists on Energy Issues****May 29-31, 2013, Kaunas, Lithuania**

The main goal of this 10th annual conference is the discussion of the future perspectives on energy issues and the

endeavor of the perfection of the young scientists. PhD. students, postdocs, master students and all other young scientists doing research on energy issues are very welcome to the conference as speakers and participants. For registration and the requirements for abstract and paper preparation visit the conference website <http://www.cyseni.com>

**21st European Biomass Conference And Exhibition****Bella Center - Copenhagen, Denmark****Conference: 03-07 June 2013 -****Exhibition: 03-06 June 2013**

For over 30 years now, the European Biomass Conference and Exhibition (EU BC&E) has combined a very renowned international Scientific Conference with an Industry Exhibition. The EU BC&E is held at different venues throughout Europe and ranks on top of the world's leading events in the Biomass sector.

This EU BC&E is supported by European and international organizations such as the European Commission, UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Natural Sciences Sector, WCRE - the World Council for Renewable Energy, EUBIA - the European Biomass Industry Association, and other organisations.

The Technical Programme is coordinated by the European Commission, Joint Research Centre JRC.

The Conference will discuss major issues for the biomass markets, in technical and business areas, from resource assessment to market and policy developments,

drawing on leading experiences from all over Europe and worldwide. The event aims to encourage an international exchange of experience on policy, research and development, manufacturing and installation, and to be a showcase for the latest technologies. The conference is expanding its coverage on the growing

issue of bioeconomy, a sector that has strong links to bioenergy where Denmark became a leading country.

For further information

<http://www.conference-biomass.com>

## News in Brief



### FROM SCIENCE CAREERS

The new NextGen VOICES survey is up. The official question is: Ideally, how will scientists share their results with each other and the public in 50 years? Take the survey!

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NextGen6fb>

Results from the last survey on government and science are now up (free) on the Science site:

<http://scim.ag/UtDo7K>

### Marie Curie Actions 10 years ago

In 2003-2004 a cooperation between the MCFA and Science published so-called "Personal Journeys", stories of Marie Curie Fellows in different countries. You can browse the archive here:

[http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/career\\_magazine/previous\\_issues/articles/2003\\_11\\_07/noDOI.1447244135755739110](http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/career_magazine/previous_issues/articles/2003_11_07/noDOI.1447244135755739110)

### Most commented on Science in 2012

[Is Motherhood the Biggest Reason for Academia's Gender Imbalance?](#)

### Science Careers 2012: The Year's Best Stories

[http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/career\\_magazine/previous\\_issues/articles/2012\\_12\\_28/caredit.a1200141](http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/career_magazine/previous_issues/articles/2012_12_28/caredit.a1200141)

### Debate on high skill visas

[http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/career\\_magazine/previous\\_issues/articles/2013\\_01\\_04/caredit.a1300001](http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/career_magazine/previous_issues/articles/2013_01_04/caredit.a1300001)

### From Science Career Blog

Landing a Job at a Teaching Institution

<http://blogs.sciencemag.org/sciencecareers/2013/01/landing-a-job-a.html>

### FROM NATURE JOBS

Global mobility: Science on the move

<http://www.nature.com/news/global-mobility-science-on-the-move-1.11602>

Researcher mobility: EU scientific visa is a success in Ireland

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v490/n7419/full/490176b.html>

## 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 [mcfa.eu](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](mailto: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>.

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