

## Living Knowledge – Building Partnerships for Public Access to Research

### Newsletter – September 2004

Dear reader!

I am very pleased to present to you the 8<sup>th</sup> issue of the “Living Knowledge Newsletter”. I hope you will enjoy it.

Yours sincerely  
Norbert Steinhaus

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### Conference

## Advancing Science and Society Interactions

Seville, 3-5 February 2005

We are pleased to invite you to the **Second Living Knowledge Conference**, titled “**Advancing Science and Society Interactions**” and taking place in Seville, Spain, from 3-5 February 2005. The conference is organised by the International Science Shop Network ‘*Living Knowledge*’ and supported by the European Commission under its Science and Society Programme.

This international conference will provide a forum where information on community based research, carried out in both community and academic settings, can be shared and developed. It will reflect the social impact and scientific and democratic value of research from a range of disciplines including social, natural, physical and technological sciences. This conference will be of interest to people who are active in, or interested in, the field of community-based research. Practitioners from non-governmental organisations (NGOs), research institutes, universities (both academics/faculty and students) and science and society policy makers are invited to share their experiences. The conference themes will include

- \* The impact of communities on the research and policy agenda
- \* Citizen participation in research and policy making
- \* Development of infrastructures for mediation and communication of community based research.
- \* Local and global demands for access to research, science, education and technology.

The official languages of the conference are English and Spanish. Translation will be available throughout the conference. The Conference will include plenary sessions, oral presentations, workshops, poster sessions, exhibitions and a marketplace. There will be opportunities for field trips, excursions and networking. Childcare will be offered during the conference. For further

information please contact the Conference Secretariat [conference@paxmediterranea.com](mailto:conference@paxmediterranea.com) or visit the conference website [www.cienciaysociedadsevilla.org](http://www.cienciaysociedadsevilla.org).

### **Call for Contributions**

You are invited to send a short abstract or workshop proposal (one page for max. 15 min. papers) related to a theme to [papers@paxmediterranea.com](mailto:papers@paxmediterranea.com). Abstracts must be submitted before 15 October 2004. Notifications of acceptance will be sent until 30 November 2004. Accepted abstracts will be published.

### **Registration**

To register online, please visit [www.cienciaysociedadsevilla.org](http://www.cienciaysociedadsevilla.org). Registration fees are for Students: 25 €.; NGOs / Universities: 100 €, Policy-Makers / Others: 200 €, (after November 30th 2004 fees will increase by 20%). For further information on scholarships and bursaries please contact the Conference Secretariat [conference@paxmediterranea.com](mailto:conference@paxmediterranea.com).

*Please recommend the conference to your colleagues and partners. A printed conference announcement is available. If you have the chance to distribute the announcement, please address to [norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de](mailto:norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de) and ask for the needed number of copies.*

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### **Publication**

#### **Science Shops in Europe: the Public as Stakeholder**

A paper entitled "Science Shops in Europe: the public as stakeholder" by Corinna Fischer, Malte Schophaus and Loet Leydesdorff appeared in the last issue of Science and Public Policy 31(3), 2004, 199-211 (Publisher: Beech Tree Publishing). It is based on one of the workpackages of INTERACTS.

Abstract: After two decades of relative silence, science shops seem to be back on the agenda of science policy-making. In this article, country-specific and country-independent factors for their success and failure and their co-operation with civil society are discussed in terms of different traditions in political culture. Science shops seem to be at a cross-roads, where their work focus and their coalitions may have to change. On the one hand, they are still connected to their roots, the social movements. On the other hand, a general trend towards business co-operation in science policy can be observed. The increasing debate about science and society interfaces lends importance to the science shop concept, as is especially visible in the recent support given them by the European Commission.

The article can be purchased by unregistered users online for \$ 6,81 + tax at <http://ariel.ingentaselect.com/vl=2110707/cl=97/nw=1/rpsv/cw/beech/03023427/v31n3/s3/p199>

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### **Report**

#### **Community-based Participatory Research: Assessing the Evidence**

released in PDF form by the U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality on its website at <http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/evrptpdfs.htm#cbpr>

Community-based participatory research (CBPR) is a collaborative approach to research that combines methods of inquiry with community capacity-building strategies to bridge the gap between knowledge produced through research and what is practiced in communities to improve health. Interest is growing rapidly for academic institutions, health agencies, and communities to form research partnerships; few agreed-upon guidelines describe how to develop or evaluate CBPR proposals or what resources are required to promote successful collaborative research efforts. This systematic review consolidates literature on health-related

CBPR. The authors addressed the following key questions: What defines CBPR? How has CBPR been implemented to date with regard to the quality of research methodology and community involvement? What is the evidence that CBPR efforts have resulted in the intended outcomes? What criteria and processes should be used for review of CBPR in grant proposals? The authors searched standard electronic databases for all years using specified Medical Subject Headings terms and identified a forthcoming special journal issue and hand-searched reference lists of relevant articles for detailed review.

One of the findings was that the number of high-quality CBPR publications has increased recently, which may reflect more targeted funding and special journal issues on this theme. Guidelines are still needed to assist funding agencies and grant applicants and reviewers in achieving the best balance of rigorous research and optimal collaboration among communities and institutions. The authors conclude that many CBPR studies had strong community-institution collaborations; relatively few combined this type of collaboration with solid research methods. Their synthesis of this literature enabled them to produce guidelines to improve the quality of and funding for CBPR.

*Viswanathan M, Ammerman A, Eng E, Gartlehner G, Lohr KN, Griffith D, Rhodes S, Samuel-Hodge C, Maty S, Lux, L, Webb L, Sutton SF, Swinson T, Jackman A, Whitener L. **Community-Based Participatory Research: Assessing the Evidence**. Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 99 (Prepared by RTI University of North Carolina Evidence-based Practice Center under Contract No. 290-02-0016). AHRQ Publication 04-E022-2. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. July 2004.*

Community-Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH) is a non-profit organization that promotes health through partnerships between communities and higher educational institutions. CCPH will be hosting a teleconference on the report's findings this fall, featuring the report's authors as presenters. Details by joining the CBPR listserv at <https://mailman.u.washington.edu/mailman/listinfo/cbpr> or by signing up for CCPH's monthly e-news at [www.ccpb.info](http://www.ccpb.info). A conference being cosponsored by CCPH and The Network: "Toward Unity for Health", will take place from October 6-10, 2004 in Atlanta, GA USA on Overcoming Health Disparities through Partnerships.

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Online

## **New Web Site launched for Young Practitioners Working on Science and Society Issues**

**Worldwide Virtual Network of Young Practitioners Working on Science and Society Issues at <http://alba.jrc.it/science-society/>**

The Virtual Network is one of the spin-offs of the International Workshop "Interfaces between Science and Society" held in Milano in November 27 - 28 2003. The main aim of the Virtual Network is to create a space for enhancing communication, discussion and collaboration mainly between researchers, but also with other groups of practitioners (e.g. NGOs, policy makers, media, etc.).

The Web Site of the Virtual Network is structured in the four following sections:

- Knowledge, Uncertainty, Complexity and Values
- Communicating among plural Perspectives and Community Based Research
- Transparency, Openness and Participation in Science Policy Processes
- Emerging new Styles of Governance and ICT Tools

Each section has an area of News and Events, Commented Bibliography and Publications on-line, which is periodically updated. In addition there is a Data Base of researchers working on Science and Society interfaces, an area of Links, and a Forum of discussion. The site of the Virtual Network can be visited at <http://alba.jrc.it/science-society/>. Opinions, comments and suggestions about the site and about the Network itself are welcome.

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Magazine

## Living Knowledge – International Journal of Community Based Research

### **Call for papers**

Deadline for submissions for the next issue of Living Knowledge will be 4 October 2004! Its general theme will be “**Advancing Science and Society Interactions**”.

The magazine welcomes the contribution of reports, articles, news, press releases and clippings, letters, contribution to discussions, job offers, internships etc. To simplify your contribution to the magazine you can send your press releases, headlines, brief information or news in any language. The editorial board will choose topics from your contributions and organize the translation. Reports and detailed articles should follow the editorial guidelines. Information about LK and the editorial guidelines can be found at the homepage of the Science Shop network ([www.scienceshops.org](http://www.scienceshops.org)). Please feel free to contact the editors for your questions and any support.

Please note that Living Knowledge is not a peer reviewed scientific publication yet. The purpose of LK is to disseminate informative articles and reports that represent the current work of Science Shops in the field of (demand driven) community based research matters.

Please send your contributions until October 4<sup>th</sup> to:

Norbert Steinhaus, [norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de](mailto:norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de) or Caspar de Bok, [C.F.M.deBok@bio.uu.nl](mailto:C.F.M.deBok@bio.uu.nl)

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FP7

## Commission launches Consultation on the Future of European Research Policy

The European Commission has launched a consultation process on the future of European policy to support research. The consultation follows the publication of the communication 'Science and technology, the key to Europe's future', which outlines proposals for new technology partnerships, a new agency to support basic research, and a new management structure for EU funded initiatives. The communication also proposes a major increase to the EU research budget. The results of the consultation will be used by the Commission when preparing its proposal for the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). The Commission invites members of the international research community, as well as users of research, to participate in the consultation by completing an online questionnaire.

To access the questionnaire, please visit:

<http://europa.eu.int/yourvoice/forms/dispatch.jsp?form=330&lang=EN> To consult the Commission communication, please visit: [ftp://ftp.cordis.lu/pub/era/docs/com2004\\_353\\_en.pdf](ftp://ftp.cordis.lu/pub/era/docs/com2004_353_en.pdf)

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## Science Shop Brochure

An international brochure on Science Shops is available. This brochure was produced by the European Commission in close co-operation with the International Science Shop Network. In the brochure information can be found on activities and impact of Science Shops. The examples in the brochure give an outstanding overview of the different contexts in which Science Shops. The brochure is of special interest for people who are involved in science and society issues (on a practical, political and management level) or who want to adopt the concept of Science Shops. The brochure is available in English, German and French. Brochures can be ordered for free at the European Commission, Science and Society Directorate.

For ordering the brochure please contact Jette Gents at the European Commission, [jette.gents@cec.eu.int](mailto:jette.gents@cec.eu.int), tel. +32.2.29.99909

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## Conferences

1-2 November 2004, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

### **Sharing Knowledge?**

*Exploring the interfaces between science & society and the role of science communication"*

This conference hosted by the Da Vinci Institute, centre for science communication, and the IITO, Institute for Innovation and Transdisciplinary Research of the Vrije Universiteit, the Netherlands will explore interfaces between science and society, including science communication and multi-domain problem solving. The first day of the conference focusses on transdisciplinary research and new approaches to complex problems. Workshop themes are, amongst others: Transdisciplinary Knowledge Production in Health Research, New Approaches to Complex Problems, Ethical Values and Scientific Knowledge Production. Details at <http://www.davinci>

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4 November 2004, Providence, RI, USA

### **7th Annual Community Research Network Conference**

The Community Research Network (CRN) of the Loka Institute is planning its 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. A cross-section conference planning team has come together to organize the conference to be held in Providence, RI, USA, on November 4<sup>th</sup>. The annual CRN conferences are held to provide an interactive forum for local, regional and international networks, grassroots organizers, researchers, practitioners, students, funders, and public institutions to move still closer to the ideals of community-based research. Further details including the call for proposals and other logistical information will be posted on the Loka Institute website [www.loka.org](http://www.loka.org).

#### **Further information:**

Khan Rahi, [ksrahi@sympatico.ca](mailto:ksrahi@sympatico.ca), or Rick Worthington [RKW14747@pomona.edu](mailto:RKW14747@pomona.edu).

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6-7 December 2004, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

### **Images of Science**

*New Interactions between Science and Society,*

All of us hold images of science. But not all of us hold the same images of science. Some of us still treasure the notion of scientists in their ivory tower, hardly aware of the social questions their work arouses. This conference is intended for scientists, politicians, policymakers and others interested from European Union states. In plenary sessions and workshops participants will receive an overview of developments over the past 15 years and a fresh look direction future. Attention will be dedicated to experts' ideas, but (relative) outsiders too will be able to contribute their opinions.

*Images of Science* is organised by the Rathenau Institute, the Social Sciences Council of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences and the All European Academies of Science (ALLEA). For further information or registration, please visit [www.imagesofscience.com](http://www.imagesofscience.com).

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## Other Conferences

4-8 October 2004: WCSJ 2004: 4th World Conference of Science Journalists in Montreal.

WCSJ 2004 Program & Registration <http://www.wcsj2004.com>, Homepage World Federation of Science Journalists (WFSJ) <http://www.esf.org/wfsj/index.htm>

15-16 October 2004: Science is Primary. European Conference on Science and Technology Education, Amsterdam (The Netherlands), [www.science.uva.nl/scienceisprimary](http://www.science.uva.nl/scienceisprimary)

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For more conferences related to community based research, science and technology and science communication see 'news' and 'agenda' at the Living Knowledge-website [www.scienceshops.org](http://www.scienceshops.org)

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The newsletters are archived on the Living Knowledge homepage: [www.scienceshops.org](http://www.scienceshops.org).

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