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Building partnerships for public access to research

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Living Knowledge Website

www.livingknowledge.org

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 C.F.M.deBok@uu.nl.

This newsletter is part of the output of TRAMS (Training and Mentoring of Science Shops) – which has been awarded financial support by the European Commission through the contract SaS6-CT-2005-013654 as Coordinated Action.

Science Shop call

By the end of July the EC finished the evaluation procedure of the proposals that have been submitted in the Science Shop call last March. 27 proposals passed all evaluation thresholds. It seems out of those 27 proposals 4 projects can be funded. No further information about the selection for negotiation is available yet. Anyway it can be concluded that the pilot call for proposals has been successful with 27 on all criteria positive evaluated projects.

Science Shops Funding Success in Wales

Mark Brake and Steve Harris announced that the Higher Education Funding Council of Wales (HEFCW) has awarded the Centre for Astronomy and Science Education (CASE) at the University of Glamorgan £750K over two years to set up a network of science shops in south-east Wales. They warn in advance that they will be counting on advice and expertise to help them make this exciting new venture a success! More details will be available as their plans become more concrete.

Contact: Steven Robert Harris, University of Glamorgan, Centre for Astronomy and Science Education, 4 Forest Grove, Wales, UK. CF37 1DL, srharris@glam.ac.uk, Tel: +44 (0)1443 483276

3rd International Living Knowledge Conference

30 August to 1 September 2007, Paris, France

The preparations for the 3rd Living Knowledge Conference are getting more concrete. The conference will be held in Paris, France, from August 30, 2007 until September 1, 2007. The main conference themes will be:

- University engagement with communities
- Citizens' science and social movements
- Research policy - from local to global
- Innovation - added values for communities

A pre-conference session will give a general introduction on Science Shops as second and condensed Science Shop summer school. A draft programme is available at the Living Knowledge website (www.livingknowledge.org). More details, the call for abstracts and requests for support will be announced here as well as on the Living Knowledge discussion list. Please check for updates.

Printed copies of the Seville conference proceedings are still available. Please ask for a free copy by sending an e-mail to norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de or download the pdf-file at www.livingknowledge.org (follow reports-documentation-ISSNET).

Living Knowledge Magazine – Call for papers

Deadline for submissions for the next issue of Living Knowledge – International Journal of Community Based Research will be 29 September 2006! Regarding the coming conference its general theme will be "Communities building knowledge: Innovation through citizens' science and university engagement".

The magazine also welcomes the contribution of reports, articles, news, press releases and clippings, letters, contribution to discussions, job offers, internships etc besides the general theme. To simplify your contribution to the magazine you can send your press releases, headlines, brief information or news in any language. The ed-



itorial 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.livingknowledge.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. 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 by September 29th to: Norbert Steinhaus, norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de or Caspar de Bok, C.F.M.deBok@uu.nl

Science Shop Summerschool

A four day introduction in Science Shops

35 participants from Canada, China, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Turkey and the USA registered for the Science Shop summer school which will be held from 22-25 August 2006 in Utrecht (the Netherlands). There will be 14 participants that receive a scholarship.



The Science Shop summer school focuses on the concept of Science Shops and community-based research in general. Experienced science shop staff will discuss operational options and good practices, but also barriers in running a science shop. Clear links will be made to the EC Science and Society policy and other activities to improve citizens access to, and participation in research. Examples of different Science Shop models will be given and visits to different type of Science Shops will be organised.

More information about the programme is available at www.livingknowledge.org or at the International Science Shop Contact Point, Utrecht University, Caspar de Bok, c.f.m.debok@uu.nl

Science communication survival kit

The European Commission has published a 'survival kit' to help scientists communicate their activities to

the public more effectively. With issues such as bird flu and global warming regularly hitting the headlines, improving the public's understanding of science is increasingly important. Furthermore, where research has been publicly funded, people may be interested to know how their taxes are being spent. 'Communicating Science: A Scientist's Survival Kit' delves into the world of science communications, and teaches scientists how to reach out to the public and compete for their attention. Combining general theories with tricks of the trade, the kit provides useful information on how to plan communications activities; explain complicated research in simple terms and use different forms of media.

'Communicating Science: A Scientist's Survival Kit' can be downloaded from: http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/science-communication/index_en.htm.

EU Funding in brief

The Budapest-based EUROPA MEDIA Public Service Corporation has a networked foundation of collaborators located in 17 EU countries. They run a website with general information on EU programmes and funds. This section of the website is designed for those who have a general interest in EU programmes (students, private individuals). It is a free service available for all users. They also have a pay service section which is designed for professional users who apply for EC funds, participate in tenders and develop European contacts (company managers, university research staff, administrators).

In their special summer edition of EU Funding in Brief they structured and summarised the information available about the new EC programmes of the 2007-2013 period (www.eucenter.org/download/fundopp/finbrief.pdf). A pdf file with current funding deadlines of existing calls is also available for download (www.eucenter.org/download/other/deadlines.pdf).

Read more about Europa Media [here](#).

New Report: Revalorising community-run garden complexes – the role of such complexes in an urban area

There is growing pressure on open space in the Netherlands and as a result the government wants 40% of new houses to be built in the Netherlands to be located within existing urban areas. This will increase the pressure for developing on „siertuinen parken“. There is no direct English translation of this term. They can be described as community-run garden complexes. They bear some resemblance to allotments, but there is more emphasis on leisure and recreation than on growing prize vegetables. Members usually have a chalet on their plots and the complexes contain communal garden spaces and buildings.



They were developed to meet urban outdoor leisure needs in the days before mass car ownership and, because of their proximity to urban centres, offer a particularly sustainable form of leisure.



At present the social value of these community-run garden complexes is not always fully appreciated or utilised. They are often not as welcoming as they could be and they could offer more to local residents. Improving their quality would lead to more people using and enjoying them and this would increase the value placed on them and strengthen the case against viewing them as potential development sites.

The new brochure published by the Science Shop Wageningen (NL) draws on the example of the Ons Buiten garden complex in Utrecht and shows how such a transition towards better managed and more highly valued garden complexes can be achieved. It describes criteria to measure these social perceptions of quality and ways in which these can be improved. The brochure also sets out a route-map for establishing more durable and valued garden complexes. It identifies four preconditions in this transition process. This case study shows how garden complexes can re-establish their role in contributing to sustainable urban living, briefly reviews similar projects and provides contact details.

De meerwaarde van tuinparken. De betekenis van tuinparken in een stedelijke omgeving, Noor van der Hoeven & Derk Jan Stobbelaar, Wetenschapswinkelrapport, Wageningen Universiteit en Researchcentrum, 2006, Report #222. ISBN 90-6754-999-1. The report can be downloaded from: http://library.wur.nl/wasp/bestanden/LUWPUBRD_00345814_A502_001.pdf

Community solutions to racism and conflict feature - Upcoming report

Last year's "Targeted" report by Dr Tanja Dreher from the UTS Shopfront, Sydney, identified problems with racism and community conflict post September 11. Now her soon-to-be-published monograph, "Facing Fear", follows up and looks at solutions. The research examines community devel-

oped strategies to combat racism and will include examples of media advocacy, interfaith projects, cross-cultural education and community cultural development models.

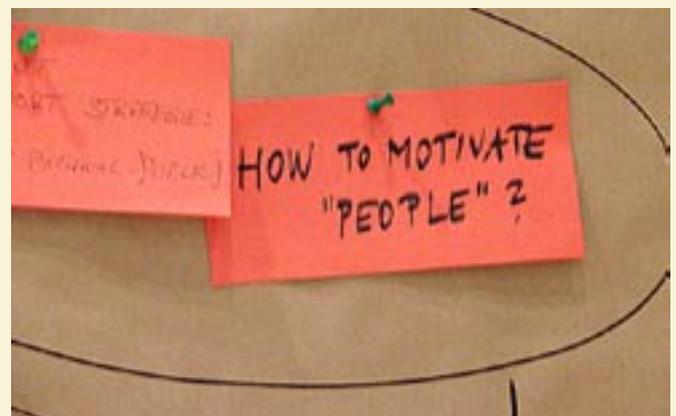
To pre-order a copy of "Facing Fear" or to order "Targeted" as a PDF or booklet send an email to tanja.dreher@uts.edu.au. To read more about the UTS Shopfront projects follow www.shopfront.uts.edu.au/projects/available/index.html

How to design and organize public deliberation

From June 26th to 28th, 2006, the CIPAST consortium organized a training workshop at the Deutsches Hygiene-Museum Dresden, Germany, on citizen participation in science and technology. CIPAST is an EU funded project in the programme "Structuring the European Research Area".

This workshop was designed for people who have a strong interest in public participation in science and technology; for people who may already have organized participatory exercises or willing to do so, or people who simply want to learn more about public participation. 70 participants from 23 countries informed themselves about the state of the art of public participation in science and technology and listened to concrete experiences from different European countries and took part in productive and stimulating discussions. The workshop training activities included general lectures but also special sessions, using participatory exercises.

The workshop outcomes and the presentations will be available by the beginning of August at www.cipast.org.



Nanotechnology Conference in Utrecht

On 19th October the Dutch Platform Health and Environment and EEN organize a one-day conference on nanotechnology and risks to health and environment. The event will take place in Utrecht (30 minutes from Schiphol Airport) from 9.30 to 17.00 and is aimed at NGOs and policy makers. We will have keynote speakers and



working groups on Environment and health, Occupational health and Consumer health.

Recent reports from the EU, the Dutch Health Council and Friends of Earth Australia give fair warning about nanotechnology, the art of making constructs and 'machines' on a molecular scale. These new materials, which the world has never seen before, have wondrous properties and great economic potential. However, the new materials appear also to have new toxicological properties and considerably less investments are being made into proper risk assessments. Nanomaterials are – unchecked – already everywhere. Prer-egistration: platform@gezondheidenmilieu.nl. Participation is free of charge.

Call for Posters: We call for abstracts and posters on nano risk to environment and health. Posters will be presented during the conference. Please send a brief outline to platform@gezondheidenmilieu.nl.

EESC consultation on NGO representativeness

The European Economic and Social Committee adopted an opinion on The representativeness of European civil society organisations in civil dialogue and invites European and national civil society organisations to comment on the guidelines and proposals set out in the opinion. Contributions and comments are still welcomed.

Further information is available at http://eesc.europa.eu/sco/registrations/index_fr.asp?langue=en (English version, available in other languages, too).

Science Shops: New Flyer, EU Website and Brochure



The EC printed a new flyer on Science Shops. This flyer focuses on different target groups, universities, students, citizens groups and local authorities. The flyer can be downloaded from the Living Knowledge website (www.livingknowledge.org, see section News). Printed copies can be ordered for free at the European Commission from liz.versterlund@cec.eu.int.

The new Science and Society portal of the European Commission was launched on 14 November 2005. It replaces the previous Science and Society website. The portal is open to all news and organisations related to Science and Society http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/home_en.cfm.

Still available at the old EU website are specific pages with general information about Science Shops as well as the minutes and single contri-

butions of two Science Shop workshops organised by the European Commission ↻.

Living Knowledge Database

Over the last few years, there have been many requests for an overview of organizations and people active in community-based research. The Living Knowledge database will fulfil these needs.

The Living Knowledge Database is a free, public accessible resource for Science Shops and alike organizations, community-based (research) organizations, universities and policy makers worldwide. It is searchable on (type of) organization, people, country and (thematic) expertise in community based research, all over the world.

If you are an active organization dealing with community-based research, you are invited to add your information to the Living Knowledge Database at www.livingknowledge.org. Please send your remarks on or questions about the database to the [International Science Shop Contact Point](#). We need your feedback to optimise the use of the database.

FAQ's on Science Shops

The EC project TRAMS will deliver training and mentoring tools to support new and existing Science Shops and alike organisations. One of these tools is the section Frequently Asked Questions on the [Living Knowledge website](#). This FAQ section is a dynamic section. It is not a final version; questions and answers will be added. If you have any additional answers please feel free to contribute to the development of this section. A printable version of this section will be available soon.

Conferences

August 22-25 2006, Utrecht, The Netherlands
Science Shop summer school
www.livingknowledge.org

August, 23-26 2006, Lausanne, Switzerland
EASST 2006; Reviewing humanness: bodies, technologies and spaces, www2.unil.ch/easst2006/

November, 3-4 2006, Heidelberg, Germany
Genes, Brain/Mind and Behaviour, EMBL/EMBO Science & Society conference at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory, www.embl.org/conference2006/scope06

For links and more conferences related to community based research, science and technology and science communication see 'news' and 'agenda' at the Living Knowledge-website www.livingknowledge.org