Euroscience newsletter: Calls Open, Science Policy, Euroscientist

Euroscience Latest News

April 2013

Calls Open

The European Young Researchers’ Award 2013.

Hurry up! The call for European Young Researchers’ Award (EYRA) 2013 will close on the 30th April 2013.

Please note, that the call for 2013 is dedicated to PhD candidates only.

The European Young Researchers’ Award is granted to researchers demonstrating outstanding research performance and leadership.

The winner will be granted travel, accommodation and entry to ESOF2014 which will be held in Copenhagen, Denmark, next year. Read More>>

ESOF2014

The calls for Scientific Session Proposals and Expression of interest in Science in the City will close on the 9th May 2013.

The eight themes of the Scientific programme are:

- The Healthy Society
- A Revolution of the Mind
- Global Resource Management
- Learning in the 21st Century
- Green Economy
- Material and Virtual World
- Urbanization, Design and Liveability
- Science, Democracy & Citizenship

The calls for Science-2-Business and Career proposals have just opened. The Science-2-Business programme will include sessions on innovation, entrepreneurship and business development. The Career Programme will deal with career issues for researchers at all stages. Both calls will close on the 11th August 2013, and we encourage you to
submit excellent proposals respecting the selection criteria of each programme.

To know more on how to apply, please consult the **ESOF2014 website**.

**Communication**

**Euroscientist**

The webzine Euroscientist has recently published a special issue on Austerity and what impact it has on research as well as on researchers themselves across Europe.

Please join our efforts through the crowd-funding campaign. To know more go to the **Euroscientist website**.

**European Science TV and New Media festival**

The European Science TV and New Media festival will take place on **14-16 June 2013 in Science Gallery Dublin, Ireland**. The programme is being drafted and will be released shortly on the EuroScience website. Given the high number of excellent quality productions, no doubt that this will be a successful event.

For more information, please check regularly the **EuroScience dedicated pages** which will be updated shortly.

**Science Policy**

**Horizon 2020 in troubles: smaller budget, and short-term focus**

EuroScience was positive about the plans for Horizon 2020. See our reactions on the **EuroScience website**. The latest developments, however, are not encouraging. After the European Council, the heads of state and government, decided to reduce the EU budget for 2014-2020, implying a budget for Horizon 2020 of around 70 billion € instead of the necessary 80 billion €, the European Parliament resolved that research and innovation are important, but left the budget compromise intact. Now the European Commission has written a so far internal document outlining its plans for the implementation of Horizon 2020. These do not bode well for what should be central to the research and innovation at the EU level: ensuring that the long term sources of growth are nourished. Instead there is a focus on the short
term and the fashionable. The priority for Horizon 2020 is the current economic crisis, not a good basis for a future-oriented STI policy. The ERC is not given a serious priority and the Marie Sklodowska-Curie programme similarly seems to be brought fully in the realm of the need to support industry. The inevitable budget cuts are not reflected in streamlining the programme by for example merging the Future and Emerging Technologies programme the Enabling Industrial Technologies Programme. And the experience with top-down Public-Private-Partnerships with governments involved in very formal ways, is not particularly successful. EuroScience will keep trying, with your support, to help focus on the longer-term research needed to advance science, society and the future of our economies.

**Partnership**

Five grassroots science organisations join forces. In this era of globalization it is important that the worldwide science community realises that convincing societies, policymakers and business of the importance of science for advancing sustainability, health, development and welfare is a worldwide duty. Grassroots organisations of scientists and others interested in science, can learn from each other and help each other in asking attention for and working together on common issues. The American Association for the Advancement of Science AAAS, Euroscience, the China Association for Science and Technology CAST, the Indian Science Congress Association and the Brazilian Society for the Promotion of Science SBPC have concluded an agreement to cooperate. They will begin by identifying one or more common themes around which they will organise joint global sessions at their annual or biennial (in Euroscience’s case) large-scale meetings. For Euroscience this is of course ESOF. We will begin in 2014 with the AAAS meeting in February in Chicago, and also at ESOF 2014 in Copenhagen there will be a special session with the cooperation of these five organisations. Secretary-general Peter Tindemans will represent Euroscience in the joint task force.

**Internal affairs**

**Governing Board**

The next EuroScience Governing Board meeting will be held in Paris on 2nd July 2013. Among many other issues, the new packages of benefits for individual and corporate members will be discussed and likely approved there. EuroScience members will be
informed of the important points and outcomes in the subsequent Newsletter.

**EuroScience Office**

Euroscience Office strengthened by Luc van Dyck. Since effectively the beginning of March 2013, Dr. Luc van Dyck is working with Euroscience. Luc van Dyck is has a PhD in agronomy and biological engineering from the Université de Louvain. He has worked in industrial R&D, and also for the European Molecular Biology Organisation EMBO. He was closely involved in setting up the Initiative for Science in Europe ISE, and was its first Executive Secretary. Luc has a wide European experience and network in science and policy. In October 2012 the five Foundations that support since 2009 the ESOF Hub, have agreed to fully integrate the ESOF Hub within the EuroScience Office. It helps avoid confusion and the further development of Euroscience and one of its key activities, ESOF, requires this much more integrated approach.

Now Euroscience is much better able to operate as a whole with much more synergy its member activities, its science and society and policy activities, ESOF and the web-journal Euroscientist. Luc will play a key role in helping, together with the Euroscience staff, the Copenhagen team in delivering ESOF2014. Creating a European Young Researchers Platform, which will be an important step also for the Career Programme of ESOF 2014, will be another activity which Luc will strongly be involved together with Governing Board member Pauline Mattsson.

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