

Living Knowledge – Building Partnerships for Public Access to Research

Newsletter – March 2005

Dear reader!

I am very pleased to present to you the 11th issue of the “Living Knowledge Newsletter” and hope you will enjoy it. I wish you a happy Easter .

Norbert Steinhaus

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Advancing Science and Society Interactions

European Commission should strengthen citizens' involvement in research

Living Knowledge Conference, Seville, 3-5 February 2005

At the beginning of February around 250 people from 30 countries all over the world participated in a three day international conference in Seville, Spain which focussed on ‘Advancing Science and Society Interactions’. The 2nd ‘Living Knowledge’ Conference offered a unique opportunity to scientists, researchers, policy-makers and practitioners in community based research to share experiences and build networks for approaching citizens’ participation in science. The conference did not simply present useful approaches in knowledge transfer but also opened many possibilities for future cooperation. In workshops and plenary sessions more than 60 speakers not just from Europe but also from North-, Central- and South-America, Africa, the Middle East and Far East gave their examples of best practices. At the ‘Living Knowledge’ conference there was a strong will to build on the momentum to strengthen the EC Science and Society programme by providing further input to its activities. The process of implementing science and society interactions is not finished yet and should be continued in the coming framework programme. Conference participants and all actors in „science/society“ issues are invited to give input to the development of new ways and new activities that will strengthen citizens’ involvement in research.

For more information the conference please see the coming issue of the Living Knowledge magazine or contact the International Science Shop Network Living Knowledge at:

isso@bio.uu.nl, +31.30.2535796, www.scienceshops.org , www.livingknowledge.org

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Science Shops

Science awareness

On 25 and 26th of November 2004 a workshop "Science Shops - Thinking the future and twinning old/new shops" was organised in Brussels. The debate focused on the role of universities, partnerships with the NGOs and local entities, and the promotion of new Science Shops in Europe. Ongoing and new projects were presented and a possible partnership with FP6 projects ("Networks of excellence" and "Integrated projects") was also discussed. Go to the Science shops page to download the presentations.

<http://www.scienceshops.org/new%20web-content/framesets/fs-news.html> or

http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/science-society/scientific-awareness/shops_en.html#link1

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Research & Development

Campaign for a FP7 more engaged with sustainability and social justice

All communications and reports coming from the EC and the European Parliament and concerning FP 7, the research & development programme of the European Commission, signalise that there will be very few money for science and society issues as well as issues directly related to sustainable development. That's why the 'European Science Social Forum (ESSF)' proposes a Europe wide petition that critically analyses future research priorities and the vision of society they portray. The ESSF proposes a kind of alternative programme and vision.

You can find the full text of the petition and a very simple signature procedure at: www.essfnetwork.org

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Science and Society I

SINAPSE

A better use of scientific knowledge in European governance

Scientific expertise is increasingly becoming an element of critical importance in the design, implementation and assessment of public policies. As a result, the policy makers must be in a position to effectively consult the scientific community and give scientists the opportunity to share their concerns and knowledge. Consulting and listening under time pressure to an ever larger number of experts, on issues of growing complexity, is however difficult. The European Commission has, as foreseen in its Science and Society Action Plan, now developed the SINAPSE e-Network (**S**cientific **I**nform**A**tion for **P**olicy **S**upport in **E**urope). The main objective of this web-based communication platform is to offer a set of essential tools to promote and encourage the effective exchange of information between all stakeholders concerned by the use of science in European governance. The registration phase has started on 10 March 2005. During this phase efforts will be primarily targeted on building the SINAPSE community.

SINAPSE is open and freely accessible on <http://europa.eu.int/sinapse>

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Science and Society II

Researchers in Europe

Initiative to link public events and activities

The European Commission will organise, from June through November 2005, the *Researchers in Europe Initiative*. Organised by DG Research, this series of awareness raising activities will put the researcher's profession into the spotlight. The basic concept of the initiative is to provide a Europe-wide platform to promote science and research – to make people think again about the research and what it means in today's society. Events will mobilise all areas of the research community from universities to student

associations, and industry to public research organisations. Researchers, teachers, students, parents – people from all walks of life will have the opportunity to express and exchange views on the role of science in society. This multi-faceted campaign involves a wide range of stakeholders and activities, such as: a Europe-wide launch event in Luxembourg on 8 June; a Europe-wide mid-year event called “The European Researchers Night” (23 September); conferences, open door events, competitions and awareness events at European, national, regional and local levels; and a closing conference in Dublin. *If you're interested to link your own activity or event to the Researchers in Europe Initiative you can contact Colette Renier, Communication Officer EC DG Research (Colette.RENIER@cec.eu.int).*

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Research infrastructure

ESF Exploratory Workshops - 2005 Call for Proposals

Each year, The European Science Foundation (ESF) supports approximately 50 Exploratory Workshops across all scientific domains. The focus of the scheme is on workshops aiming to explore an emerging and/or innovative field of research or research infrastructure. Successful proposals will be expected to demonstrate the potential to open up new directions in research or new domains. They should also show potential for initiating follow-up research activities and/or developing future collaborative actions. Interdisciplinary topics are encouraged. ESF Exploratory Workshops awards are intended for small, interactive and output-oriented gatherings of maximum 30 participants and up to a maximum value of 15000 Euros. Awards are for workshops to be held in the calendar year 2006 (1 January - 31 December). Deadline for the receipt of proposals: 1 May 2005 (midnight)
Full details at <http://www.esf.org/workshops>

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Online

EU Bookshop

EU bookshop is an online bookshop giving access to publications from the EU institutions, agencies and other bodies. In addition to the online bookshop, this service will offer an online catalogue and archive of all EU publications. EU bookshop will allow users to search for EU publications, order them and where possible, download copies. The EU bookshop is managed by the Publications Office.
<http://www.bookshop.eu.int>

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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, tel. +.32.2.29.99909

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Conferences

12-16 September 2005, Rome, Italy with FAO and IFAD

Farming Systems and Poverty: Making a Difference

IFSA 18th Symposium and Global Learning Opportunity (GLO)

More information at www.fao.org/farmingsystems, farming-systems@fao.org, European IFSA steering committee: Kirsten von der Heiden, kheiden@zek.tu-berlin.de; Heiden.Plagge@t-online.de

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9-13 October 2005, University of Bonn, Germany,

Global Environmental Change, Globalization and International Security: New Challenges for the 21st Century

6th Open Meeting of the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change Research Community

More details, including information, application forms, timelines and deadlines, are available at the Open Meeting website, <http://openmeeting.homelinux.org>

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November 12 - 17, 2005, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

International Conference on Making Primary Health Care Work: Challenges for the Education and Practice of the Health Workforce

More information: TUFH Network: Towards Unity for Health, www.the-networktufh.org/conference/

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November 17-19, 2005, Sedona, Arizona, USA

Putting knowledge to work!

Call for Papers, Presentations and Workshops for the Fifth National Community Based Collaborative Research Consortium (CBCRC)

The Community-Based Collaborative Research Consortium (CBCRC) is soliciting additional sessions. Submissions may be in the form of a research paper presentation, a discussion panel, a training workshop, case studies, field trip or other creative format. A paper is requested but not required.

Email submissions in MS Word to cbcrc@virginia.edu. More information at www.cbrc.org

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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

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The newsletters are archived on the Living Knowledge homepage: www.scienceshops.org.

Please recommend this newsletter to your colleagues and partners.

If you want subscribe or unsubscribe to the newsletter please send a message to C.F.M.deBok@bio.uu.nl or visit our website at <http://www.scienceshop.org> and select 'Discussion list and Newsletter'

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