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Living Knowledge
The International Science Shop Network

Newsletter 67

October 2021

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Editorial

Dear reader,

The first round of deadlines for Horizon Europe proposals has passed, so it's time to catch a breath. Why not looking forward to exchange with colleagues and prepare for the next calls: The UCEC 2021 conference, hosted by San Pedro College, Philippines at the beginning of November and the ENGAGE 2021 conference, hosted by NCCPE, UK, at the beginning of December will be excellent opportunities to exchange ideas.

And for sure we are looking forward to the next Living Knowledge conference to be held in Groningen, the Netherlands, in summer 2022. The call for papers and presentations is open.

Not only the FactoryWissKomm report by the German Ministry for Education and Research mentions that it is desirable to strengthen existing meeting spaces, such as Science Shops or Houses of Science, the as well as the natural and humanities museums and learning laboratories and that the development of new contacts and interfaces to the research and innovation system is also an important field of action. This strengthening and creation of dialogue and exploration spaces is becoming increasingly important in order to be able to respond agilely to the requirements of our society (in

large-scale transformation processes as well as in locally limited challenges). They enable science and civil society to draw up joint strategies on relevant topics and to discuss future designs. So, see you then in Groningen – latest.

Enjoy reading this newsletter!

Norbert Steinhaus

Call for Proposals now open for the 9th Living Knowledge Conference, “New synergies in Research with and for Communities: Meet, Learn, and Collaborate”

June-1 July 2022, Groningen, the Netherlands

After two years of postponement we are now confident and happy to organize the 9th international Living Knowledge Conference in 2022. It aims to bring together all those involved in doing or supporting research with and for communities. What can we learn from each other's approaches? How can we collaborate? Which links have been forged and what connections can still be made? On our network's 22nd anniversary, we will celebrate our achievements and anticipate future developments. Face to face this time!



Over the years, a myriad of approaches has been developed to do collaborative research with and for communities. Different names, different (ideological) histories, and (sometimes slightly) different objectives may obscure what we all have in common: an urge to co-create and share new knowledge for an inclusive, equitable, healthy and sustainable society.

Therefore, we hope to see you and talk about your science shops, research shops, living labs, citizen science, public engagement, participatory action research, investigative journalism, community-based research, community service learning, user driven innovation and (Put your work's name tag here). We are especially interested in collaborations you have forged, how you created synergies by involving students, crossovers you have made, and your ideas for future collaborations.

Living Knowledge Conferences favour interaction over one-way presentations. There is ample time for discussions, workshops, and dilemma sessions. From this meeting of people and minds we hope to create synergies that will benefit us all as well as the communities we represent.

The conference will be useful to anybody who is either interested in, supporting, facilitating, or doing community-driven, collaborative research. You will find a warm 'community of practice' with old and new friends awaiting you!

We are looking forward to your contributions!

Kind regards from the local team (Henk Mulder, Marc Pauly, Saskia Visser, Vincent Hazelhoff,

Kim Dumoré with the Groningen Science Shops and Groningen Conference Bureau)

PS: Those of you who received a mail from lk9@rug.nl on April 28, 2021, with a confirmation that your abstract for the original conference was accepted for the postponed conference do NOT need to submit a new proposal. You will get the opportunity to submit an updated abstract in March/April next year.

THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS IS NOW OPEN!

The deadline for submissions is December 15, 2021

Submit your proposal

Projects

InSPIRES closes thanking LK's energy

by Leonardo de la Torre (InSPIRES team)

"Today [closing day LK Festival 2021] I have felt we take part of something", said InSPIRES PI, María Jesús Pinazo. "And we believe this might be our journey's most important outcome. It is related with the LK community, as expressed by our leading project manager, Anne-Sophie Gresle: [...] They have been there for over 20 years. You come in out of the blue, they let you in, they share with you, they respect you and they tell: 'you are Living Knowledge too' ".



InSPIRES has a) implemented 123 Science Shop projects around the world; b) proposed a Transformative Framework for Science Shop process; c) consolidated and actively promoted [the InSPIRES Open Platform](#) (Monitoring and Impact Evaluation methodology and online tool); d) developed an E-learning course containing six modules on key topics (available in many languages); e) awarded and mentored six projects that worked with vulnerable groups in Uganda, Benin, Bolivia and Ecuador, Greece, Turkey and Romania through the InSPIRES Open Call; f) co-hosted the creation of the Italian Network of Science Shops, the Ibero-American Communities and Science Network and contributed with new activities for the French speaking Science Shop network; as well as f) organized hundreds of local events and dozens of webinars, among many other engagement and communication activities.

But truly none of these achievements compares to the fact of taking part of a long-lasting community, such as LK. The notion of network emerges between teams that share values. When [InSPIRES](#) arrives at its formal closure, networking is considered as the ultimate and most important resource to be protected, perhaps the energy needed for the future of the Science Shop movement.



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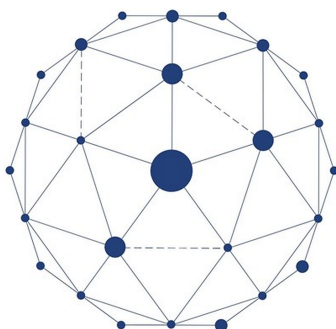
Related News

Science goes pedestrian zone

The East Bavarian university network TRIO has tried an unusual campaign in the first week of July. Five scientists sat on the bench in five cities. On the "Science Bench". In Amberg, Deggendorf, Landshut, Passau and Regensburg. In the middle of the city. Anyone who wanted to could sit down and chat with the researchers for a while. About wind turbines and smart grids. About electromobility and rural development. About digitalization and healthcare. About ideas and concerns related more closely or more broadly to the energy transition. Prof. Dr. Tomas Sauer, Scientific Director of the university network, says: "On the one hand, with TRIO we want to intensify the exchange between the eastern Bavarian universities and the economy, but above all we also want to seek contact with the people in our region and make it understandable what is happening at the universities and colleges. This is precisely the goal of the Science Bench campaign. Here, researchers and interested citizens can meet and discuss in a very informal way."

More information can be found [here](#). (Website only in German)

New Belgian Science Shop at KU Leuven



KU LEUVEN ENGAGE

Starting from academic year 2021-2022 the Flemish Science Shop Network will be extended with a Science Shop at Belgium's largest university: [KU Leuven](#).

This new Science Shop is hosted by [KU Leuven Engage](#), a community of engaged students, lecturers, researchers, staff members and partners of KU Leuven. For ecological sustainability topics, we the Science Shop team will work together with the [Green Office Living Lab](#).

Read more? Get in touch? Visit our [website](#) and/or mail us at wetenschapswinkel@kuleuven.be.

Towards sustainability: The Experience of “Science Together “, The Institut Pasteur de Tunis (IPT)’s (Tunisia) Science Shop

The revolution of 2011 allowed the rise of a very active civil society, involved in the decision-making process with a strong will in collaborating with Academics to tackle societal challenges. Indeed, 120 societal needs were collected by IPT’s Science Shop and 10 projects were implemented between 2018 and 2021, involving CSO’s, local and national stakeholders, students and scientists.



A system thinking approach led us to obtain innovative results and increases the impact of each Science Shop project.

The science shop was opened in spring 2017. Since then, more than 1000 students in collaboration with 40 lecturers worked on 100 plus questions of 55 community partners.

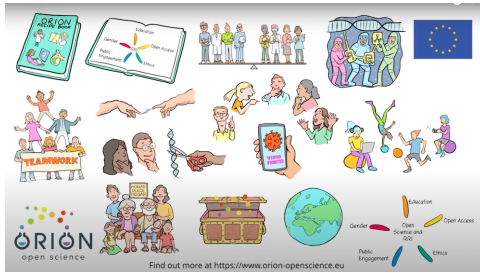
But being impactful is only the first step towards sustainability. To reach this objective, we also carried out several strategic actions:

- Ensure that the Science Shop activities answer to the institution’s missions and needs
- Ensure an institutional support, by communicating internally on your activities
- Develop peer to peer communication between scientists and positive feedbacks to show SS projects added value for scientists
- Create activities around the Science Shop (science education, advocacy, science communication, etc)
- Identify allies and develop your network
- Diversify your sources of funding
- Identify the best way to anchor yourself to the institution. We created a Unit called “Communication, Science and Society” inside the IPT, supported by our Ministry of Research.

Results of the Final conference of the ORION Project

September 2021 marked the official end of the ORION Open Science EU-project and the final conference was held on 27-28

September to wrap up all of the activities, insights and opinions from very fruitful 4,5 years.



The aim of the ORION project has been to trigger institutional, cultural and behavioural changes in Research Funding and Performing Organisations (RFOs and RPOs) towards Open Science and Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI).

The conference provided an opportunity to review ORION's achievements and share key lessons and experiences to help others to put open science into practice too. More than 100 delegates participated each day of the virtual conference and 22 international speakers contributed to make the event a true success. You can view any parts of the final conference or access a summary of the event on the ORION [website](https://www.orion-openscience.eu).

Let's put Open Science into practice!

Here is the [link](https://www.orion-openscience.eu).

The worldwide first 'priority setting project database' is online!

The priority setting project database, developed within the [Priority Setting programme](#) of the LBG OIS (Open Innovation in Science) Center in Austria, is the first of its kind that provides a comprehensive overview of those projects in which researchers have worked together with non-scientific stakeholders to define priorities for research. In particular, the database provides insights into the structure, methodology, and stakeholder groups involved in priority setting projects worldwide.



The database serves both as a source of inspiration for future priority setting projects (such as but not limited to Citizen Science ones) and as a research tool for unanswered research questions and under-researched topics.

The database can be found [here](#).

Tools to plan and evaluate the societal impact of your project

The OIS Impact Reflection Instruments are online [here](#)! They form a toolkit that can be used, together with the [LBG OIS Center "OIS Impact Model"](#) (to be found on the same page) or independently, to collect feedback on the effects of involvement and engagement initiatives in research projects. The toolkit includes detailed guidelines, templates for questionnaires, interviews and more, to be used at different times along the research project to plan and evaluate its societal impact, through both quantitative

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With calls for dialogic practices on the EU and national levels, initiatives such as public consultations have increasingly become means of involving citizens in policy-making. Especially in the face of global climate change, participatory approaches are crucial as this crisis is also highly contextual and local. The challenges and barriers to participation can be ameliorated by integrating local perspectives

and designing participatory institutional frameworks, allowing for more responsive and socially relevant initiatives tackling challenges faced by real communities.

The TeRRIFICA project has implemented a bottom-up Citizen Science approach and evaluated co-creation events in pilot regions across Europe. These case studies have brought forward the following policy recommendations under the theme *Citizen Participation Matters*.

Perspectives for Action in Science Communication



The German Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) invited for a think tank called #FactoryWisskomm to discuss the future of (German) science communication which ran from October 2020 to April 2021, consisting of over 150 selected experts, all of whom are pioneers in the field of effective science communication.

The strategy process divided into six locally defined working groups: Competence Building Science Communication, Recognition and Reputation for Science Communication, Research Field Science Communication, **Science Communication and Participation**, Quality, and Science Journalism in the Digital Age.

The “Perspectives for Action in Science Communication”, published by BMBF can be downloaded [here](#) (in German).

A machine translated English version can be provided by WILA Bonn.

71 Visions on our role in social-environmental transformative change

There are growing calls for more transformative approaches to addressing persistent interlinked societal problems such as hunger, climate change, biodiversity loss, unsustainable growth, poverty and social inequality. These problems cannot be addressed by merely ramping up the things that are already being done, often termed “incremental change”. Instead, calls are growing for “transformative change” – a fundamental system-wide reorganization of how societies are governed. This includes shifts in social, economic, environmental, and technological dimensions, and underpinning paradigms, goals and values.

Wageningen University & Research (WUR) gathered 71 visions across the five WUR science groups on how research can be transformative for the environment and society. A main finding of this work is that achieving an outcome of transformative change fundamentally depends on the process of working together and identified four “ways of working” that were consistently seen to enhance the transformative potential of research: (1) Pluralizing – finding common ground in ways that foster respect and learning across diverse beliefs, values and goals; (2) Empowering – building individual capacity to act and collective momentum to move towards transformative visions; (3) Politicizing –

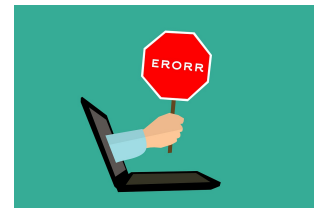
becoming politically aware and engaging with power in ways that accelerate rather than block systems change; (4) Embedding – integrating research and learning into every day decision making without compromising its moral and intellectual independence.

Chambers JM, Nel JL, Hille Ris Lambers R. 2020. 71 Visions on our role in social-environmental transformative change. Wageningen University & Research, Wageningen. 27 pp.

Download the full study/report [here](#).

Publication on fails in citizen science projects

The article „[Recognizing failures in citizen science projects: Lessons learned](#)“ addresses two main questions "What failures happen in citizen science projects?" and "How can a more open approach to fails or error culture be promoted in citizen science?". It was written by authors from the University of Innsbruck, OeAD Center for Citizen Science, University of Salzburg, University of Vienna and ZAMG.



Book publication: *Engaged Learning in Belgium*

A new book will be published in early 2022 focusing on the Belgian collection of practices on Engaged Learning (including service learning, science shops, and others) at Higher Education Institutions in Belgium.

Globally, there are growing calls for Higher Education Institutions to become more civically engaged and socially relevant while increasing public interest in the impact of universities on their localities and regions. Engaged Learning facilitates students to apply theory to real-world contexts outside of the University and to co-produce knowledge with and for the community. Engaged Learning provides students with the skills which increase their employability, and improve their personal and professional development, while communities gain access to skills to help develop, evaluate, or communicate their work with regard to actual societal challenges.

To enhance the knowledge and understanding of what constitutes a successful and sustainable Engaged Learning programme, an in-depth view is provided into practices from around Belgium. Highlighted is the diversity and flexibility to be found within Engaged Learning initiatives. The targeted practices arise from university wide initiatives to thematic curriculum-based courses and project-based initiatives. However, the one constant is each initiative's commitment to a concept where reciprocity between the students, universities, and communities, is prioritised. While the examples themselves differ in their structure and intended outcomes, this diversity is a benefit of Engaged Learning and further cements the varied nature across the disciplines and within Belgium.

Conferences & Events

Engage Conference

The National Co-ordinating Centre for Public Engagement (NCCPE) has launched the virtual Engage 2021 Unconference and Exhibition! The engagement community will be leading thought-provoking workshops and discussions, hosting live chats and sharing a diversity of practices that help to refocus the role of public engagement in higher education and society. Running until **Friday 12th November**. [View the Unconference programme](#) and [Experience the Exhibition](#).

Launch event of the DECODE Council for Sustainable Development

The **DECODE project** will launch the European Deans Council for Sustainable Development on Nov. 3rd, 2021, in an event hosted online at 15:00h (CET). The DECODE Council aims to support a community of European deans and other heads of academic units (departments, faculties, schools) in their efforts to embed sustainable development at their institutions. The Council will bring together more than 150 colleagues to exchange views, share good practices and initiatives, and learn from each other in a “from deans to deans” philosophy. The event will be attended only by registered founding members of the DECODE project. **The Council is open** to new deans and heads of academic units or others responsible for driving sustainable development at the management level from around Europe. **To become a founding council member**, please fill in the form [here](#).

About the DECODE Project:

Funded by the European Union’s Erasmus+ Program KA2, the DECODE project aims at fostering the institutionalisation of Sustainable Development (SD) in university departments to spearhead their contributions to sustainability, which are key in addressing challenges in European societies, industries and economies. We take the opportunity to encourage you to:

- follow DECODE on Twitter: [@DECODEproject_](#)
 - follow DECODE on [LinkedIn](#)
 - subscribe to their [newsletter](#)
-

Reinvigorating University-Community Engagement Emerging from Covid-19 Pandemic

The ASIA-PACIFIC UNIVERSITY-COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT NETWORK (APUCEN) invites to the 7th University-Community Engagement Conference (UCEC) 2021. UCEC is the biennial conference promoted by the Asia-Pacific University-Community Engagement Network (APUCEN) and co-hosted by their members. This is the first UCEC to be held in the Philippines, with San Pedro College as the host.

During this time of dramatic change emerging from the CoVID-19 pandemic, the call for more robust and sustainable University-Engagement has never been louder, a manifestation of higher education institutions’ evolving role to catalyze change on issues affecting communities and society as a whole. It is more than just mere outreach, but a mutually beneficial partnership to maximize development. UCEC 2021, as a platform for conversations on the best practices of university-community engagement, especially the post-pandemic era, aims to:

- Explore strategies, methods, and experiences employed in community engagement and partnership among stakeholders;

- Promote insightful discourse on reinvigorating the role of universities for community development;
- Reinforce the capacity of universities using their resources in the process of implementing community partnership to achieve sustainable development;
- Augment networking and the sharing of experiences among educators and communities in community engagement; and
- Develop action plans for joint flagship projects.

Keynotes and plenary sessions by Budd Hall, Rajesh Tandon and Norbert Steinhaus.
More information and registration at the [conference website](#).

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