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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 livingknowledge@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 Sa56-CT-2005-013654 as Coordinated Action.

Best practice, ideas and strategies

Impressions of Paris

The 3rd Living Knowledge conference, held in Paris from 29 August until 1 September 2007 was again a unique opportunity for researchers, policy-makers and practitioners in community based research to share their experiences and build or foster networks for approaching citizens' participation in science. More than 330 people from more than 50 countries joined one or more of the 18



sessions, with nearly 100 oral presentations, and explored the more than 30 posters, watched the videos, and discussed at Open space workshops. And there have been much more proposals for presentations which gave us – the organizers – the difficult task to accept and refuse. It gave us a good feeling to get this response to the conference theme. But too much presentations, too much input and listening time can kill a conference and its networking aspects. So I hope we found a good middle course between input sessions and time for informal exchange.

„The number and the quality of the presentations show the expertise and the competence of the associations and social movements in the scientific domain“ explained Claudia Neubauer at the local press conference. So it's time that the civil society is recognized as producer of knowledge, and that this „third scientific sector „ is accepted as partner of a public research directed towards public interest. One of the most important outcomes of the conference therefore was the strong wish for global networking. Many participants expressed their willingness to help with next steps in building global connections in Community-based research. We now have to think about how to combine our network capacities.

The coming issue of the Living Knowledge magazine will deal with the outcomes of the conference in more detail. Your impressions and comments are welcome. A documentation of the conference with detailed papers, its presentations, posters, pictures and videos is under preparation. To get an impression of the conference you can have a look at some pictures and a conference video at www.wilabonn.de/living_knowledge_conference.

A big 'Thank you' to the conference organizers, and especially Claudia Neubauer and the whole team from Fondation Science Citoyennes and Ecoles des Mines, who gave us a warm welcome and the feeling to be in good hands.

And thank you to all of you for sharing your knowledge, for your engagement, passion and good mood.

Keep on contributing. I hope to meet you all again at the 4th Living Knowledge conference, Belfast 2009.

Norbert Steinhaus



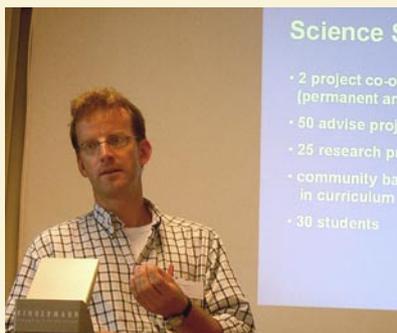
International Science Shop Office

Shift of duty

As many of you know Caspar de Bok has changed position more than a year ago. In his present position as policy advisor for internationalisation at Utrecht University he is no longer involved in daily business of the Science Shops and decided to step back as network coordinator. Nevertheless he will continue to coordinate the EC Science Shop project TRAMS (till the projects ends in May 2008).

Caspar de Bok:

"Needless to say I have some sad feeling leaving the network as an active member because the Living Knowledge conference showed the positive energy of the network. I will not leave the network but my role will be different. Since the network offers a wide variety of experts and expertise I'm sure there will be relevant links with many of you in the future as well. Besides that, it's the people that make the network and it's the members of Living Knowledge that make it a special network you can't just let go. It was a pleasure to work with you."



Norbert Steinhaus of the Bonn Science Shop will take over the coordination of the Living Knowledge network, being involved in the network as an active member from the beginning. For daily businesses, information and communication about the network, Norbert Steinhaus will be the international Science Shop contact point. Please change your references and links to the new contact point: International Science Shop contact point, Norbert Steinhaus, Science Shop Bonn, Buschstr. 85, 53113 Bonn, Germany, T. + 49 (0)2 28 201 6122, norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de

Living Knowledge Magazine

Call for papers

Deadline for submissions for the 8th issue of Living Knowledge will be 18 November 2007!

It will again pick up the conference theme "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. Reports and detailed articles should fol-

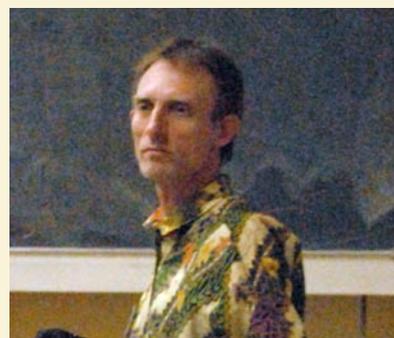
low the editorial guidelines. Information about LK and the editorial guidelines can be found at the homepage of the Science Shop network (www.livingknowledge.org).

Please 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 until 18 November to: Norbert Steinhaus, norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de

Particulars

The Senate of the 'Gheorghe Asachi' Technical University of Iasi, Romania, has decided in its meeting of September 4, 2007, to award Michael Sogaard Jorgensen, from the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) the title of Doctor Honoris Causa for remarkable scientific merits and contributions in the field of Environmental Management and Sustainable Development, as well as for all his support to the development of the Environmental Engineering profile in the University of Iasi. The awarding ceremony was held on September 15.



Michael Jorgensen is also involved in Science Shop networking activities from the very beginning. Congratulations!

You & Your Body

A series of public engagement events

'You & Your Body' was a public engagement project hosted by the University of Leeds Medical School between October 2006 and June 2007. The project was funded by the Wellcome Trust, a charity which funds research to improve human and animal health.

Leeds Medical School ran five interactive events and each event focused on a particular area of the body. Each event combined a series of short talks, hands-on exhibits and opportunities for the audience to talk to speakers and exhibitors in an informal way. Leeds Medical School now is planning another series of 'you & your body' events to run in the autumn of 2007: You & Your Lungs (October 2007) and You & Your Skin (December 2007). Please keep an eye on the project website (www.leeds.ac.uk/medicine/yourbody) for further details of future events.



Science Shops

Flyer, EU Website and Brochure

The EC printed a flyer on Science Shops which 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 monica.menapace@ec.europa.eu.

The Science and Society portal of the European Commission 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 contributions 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. If you have any additional answers please feel free to contribute to the development of this section.

Conferences

Future Scenarios

October 18 - 19, 2007, RWTH Aachen University Future Scenarios. Visions of Technology and Models of Society in the Age of Global Risks. 8th International and Interdisciplinary Conference, www.forenrwth-aachen.de/index.php?id=336&L=1

Scientific World Social Forum

On the occasion of the Living Knowledge conference in Paris, the idea was launched to prepare a "Scientific World Social Forum" in 2009, in Bélem (Brazil). It aims at offer a space for a positive political dialog between scientists and social movements and at the democratic participation of the definition of the orientations of the research and innovation policies at the local and global steps across the planet.

A call was presented as a draft that needs to be finalised with the help of voluntary people and organisations, before it is presented at the International Council of the World Social Forum on October 28th, 2007. A discussion-list is open at <http://le-forum.net/wws/info/wsf-fsm-st>

Democracy 2007

The Rhône-Alpes Regional Council is organizing the World Meeting on the theme "Participatory democracy from the local to the global level : for what sort of development ?" on 10-11-12 December 2007. (Lyon, France) This initiative aims to put in light the extreme wealth of the participative democracy experiences from all over the world and to begin to release convergences from the big world-wide variety of the experiences. Details at www.democracy2007.rhonealpes.fr



Connecting for Change - CUexpo 2008

May 4-7, 2008, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada Community University Research Partnerships: CUexpo 2008 will focus on Connections through workshops, paper presentations, oral and audiovisual presentations, round-tables, storytelling sessions, arts-based research exhibitions, poster sessions, symposia as well as local tours and special events. www.cuexpo08.ca

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