



**Living Knowledge**  
The International Science Shop Network



# Newsletter

## SOCIETY, SCIENCE AND RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

### Establishing better connections between science and European citizens

For the second time the Living Knowledge conference was organized within the activities of the PERARES project, which was awarded financial support from the European Commission's Science in Society Program. We are very grateful for that support. Aside from the conference, the cooperation in PERARES enabled us over the past four years, to bring 'public engagement with research and research engagement with society' to the next level. We established Science Shop activities in ten countries, we piloted different forms of scenario workshops, and worked hard to set research agenda's on different topics. For this, we used on-line dialogues and direct co-operation among civil society organisations and universities in different countries. Also, you can now benefit from studies on Higher Education Policies for Civic Engagement and on the role of research funders in this. Moreover, evaluation tools for Science Shop projects are now available to all of you.

But this is no reason to lean back. Responsible Research and Innovation is on the agenda. New consortia are formed to face the new (and old) challenges and to answer the open calls in Horizon 2020. And I learned from many colleagues in the Living Knowledge Network that they intend to continue their international cooperation and their involvement in public or community-university engagement on behalf of civil society requests and needs. Please keep us updated.

*(Norbert Steinhaus)*

## 6<sup>th</sup> living knowledge conference 2014

### Experiences from the 6<sup>th</sup> LK Conference

The Living Knowledge Network for the 6th time gathered many researchers, students, civil society organizations, policy makers and funders from all over the world. More than 270 participants followed the invitation to attend its bi-annual Living Knowledge conference and 175 presentations made this 6th Living Knowledge conference in Copenhagen an intensive and lively event. Before the conference a 2-day summer school about Science Shops was organized by the PERARES project. The conference, titled "An innovative civil society – Impact through co-creation and participation", again offered a fantastic opportunity to learn and to exchange experiences and to discuss questions of citizen involvement in debates on emerging technologies and decision making processes or their participation in research processes. It will support us to move forward in establishing a deeper and

### Table of Contents

- Experiences from the 6th LK conference
- Science Shop celebrates 25th anniversary at Queen's and the University of Ulster
- „Training the Next Generation of Community-based Researchers: A Global Partnership“
- New Science Shop in Montreal, Canada
- SoScience – responsible research – purpose-driven scientific innovation
- Indicators for the Evaluation of Public Engagement of HEI
- Inprofood - Towards sustainable food research
- TRANSIT: Research project about transformative social innovation
- German Ethik Council: Biosecurity – freedom and responsibility of research
- Convergence Between Science and Environmental Education
- Engaging the Public in Policy Research: Are Community Researchers the Answer?
- Stakeholder Consultation - Horizon 2020, Societal Challenge 5
- VA (Public and Science) promotes dialogue and openness between the public and researchers
- Special issue on alternative research funding!
- COST Action Urban Agriculture Europe
- Stakeholders and emerging technology: Collaboration for RRI
- Carrot City exhibit in Lausanne
- Workshops, Conferences and Webinars
  - Call for Papers, 17th Int. Seminar „Service-learning“
  - The Science & You: 2015 call for participation is open
  - Call for Papers – The Civil Society Conference
- Disclaimer



more systematic engagement of civil society groups in setting research agendas.

A plenary session about "Citizens, science and democracy" illustrated some of the challenges for civil society when participating in research activities. A plenary session about "Funding research with and for civil society" highlighted the importance of funding possibilities for civil society participation in research and some of the possibilities that EU's Horizon2020 program might give through activities under the headline "Science with and for society" and through the focus on so-called "Responsible research and innovation".

The book of abstracts can be downloaded here: [www.livingknowledge.org/lk6/presentations-media/](http://www.livingknowledge.org/lk6/presentations-media/). The videos from the plenary presentations will be online soon.

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## SAVE THE DATE

the 7th Living Knowledge Conference will be held from 22-24 June 2016 in Dublin, Ireland

### Training the Next Generation of Community-based Researchers: A Global Partnership

The Partnership Development Grant has recently been approved by SSHRC. This support will enable the 'UNESCO Chair in Community-based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education' to create a global partnership for training in Community-based Research, and mobilize the knowledge and skills of three CBR leaders and 16 networking organizations within the areas of asset-building for community development, participatory democracy and water governance. The first project meeting took place Sunday, May 18th 2014 at the University of Victoria. Minutes from the meeting and plans for next steps as the Chair moves forward will be send out.

More about the UNESCO Chair in CBR and Social Responsibility in HE: <http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/>

### Indicators for the Evaluation of Public Engagement of Higher Education Institutions

An article of Andrea Vargiu based on a study within PERARES was published in the Journal of Knowledge Economy in April 2014

Abstract: The expression „third mission“ is generally used to refer to universities' direct and indirect contribution to society. Some authors maintain the idea that a relevant aspect of third mission concerns public engagement of universities. Relevance and visibility of institutions'

as well as scholars' public engagement is connected with the possibility of accounting for it. The debate about the evaluation of teaching and research is quite advanced and so are assessment instruments and techniques (although far from producing generalized consensus). Confrontation

on the assessment of public engagement lags behind, although some significant advancements exist. The paper presents and discusses possible indicators for the evaluation of public engagement of universities, on the basis of comparison between three reports that were chosen after analysis of both mainstream publishing and grey literature. Indicators for institutional public engagement proposed by those three reports are subsumed under a common framework which encompasses them within six domains, such as: mission, governance and overarching institutionalized strategies for public engagement; research; student engagement and educational outreach; dissemination; accessibility and use of facilities; community partnerships, stakeholders' relations and participation in external activities. Conclusions identify a shortlist of indicators based on validity and feasibility. Some integration will also be proposed in the light of critical aspects pointed out in discussion.

Further information: <http://bit.ly/1IP9hUt>



## New Science Shop in Montreal, Canada

Last November a Science Shop has been launched within Engineering School. The name of the Science Shop is "Community-Based Innovation School" (École de l'innovation citoyenne) and its achievement takes place within Quartier de l'innovation in Montreal (Innovation District). More details: <http://quartierinnovation-montreal.com/en/portfolio/ecole-innovation-citoyenne/>



## SoScience – responsible research – purpose-driven scientific innovation

SoScience! is a pioneering start-up company, specialising in responsible research and bringing together social entrepreneurs and scientists to tackle today's social and environmental challenges.

Responsible research is a new way to approach scientific research and development. SoScience believes that science can change the world, and that both companies and public laboratories need to see research in a more socially responsible light.

More information: [www.soscience.org](http://www.soscience.org)



## Inprofood - Towards sustainable food research

Food and health is a highly complex societal challenge and public engagement in research requires ever more focus. Over the past decade, most EU Member States have identified food and health as key priorities. This is in response to increases in obesity and diet-related chronic diseases such as diabetes and cardiovascular diseases amongst their populations. Attempts to increase public awareness of appropriate ways to eat more healthily though do not seem to have led to significant changes in patterns of food purchase and consumption. It has become obvious that the development of effective measures for improvement is a demanding task and requires further systematic research and innovative approaches. INPROFOOD is determined to tackle this hugely ambitious task during 3 years of intensive activities. Their aim is to foster dialogue and mutual learning between

- industry,
- academia and
- civil society

already in the earliest stages of the research processes directed towards developing innovative approaches (technical and social) for dealing with the food and health challenge.

Read more: <http://www.inprofood.eu/>



**inprofood**  
Towards sustainable food research

3

## Science Shop celebrates 25th anniversary at Queen's and the University of Ulster

A joint collaboration between Queen's University and the University of Ulster Science Shop, which supports hundreds of community groups across Northern Ireland, celebrated the beginning of this year its 25th anniversary. The Northern Science Shop benefits the community and voluntary sector in across the region and is part of the wider European network of Science Shops. The Science Shops support community organisations in developing research projects which can be carried out by students as part of their degree programme. Over the past 25 years the Science Shop has delivered almost 2,500 projects and worked with more than 650 community groups including sports clubs, youth groups and recycling centres.

Queen's acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor James McElroy, said: "The Science Shop is a powerful initiative harnessing the talents, knowledge and enthusiasm of students at Queen's and the University of Ulster. Over the past 25 years, it has become a tremendous force for good, making a real impact on communities around Northern Ireland. It encourages students to apply their knowledge and learning to real-life problems, helps them to understand the challenges facing various groups within our society, and encourages them to give back to the community."

The Science Shops at Queen's University and University of Ulster is a joint community resource and are funded by the Department of Employment and Learning through their Higher Education Innovation Fund.

Read more: <http://www.qub.ac.uk/sites/ScienceShop/25thAnniversary/>





## TRANSIT: New research project about transformative social innovation

TRANSIT (TRANSformative Social Innovation Theory) is a research project that will develop a theory of transformative social innovation by studying social innovation initiatives and networks. Examples of case studies include science shops, time banks, Makerspaces and FabLabs, Transition Towns, eco-villages and sustainable energy organisations. TRANSIT aims to unravel how these phenomena are developing across Europe and Latin America, and whether and how citizens and civil society organisations are (dis)empowered through such social innovation initiatives and networks.

The aim of TRANSIT is to build a theory of social innovation that is useful not only to academics, but also to policy makers, social entrepreneurs, and other practitioners. It aspires to create an iterative interplay between interdisciplinary theory formation, empirical research through in-depth fieldwork and statistical analysis, dialogue workshops, and a transdisciplinary

translation to practical insights and capacity building tools.

TRANSIT is a EC-funded (FP7) research initiative, responding to the call for research on "Social Innovation – empowering people, changing societies?". The project started 1st of January 2014 and runs for 4 years until the end of 2017. The TRANSIT project is coordinated by DRIFT (Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands), and involves twelve separate research institutes from across Europe and Latin-America. Read more about the TRANSIT project at the project website: [www.transitsocialinnovation.eu](http://www.transitsocialinnovation.eu)

The contact person for the case study focusing on Science Shops as an example of social innovation and Living Knowledge as transnational network is Michael Søgaard Jørgensen, Center for Design, Innovation and Sustainable Transition, Aalborg University, 2450 Copenhagen SV, [msjo@plan.aau.dk](mailto:msjo@plan.aau.dk)

### German Ethik Council: Biosecurity – freedom and responsibility of research

In its opinion „Biosecurity – freedom and responsibility of research“, published on 7 May 2014, the German Ethics Council provides five recommendations. They range from implementing educational programmes on biosecurity and the development of a national biosecurity code of conduct for responsible research to proposals for the legal regulation of DURC and international initiatives.

In the recommendations, the first aim of the German Ethics Council is to motivate researchers to become aware of and engage in debate on biosecurity issues.

Summary and recommendations:

<http://bit.ly/1kWj3m0>



seven questions listed in the consultation paper. For background information, stakeholders may consult the H2020 Specific programme, as well as the H2020 Societal Challenge 5 Advisory Group report, which represents a valuable basis and framework for this programming exercise.

Anyone who would like to participate in this consultation is invited to send their contribution to [RTD-ENV-H2020STAKEHOLDERS@ec.europa.eu](mailto:RTD-ENV-H2020STAKEHOLDERS@ec.europa.eu) by 16 June 2014.

More Information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/news/consultation-stakeholders-horizon-2020-societal-challenge-5>

### Consultation of the stakeholders of the Horizon 2020 Societal Challenge 5

In the context of implementing Horizon 2020 (H2020), the European Union's research and innovation framework programme, we are consulting stakeholders for the H2020 Societal Challenge 5 "Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials".

Stakeholders are invited to send their insights and recommendations for 2016-2017, structured around

### VA (Public and Science) promotes dialogue and openness between the public and researchers

VA stands for Vetenskap & Allmänhet and means "Public and Science". VA is an independent and influential Swedish non-profit membership organisation that works to promote dialogue and openness between researchers and the public. It is an obvious partner and knowledge hub for science and society dialogue in Sweden as well as internationally. VA's offices are housed at the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences in Stockholm.

VA publishes an international newsletter in English twice a year. You can subscribe to receive the e-mail newsletter: <http://v-a.se/subscription/>

## Stakeholders and emerging technology: Collaboration for RRI

Are we successful at involving different stakeholders in the debate on emerging technologies? At what stage of the research process should stakeholders be involved? These issues are part of the new European challenge of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI). An interactive session at the ECSITE conference in the Hague, the Netherlands, in May allowed short presentations from some existing initiatives that address multiple stakeholders. The presentations of PERARES, VOICES and nanOpinion concentrated on the policy agenda of Public Engagement, and reflected on the different process requirements or key features that a RRI project should fulfil (inclusion, meaningful openness, diversity, anticipation, reflexivity, responsiveness and adaptive change) and how successful their projects were at fulfilling the key requirements.



You can find in this link all the presentations and the analysis, which are available in room Yangtze2: [www.ecsite.eu/news\\_and\\_events/news/third-and-last-day-ecsite-annual-conference-best](http://www.ecsite.eu/news_and_events/news/third-and-last-day-ecsite-annual-conference-best)

## Convergence Between Science and Environmental Education

By Arjen E. J. Wals<sup>1</sup>, et al

Urgent issues such as climate change, food scarcity, malnutrition, and loss of biodiversity are highly complex and contested in both science and society (1). To address them, environmental educators and science educators seek to engage people in what are commonly referred to as sustainability challenges. Regrettably, science education (SE), which focuses primarily on teaching knowledge and skills, and environmental education (EE), which also stresses the incorporation of values and changing behaviors, have become increasingly distant. The relationship between SE and EE has been characterized as "distant, competitive, predatorprey and host-parasite" (2). We examine the potential for a convergence of EE and SE that might engage people in addressing fundamental socioecological challenges.

More information: [www.transformativelearning.nl](http://www.transformativelearning.nl)

## Engaging the Public in Policy Research: Are Community Researchers the Answer?

By Liz Richardson

A case has been made for engaging the public in scientific research as co-producers of knowledge. These arguments challenge elite models of policy research and suggest the need for an ambitious expansion of more inclusive scientific public policy research. Enabling the public to be meaningfully involved in complex policy research remains a challenge. This paper explores a range of attempts to involving the public in public policy research. It uses a binary framing to typify some key debates and differences in approaches between community-based participatory research, and citizen science. Approaches to community-based participatory research in the social sciences offer a set of engagement principles which are an alternative to an elite model of policy research. Citizen science offers a focus on the use of scientific methods by lay people, but this approach is currently under-utilized in public policy research and could be expanded. How could the strengths of each be more fully integrated and harnessed? A case study

of community policy research is presented, in which an attempt was made to use a more fully integrated approach in a local policy context, identifying the potential and challenges. Based on a framework of three features of democratic and scientific policy research, it argues that more public participation in public policy research would be helped by more attention to the strengths of the democratic potential emphasised by participatory community-based research, alongside the potential of scientific robustness emphasised by citizen science. One conclusion drawn is that a professional and scientific orientation to public policy research can be retained without necessarily being professionally dominated. Research methods and skills are tools to which more people outside the profession could have access, if academics facilitate the process of democratization of policy research.

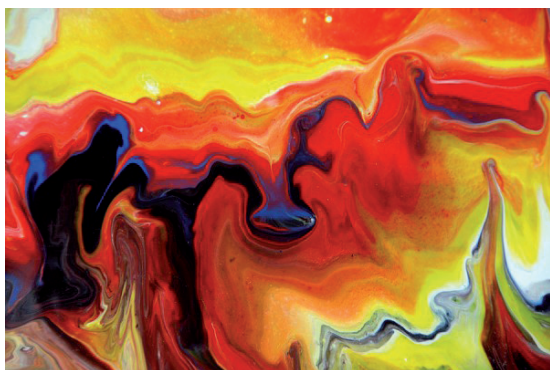
<http://www.cogitatiopress.com/politicsandgovernance/article/19>

## Special issue on alternative research funding!

Like the wavy lines of the painting illustrating this issue, reinventing research funding may not follow a straight path. It may not happen overnight either.

In this special issue of the EuroScientist, two facets of funding mechanisms that would need to be revisited are explored: at the macro level, where R&D policy shapes the way research funding is allocated, and at micro level, where peer review shapes the way research funding is distributed.

At a macro level, the trouble is that research funding policy choices have been informed by static indicators



of R&D performance for years. For as long as this was the only way of measuring research output, policy makers had to base their decisions on incomplete and imperfect information. But now that the modelling and simulation capabilities have much evolved, it is time for science policy to take advantage of the granular picture offered by improved analysis tools, based on a vast array of R&D input indicators, and to correlate them with their effect over time. This approach could ultimately help decision makers apply policies that present a greater likelihood of yielding the desired research objectives, in line with society's most pressing needs.

At a micro level, the trouble on that front is that peer-review may no longer be the best mechanism to fund research. And there is a growing consensus that alternative are needed, shying away from the current all-consuming bureaucratic sport it has now become. Or the current process needs, at least, to be adapted to encompass scientists' achievements in their complexity and through all of their multidimensional expression and not just limited to bibliometric indicators. Read on the lead article by Anthony King to find out what are the alternatives funding approaches already tested.

More information: <http://euroscientist.com/funding/>

## COST Action Urban Agriculture Europe

Urban Agriculture (UA) plays a key role in two global challenges: urbanization and food security. It can provide an important contribution to sustainable, resilient urban development and the creation and maintenance of multifunctional urban landscapes. In the globally emerging research field of UA, a European approach to the subject needs to be created. It has to integrate the unique European context regarding its urban and landscape pattern, the important role of the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) and the needs of the European society. The COST-ActionUrban Agriculture Europe (UAE) will initiate the definition of this European approach on the basis of existing research projects and reference regions in the partner countries. The outcomes of the Action will help to focus future research on UA, modify the CAP and stimulate private and public activities in UA projects and planning. The Action will

use an innovative approach crossing bottom-up and top-down methods, using the method of research by design and creating interfaces between the three methods. By working in close cooperation with regional stakeholders from the domains of urban development and agriculture the Action contributes to sustainable, resilient territorial development in Europe and aims for leadership in research on UA in developed countries.

Read more:

<http://www.urbanagricultureeurope.la.rwth-aachen.de/>



## Calls and Exhibitions

### Call for Papers for 17<sup>th</sup> International Seminar „Service-learning“

CLAYSS is launching the call for papers for the 17th International Seminar on Service Learning to be held on 28 and 29 August



2014. They will be presented during the breakout sessions which work the following topics: Supportive institutional practices in school service-learning - methods and challenges.

- 1) Social organizations as supportive learning space.
- 2) Service-learning projects for environmental care.
- 3) Experiences of solidarity service learning linked to science and technology.
- 4) Experiences of solidarity service learning linked to economics.
- 5) Experiences of solidarity linked to service-learning Communication, Art and Design.

The call will be open until June 20, 2014 inclusive. July 14 you will be informed if your submission has been approved to present in poster format or as a panelist. We ask all those concerned to write to Ms. Marina Suarez ([marina.suarez@clayss.org.ar](mailto:marina.suarez@clayss.org.ar)) sending the attached file, and we indicate the subject of your presentation so that our organizing committee to evaluate its participation. For more information: <http://www.clayss.org/seminario/index.html>

### Carrot City exhibit in Lausanne



From May 27 to October 30, 2014 the Faculty of Geosciences and Environment, University of Lausanne hosts the exhibition Carrot city. This exhibition explores world-wide capacity of urban design to develop agriculture in the city by presenting

achievements and particularly innovative projects. Throughout the duration of the exhibition, visitors will also have the opportunity to see the development of various plantations by students with NGOs. Further Information: <http://www.ryerson.ca/carrotcity/news.html>

### Science & You 2015 call for participation

You are a researcher or a PhD student in science communication, a director of a Scientific, Technical and Industrial Centre or of a museum, a business leader, a journalist or a science communication professional? Whether your interest is in the theory or the practice of science communication, the Science & You 2015 call for participation is now open!

This call concerns both the Journées Hubert Curien International Conference and the Forum.

The JHC Conference will bring together 700 professionals in science communication, in order to reflect on the future of science communication. An additional area for the conference, the Forum, will allow research



institutions, actors of science culture and businesses to present the most innovative forms of communication to the general public.

More Information: <http://www.science-and-you.com/en>

### Call for Papers – The Civil Society Conference

Melbourne 25-26 August 2014

Exploring the critical importance of civil society in overcoming disadvantage, strengthening communities and changing government. Papers, presentations, workshops and strategic proposals are invited which examine these themes in relation to the following streams:



SUBMIT HERE: <http://www.civilsociety.org.au/CivilSocietyConferenceContributionForm.htm>

More information about the conference please see under Conferences.

REGISTER HERE: <http://www.civilsociety.org.au/CivilSocietyConferenceRegistrationForm.htm>

Enquiries: Vern Hughes, [vern@civilsociety.org.au](mailto:vern@civilsociety.org.au)



## Conferences

### 2014 Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum

9-10 June 2014, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada  
<http://www.knowledgemobilization.net/forum>

### Interfaces of Science and Policy and the Role of Foundations

16-17 June 2014, Berlin, Germany, <http://bit.ly/1ndSCiQ>

### Campus Engage symposium on civic engagement in Ireland

17 June 2014 in Dublin, Ireland  
<http://www.iua.ie/events/campus-engage-01/>

### Online Conference on the topic „Science Shops“

17 June 2014, <http://wissen-teilen.eu/>

### How do we innovate responsibly in a digital world?

19 June 2014 in London, UK, <http://bit.ly/1f7vWO3>

### Mobilising Universities for Smart Specialisation

20 June 2014, Brussels, Belgium  
<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events>

### Science Building Bridges - ESOF 2014

21-26 June 2014, Copenhagen, Denmark  
<http://esof2014.org/>

### “What Went Wrong?” - Reflecting and Learning from Community-Engaged Research

11-12 July 2014 in Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota's West Bank Campus, USA  
<http://my.umbc.edu/groups/lc/news/41335>

### Engage and innovate for sustainability – 2014 International Conference of engaged scholars and practitioners

21-23 July 2014, Wagga Wagga, Regional New South Wales, Australia, <http://bit.ly/1hbTfRj>

### The Civil Society Conference – Strengthening communities and building self-help

25-26 August 2014 in Melbourne, Australia  
[www.civilsociety.org.au/CivilSocietyConferenceRegistrationForm.htm](http://www.civilsociety.org.au/CivilSocietyConferenceRegistrationForm.htm)

### EASST conference - Situating Solidarities: social challenges for science and technology studies

17-19 September 2014, Torun, Poland  
[www.nomadit.co.uk/easst/easst2014/panels.php5?PanelID=3173](http://www.nomadit.co.uk/easst/easst2014/panels.php5?PanelID=3173)

### Talloires Network Leaders Conference

2-4 December 2014 in Cape Town, South Africa  
<http://talloiresnetwork.tufts.edu/february-2014-newsletter/>

### CU Expo 2015

25-29 May 2015 in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada  
More information: <http://cuexpo2015.ca/>

### The Journées Hubert Curien International Conference

1-6 June 2015 in Nancy, France  
More information: <http://bit.ly/1hsRjov>

### 7th Living Knowledge Conference

22-24 June 2016 in Dublin, Ireland  
[www.livingknowledge.org](http://www.livingknowledge.org)

## Subscription for Newsletter

The newsletters are archived on the Living Knowledge website. Please recommend this newsletter to your colleagues and partners. You can subscribe or unsubscribe to the newsletter by sending a message to [living-knowledge@wilabonn.de](mailto:living-knowledge@wilabonn.de). This newsletter is part of the output of PERARES (Public Engagement with Research and Research Engagement with Society) – which has been awarded financial support by the European Commission as coordination action through the contract no. 244264 in FP7 (Area 5.1.2.1 Broader engagement on science-related questions, SiS-2009-1.2.1.1 Structuring public engagement in research (PER)).



## Disclaimer

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