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Building partnerships for public access to research

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Editors:

Norbert Steinhaus and Michaela Shields, Wissenschaftsladen Bonn e.V., Buschstr. 85 - D-53113 Bonn, Tel + (49) 228 201 61 22, fax + (49) 228 26 52 82, norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de, michaela.shields@wilabonn.de,

Living Knowledge Discussion List LIVINGKNOWLEDGE-L@LISTS.UCC.IE

Living Knowledge Website

www.livingknowledge.org

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ivingknowledge@wilabonn.de

Summer break is close and times are really busy. Public engagement of Higher Education Institutes is discussed in publications and conferences as never experienced before. This is promising and motivating. But it's not the time to relax on these achievements. Major changes to the Common Strategic Framework for EU research and innovation funding is proposed. CSOs already became active towards more democratic processes and a review of the prioritisation of R&I activities.

Enjoy this new issue of the newsletter and have a nice summer.

Norbert Steinhaus

5th Living Knowledge Conference Re-imagining Research Relationships – Co-creating Knowledge in a Democratic Society

8-12- May 2012, in Bonn, Germany

Next year in May the 5th LK Conference will take place in the Gustav-Stresemann-Institut in Bonn. The conference is hosted by Bonn Science Shop which is a founding member of the International Science Shop Network. The first 1,5 days will be designed.



nated for the next Science Shop Summer School. During the following 3 days the conference will set its focus on the themes:

- · Setting shared research agendas with CSO's
- The role of Higher Educational Institutes (HEI) in creating with communities
- Evaluation of communities engagement
- Developing international partnerships and funding collabora tive research relationships

You will find first information about the conference at www.scienceshops.org soon and we will keep you updated on the Living Knowledge Discussion List.

Science Shop Autumn School

3-4 October, 2011 in Dublin, Ireland

European funding allows the Living Knowledge Network to offer a free 'Autumn School' to all those interested in operating a Science Shop, or Community-Based Research Office. Participation is free. Language: English. This workshop will be giv-



en by Science Shop from The Netherlands and Germany. The following questions will be on the agenda:

- How to structure and embed community-university engage ment in their local (or regional) context
- How to set up any form of cooperation in research with civilsociety organisations
- Ways of working with students in the curriculum, with re searchers, civil society organisations
- How to set up a project
- Funding options and partners to involve is setting up a Science Shop



Target group of the Autumn School: university leaders, research managers, professors/teachers, science policy makers, scientists, science communicators, community leaders, NGO representatives, graduate students, PhD students and others who are interested in setting up a Science Shop or starting Community- Based Research projects.

The workshop now is completely booked. Given the limited amount of participants and the big interest a waiting list was set up. Already registered participants have to fully confirm their participation by September 1st. All those still interested can be registered on a waiting list with their possible participation confirmed in the first week of September latest. Please contact Henk Mulder h.a.j.mulder@rug.nl or Norbert Steinhaus norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de if you want to be put on the waiting list.



identified, including: reinvigorating the gender analysis of this work and taking action on the inequities that we may be unconsciously reproducing; actively recruiting and listen-

ing to the voices of people who have lived experiences with the challenges we are working to overcome; the link between environmental and social justice; and exploring ways to partner with other stakeholders in social change (e.g. government, policy, media, business, and faith communities). At the conclusion of this conference the participants parted with a renewed sense of commitment to social action.

Notes from the CU Expo 2011, Waterloo, Canada

CU Expo as the leading conference in Canada that showcases and explores how Universities collaborate with community groups to work for social change and solve the complex problems of our times was held in May 2011 in the Waterloo Region of Ontario, Canada. More than 500 activists, scholars, thinkers, artists, organizers and keen observers from 16 countries came together to explore how the UN Millennium Development Goals are addressed in the crosscutting themes of community voices, partnerships and collaboration. The extensive programme offered participants a wide range of methods for sharing best practices new insights, and supported expanding their network of connections. Participants expressed their impression that the community-university partnership

movement was both maturing and growing stronger. The delegates from Europe who were presenting in several workshops, round tables or oral presentations expe-



rienced an obvious openness in the communities for service learning. One topic that came up in several workshops was ,education' and the challenge how to build up a stronger partnership between schools, communities and universities as schools offer an amount of knowledge and learning. A few areas to be further explored in future conferences were also

DIT Community Links receives the MacJannet Prize for Global Citizenship

The DIT Community Links Programme was honoured to be selected as one of eight winners of the MacJannet Prize for Global Citizenship. The third-place prize, awarded by the Tailloires Network, an international association of HEI committed to championing civic engagement in higher education, is granted on the basis of high achievement across the following six areas: Student Leadership, University Support, Community Partnership and Involvement, Demonstrated Positive Impact on Community, Demonstrated Positive Impact on Participating Students, and Long-Term Sustainability. There are over 200 universities in the Talloires Network, and the network reaches over 6 million students worldwide. The Network is supported by Walmart Foundation, Mastercard Foundation, Pearson Foundation, and Santander Bank.

The presentation of the prizes was held during the Talloires Network Presidents' Conference at a function in Santander City in Madrid and was accepted by all presidents and delegates including two staff members, Prof. Tommy Cooke and Dr. Catherine Bates from Community Links, and a student representative Helen Mc Mahon from DIT who attended.

The conference itself was held at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and was attended by 200 presidents worldwide. The chairman of the Santander Bank opened the conference and it was ceremoniously closed by Prince Philipe of Spain, the US Ambassador to Spain, the Spanish Minister of Education and the President from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid.



Congratulations to all students and staff involved in the Community Links Programme for earning this prestigious and notable award.

Contact: Elena Gamble, Project Officer 'Students Learning With Communities', DIT Community Links, Dublin, Ireland. www.communitylinks.ie/slwc

Bringing bees into the city



With the aim of investigating the benefits of bringing wild bees into urban areas and stimulating investigation and discussion on the role of nature in our cities, the Science and Society department of the Université de Lyon decided to take

part in the Urbanbees project set up by the Avignon INRA and the association Anthropologia. Its role in the 4 years project is to act as a mediator between civil society and the research community. The main objective is to offer participative mediation tools to encourage urban citizens to question their perceptions of insects generally speaking and of wild bees in particular. "We want people to think about the presence of these pollinating insects in our cities," explains Pauline Lachapelle, Project Manager at the Science and Society department, "so that we involve all citizens in the actions to safeguard these insects and to take into consideration the different forms of biodiversity in urban environments."

Until 2013, four workshops will be run each year between April and July. The participants will build up their understanding of the subject, accompanied by project mediators. In parallel to this action, the Science and Society department is also setting up a mobile exhibition.

www.universite-lyon.fr/html/newsletter/international/Juin2011/urbanbees.html

Outcome: Green Paper on a Common Strategic Framework for future EU Research and Innovation Funding

On 10 June 2011 the outcome of the consul-

tation on future EU research and innovation funding was discussed at a major conference in Brussels. The consultation was based on a European Commission Green Paper, published on 9 February 2011. The Green Paper pro-



posedmajorchangesto EU researchand innovation funding to make participation easier, increase scientific and economic impact and provide better value for money. The changes, to be introduced in the next EU budget after 2013, will cover the current Framework Programme for research, the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme, and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology.

The outcomes of the consultation are available through the website of the European Commission Research & Innovation (see below).

They are being used to design the proposals, to be presented by the Commission by the end of 2011, for a legislative decision of the Council and Parliament on the Common Strategic Framework. http://ec.europa.eu/research/csfri/index_en.cfm?pg=home

Open letter on the Common Strategic Framework for EU research and innovation funding

Sciences Citoyennes would like to invite all Science Shops and the Living Knowledge Network to sign an open letter on 'Public Research should benefit Society, not big business'. An open letter on the Common Strategic Framework for EU research and innovation funding as they are extremely concerned about Green Paper since it places research and innovation almost exclusively under the prism of competitiveness and the market. Addressing adequately poverty, social, economic and ecological injustice, loss of biodiversity, climate change, resource scarcity, the need to move towards a low-carbon society, public health issues, democratic deficits, etc. would need a significant shift of current European R&I policies away from competitiveness and corporate influence towards more democratic processes and a review of the prioritisation of R&I activities. The stakes are high - billions of Euros of taxpayers money. Sciences Citoyennes sent this Open letter to J.M.D. Barroso, president of the European Commission, Commissioners and services of the European Commission, Members of the European Parliament, Representatives of Member States on June 29 but will also transform the letter into a public petition from June 29 on.

They also intend to organise an event at the European Parliament in fall this year and write an alternative framework for the end of the year. If you want to read and/or sign the open letter, please send a message to openletter_csf2011@sciencescitoyennes.org



25th anniversary of Science Shop Groningen

Congratulation to the Science Shop Language, Culture and Communication in Groningen. The Science Shop is part of the Faculty of Arts and works on Science and Society interactions by stimulating and supervising practical research projects. The 4th of June it celebrated



its 25th anniversary and has started bookscrossing with 25 popular scientific books. www.rug.nl/wewi/dewetenschapswinkels/talen/index

Applying the indicators does not necessarily mean that the researchers and university administrations are intrinsically convinced of the importance of SAMVERKAN. The incentive for researchers to engage in SAMVERKAN may remain low because a fundamental cultural change is lacking. Therefore bottom-up approaches for promoting public engagement of universities and triggering a cultural standard toward SAMVER-KAN are also recommended.

Download pdf-report at http://v-a.se/downloads/varapport2011_2.pdf.

Goodbye Wolle



In September 2011 the work of Wolfgang Endler at kubus – the Science Shop of the Technical University Berlin – will end. Kubus is a university based and funded Science Shop working on environmental concerns and sustainable devel-

opment, established in 1986. It promotes co-operation and exchange on matters of pressing environmental and social concern between the university and other interested parties. On behalf of the LK network members and coordinators we would like to thank Wolle for his great conceptual and innovative contributions to the work and further development of the Science Shops. We wish him a good start into his retirement and hope that his path will cross Science Shop paths again.

SAMVERKAN - Public Engagement

The Swedish government has clearly stated that it is the duty of a university to collaborate with the surrounding society, to inform people about its research results and to work to ensure that its research is also of use to society. Based on country studies, expert



interviews and a literature review Vetenskap & Allmänhet, Sweden, developed several SAMVER-KAN indicators that could be used for resource allocation to universities or within universities. Although rewarding SAMVERKAN activities by budget enlargement or constraints is one way to promote SAMVERKAN it is a rather top-down approach.

Forum: Qualitative Social Research (FQS)

FQS is an open-access peer-reviewed multilingual online journal for qualitative research established in 1999. Thematic issues are published tri-annually. In addition, selected individual contributions and contributions to the journal's regular features FQS Reviews, FQS Debates, FQS Conferences and FQS Interviews are published as soon as they have undergone peer review. www.qualitative-research.net/index.php/fqs/issue/archive

Valuing Community-Based, Non-Clinical Prevention Policies and Wellness Strategies

Are community programs effective in helping to improve people's health? How can we measure their success? In a new study supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, California Endowment, deBeaumont Foundation and the WK Kellogg Foundation, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) will develop a method for assessing the value of community-based, non-clinical prevention policy ad wellness strategies, especially those aimed at preventing long-term chronic diseases.

Specifically, the IOM will:

- Define community-based, non-clinical prevention policy and wellness strategies;
- Define value for community-based, non-clinical prevention policy and wellness strategies;
- Analyze current frameworks used to assess the value of community-based, non-clinical prevention policy and wellness strategies. The approximate start date for the project is March 2011.

A report will be issued at the end of the project in approximately 18 months.

See full details at http://bit.ly/mCSmP5



Conferences

Open Knowledge Conference (OKCon)

30 June-1 July 2011, in Berlin, Germany



OKCon, now in its sixth year, is the interdisciplinary conference that brings together individuals from across the open knowledge spectrum

for two days of presentations and workshops. Open knowledge promises significant social and economic benefits in a wide range of areas from governance to science, culture to technology. Opening up access to content and data can radically increase access and reuse, improving transparency, fostering innovation and increasing societal welfare. Questions of the conference will be: How can we make this data available? How can we connect it? How can we use it, collaborate and share our work?

http://okcon2011.eventbrite.com

Third International Conference on Science in Society

5-7 August 2011, in Washington DC, USA

The Conference, to be held at the Catholic University of America, will address disciplinary and interdisciplinary challenges in the sciences, and in particular the relationships of science to society. Key themes include the social impacts of science, the values and ethics of science, the pedagogies of science, the knowledge-making processes of science, the politics of science and the economics of science. In contrast to conferences with a specialist disciplinary focus, this conference aims to explore, in an interdisciplinary spirit, linkages between different areas of concern and practices of investigation. Participants at the Conference will include researchers, teachers, administrators and policy makers from the basic natural-physical sciences, the applied sciences, the social sciences, history and philosophy of science, the humanities, and the professions. http://science-society.com/conference-2011/

PASCAL International Observatory Conference

3-5 October 2011, in Illinois (USA)

Regional Prosperity in a Global Era. Exploring emerging strate-



gies for sustainable transformative regional development generated through new relationships among higher education, government, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

The conference will highlight demonstrations of evidence-based collaborative practices that broaden the understanding of "shared prosperity" through strategies based on social entrepreneurship, "green" initiatives, creative industries, and culture-preserving or faith-informed initiatives. A conference website has been created to provide specific details.

Please visit: www.pascal2011.org

Water and Health Conference

3-7 October 2011, at UNC Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA

The 2011 Water and Health Conference: Where Science Meets Policy will bring together experts from academia, industry, non-governmental organizations, government and foundations to provide an interdisciplinary perspective spanning science, policy, practice and economics. The Conference will consider drinking water sanitation, hygiene and water resources with a strong public health emphasis and will deal with critical concerns relevant to both the developing and developed worlds. Program details: http://whconference.unc.edu

AUCEA - Next Steps: Building a New Engagement Agenda

11-13 July 2011, in Sydney, Australia

Australian Universities Community Engagement Alliance (AUCEA) is an alliance of universities and affiliations committed to university-community engagement across Australia and Asia Pacific. The 8th



annual AUCEA international conference has the sub-themes: Leadership, Research, Learning, and Partnerships. PERARES partner will perform two joined workshops and one oral presentation together with the Australian colleagues, Lisa Andersen and Pauline O'Loughlin, from UTS Shopfront at the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS). The workshops will focus on the Australian context, and will be enriched by the experiences of UTS Shopfront. The presentation of Henk Mulder (Science Shop Groningen) and Norbert Steinhaus (Bonn Science Shop) will include an overview of Science Shop developments in Europe and beyond, of PERARES, the ongoing EU funded Science Shop project, and the roles of the International Living Knowledge Network and the Global Alliance for Community-Engaged research (GACER) in advancing community-based research globally.

www.aucea.org.au



8th International Workshop on Higher **Education Reforms**

5-7 October 2011, in Berlin, Germany

This workshop is the 8th International Workshop on University Reform bringing together researchers and policy analysts and makers. It will take place in the Humboldt University of Berlin and explore reforms, actually implemented or still needed, that are affecting lifelong learning at the tertiary level focusing particularly on the following themes:

- · the concept of Lifelong Learning and its meaning for higher education
- continuing higher education
- open access and alternative access routes
- recognition and accreditation of prior
- outreach for and support of non-traditional students
- part-time, distance or web-based studies,
- · post-occupational (senior) studies,
- funding and governance procedures for lifelong learning provisions as well as other themes related to lifelong learning in the higher educating sector. http://www2.hu-berlin.de/her8/

CARN International Conference "Bringing a different world into existence"

4-6 November 2011, in Vienna, Austria



The Collaborative Action Research Network (CARN), founded in 1976, has grown to be-

come an international network drawing its members from educational, health, social care, commercial, and public services settings. CARN aims to encourage and support action research projects (personal, local, national and international), accessible accounts of action research projects, and contributions to the theory and methodology of action research. In line with the tradition, CARN invites academics and practitioners by welcoming a diverse range of contributions, no matter what stage the research is at (from initial ideas through to completed reports and papers).

More information: http://ius.uni-klu.ac.at/carn

Conference "Community-Campus Partnerships as a Strategy for Social Justice" 18-21 April 2012, in Texas, USA

The 15th anniversary conference theme is "Community-Campus Partnerships as a Strategy for Social Justice: Where We've Been & Where We Need to Go". Whether you are directly involved in community-based participatory research, service-learning or other community-campus partnerships, the conference is designed to challenge and inspire you.

Regardless of the social justice issue you are passionate about - health equity, education, environmental justice, food security, sustainability, indigenous rights and so forth - together we will explore how to leverage partnerships to create change.

The call is available at: www.ccph.info

Information

Flyer, EU Website and Brochure

A flyer on Science Shops, printed by the EC focuses on different target groups, universities, students, citizens groups and local authorities. The flyer can be downloaded from the Liv-(www.scienceshops. Knowledge website ing org, see section News). The Science and Society portal of the European Commission open to all organisations related to Science and Society http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/ home en.cfm.

Still available at the old EU website are specific pages with general information about Science Shops as well as the minutes and single contributions of two Science Shop workshops organised by the European Commission \bigcirc .

Science Shop Toolbox

The EC project TRAMS (Training and Mentoring of Science Shops) produced a series training materials. A series of training materials are available in the Science Shop Toolbox at the Living Knowledge website. All members of Living Knowledge can participate in activities (e.g. workshops, conferences) and make use of the results and materials developed during former project activities. This service will empower new Science Shops in developing professional standards and enable existing Science Shops to refine and improve their practice through updated professional know-how. You will find the toolbox at the Living Knowledge website.

FAQ's on Science Shops

The EC project TRAMS delivered training and mentoring tools to support new and existing Science Shops and alike organisations. One of these tools is the section Frequently Asked Questions on the Living Knowledge website. This FAQ section is a dynamic section. If you have any additional answers please feel free to contribute to the development of this section by sending your question to livingknowledge@wilabonn.de.

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