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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@wilabonn.de

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Global Networking in Community-Based Research: An Invitation to a conversation

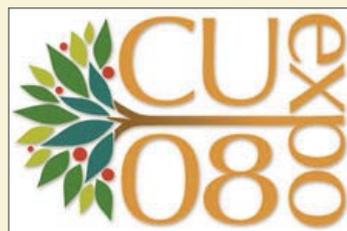
There are a number of global networking initiatives on the move. The question how to create new partnerships, teaching and learning opportunities, and project development and how to effectively organize multicultural and interdisciplinary collaboration connecting local community issues with the global perspective has been a main topic discussed during numerous national and international gatherings. There is strong interest for linking up the various networks.

A formal conversation will take place at the first evening of the CUexpo 2008 in Victoria on 5th May. The International Development Research Centre in Ottawa, Canada will participate in this conversation and has provided support for representatives from majority world countries to attend.

This meeting is the third in a series of conversations that began formally in Groningen, Netherlands in August of 2006 during the World Congress on Action Research. It was followed up by a meeting during the 3rd International Conference of the Living Knowledge Network in early September of 2007 in Paris, France. At the time of that meeting, it was agreed that an international statement about a Global Alliance for for Community-Engaged Scholarship and Learning would be drafted by Peter Levesque of Canada and Rajesh Tandon of India. You can take a look at the document at www.scienceshops.org/new%20web-content/framesets/fs-news.html. It is the intention to release the Global Alliance Statement at the closing ceremony of CUexpo2008 on the 7th of May. You are cordially invited to a conversation about how to enhance global networking in the area of university-community engaged scholarship and community-based research.

The purpose of this conversation is to see how our collective work might be enhanced, to explore the capacities of our different organisations and to see how the voice of majority world researchers and activists can be front and centre in the emerging global networks. All of this is with the aim of strengthening the capacity of grass roots organizations to make a difference in the pressing and complex issues of poverty, violence, climate change, injustice, health throughout the world. We want to learn more about your work.

Please make use of the discussion list, web-site and newsletter capacities of the LK network itself to stimulate debate, circulate ideas and move forward. Responses and suggestions for improvement to the Global Alliance draft will be collected and brought to Victoria.



Connecting for Change

Community-University Exposition (CUexpo) 2008, May 4-7, 2008, Victoria, BC, Canada

Community-Based research is an exciting movement of learning and growing for all involved. Goals of CUexpo 2008 are to celebrate and create opportunities for new community-university partnerships, to support research that is collaborative and community-based and leads to positive change and create



a space for policy-makers and university and community representatives to take action on research, resource-sharing and research ethics. Several Living Knowledge network partner's proposals have been accepted for presentations and workshops. Themes for CUexpo 2008 are: Community-university engagement, partnerships and ethics; Climate change and sustainable community green economic development; Life-long learning, popular education and community / green mapping; Youth engagement, food security; Community and green economic development; Women, poverty and social inclusion; Homelessness, housing, health promotion and well-being. Information and online-registration at www.cuexpo08.ca



International Science Shop Conference in Ireland: Linking communities and University research

A diverse audience of academics, heads of faculty, city councillors, international Science Shop experts and community group leaders from around Ireland gathered in Cork on the fourth of April for a conference titled "Science Shops: Linking communities and University research". The one-day conference showcased three variations on the Science Shop model from leading Science Shop experts, and highlighted the needs of the local community with presentations from National and local bodies representing the community as well as community group leaders. This served to spark debate on how to establish a Science Shop at University College Cork (UCC) and elsewhere in Ireland.

The conference audience gathered into workshops later in the day to consider questions relating to Science Shops. The workshops helped focus the debates and discussions of the day, identifying the necessary steps forward for the UCC Science Shop.

Speakers included: Eileen Martin & Emma McKenna from Queens University Science Shop, Belfast, NI, Steve Harris Glamorgan University Science Shop, Wales, Henk Mulder Groningen University Science Shop, the Netherlands, Gordon McCullough from the Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action, Donal Guerin, Social Inclusion Officer Cork City Council, Ann Long, Gurrabraher Community Development Project, Tom Carey, Carrigtwohill Family Resource Centre

The UCC Science Shop was set up in 2006 and is currently undergoing a pilot project to iden-

tify the needs of a local community in a growing commuter area in Cork. The student undertaking this project is expected to extend it into a PhD study. The Science Shop is currently looking for further projects and funding to support its efforts. The Science Shop network in Ireland continues to grow with Science Shops now in Dublin City University and National University of Ireland, Galway.

Please see www.scienceshop.ie for further details or contact scienceshop@ucc.ie

Serving the Needs of Health Equity

Living Knowledge Connects a Canadian Graduate Student with Health Care Advocates in Cochabama, Bolivia

Dr. Kathleen Bloom, at the University of Waterloo, Canada, offers an interdisciplinary seminar: Knowledge Mobilization to Serve Society. The seminar teaches graduate students to create systematic reviews of research evidence and catalogues of intervention programs. Students produce fact sheets, plain language summaries, and other communication resources to meet the needs of community service organizations. As his course project in Fall 2007, and as a member of the international charity Hands Across the Nations (HATN), Andrew Costa, a graduate student in the Faculty of Applied Health Sciences, created a wordless illustrated booklet for distribution in a HATN community-based health program. The HATN program aims to control Chagas disease which is a chronic and lethal insect infection. Chagas disease plagues poor communities in Cochabama, Boliva, where HATN has opened a medical/health, dental, and skills training community centre. At the same time Andrew was developing his course project, Kathya Cordova, a health scientist in the South Group also based in Cochabama, described her NGO-based Science Shop in the online Living Knowledge News and Discussion Group. As a member of the discussion group, Kathleen read about Kathya's work and introduced Andrew to Kathya. What resulted was an opportunity for Andrew to contribute to the publication: „Community Health in Bolivia - Challenges to Equality." The research-informed publication was created by South Group to foster better practices in healthcare amongst policymakers, health administrators, and practitioners in Bolivia. Andrew describes the health obstacles and needs faced by Bolivia's poor citizens, with particular emphasis on the health challenges created by social inequality and Chagas disease. Andrew advocates for increased investment in basic infrastructure, disease prevention, and community partnerships. The collaboration of a graduate student in Canada with health care advocates in Bolivia for



the purpose of bringing research to bear on policy and practice is a testimony to the invaluable opportunities stimulated by the Living Knowledge network.

Traffic and Land Use Planning

It is remarkable that Science Shops receive more and more research questions from local communities on subjects related to traffic mobility and planning of rural area's. Traffic appears to be an important subject touching concerns of local communities and neighborhoods. The Wageningen Science Shop research projects on traffic enabled the local communities to start discussions with government bodies at different levels. In general these government bodies appreciate active local participation as it enables them to improve traffic plans.

It can be imagined that other Science Shops in densely populated area's get similar research requests. Therefore Gerard Straver from Wageningen would like to inform the Living Knowledge network that the Science Shop of Wageningen UR receives an increased number of request from local communities on this theme. The increased number of requests results in an increased number of successful research projects and hence in increased experience in community based research on traffic and land use planning. Gerard Straver, wetenschapswinkel@wur.nl, www.wetenschapswinkel.wur.nl

Local Traffic: Different Standpoints

The Science Shop of the Wageningen University and Research Centre conducted a research to overcome differences in view on how to solve a local traffic problem.

Erp, a village in the community of Veghel (Noord Brabant, The Netherlands), has known a substantial amount of traffic pressure in the village centre for years with a substantial part caused by external traffic just driving through the village that drives through Erp to get to its destination. Also heavy traffic from the Erper industrial zone is causing a great deal of inconvenience.

The inconvenience exists out of two separate traffic streams: traffic which drives through the residential area to reach other villages and cities and traffic from inside the residential area (within this traffic stream mainly the heavy traffic from and to the industrial zone causes problems). These two traffic streams are not only separate from one another, they differ in level as well: regional versus local.

The survey by the Wageningen Science Shop does not plead to opt for one decision against the traffic issues, but to separately search for a solution to both traffic streams. The concept

of a "cul-de-sac" can give direct access to the nearest rural highway without creating a route for rat-run traffic.

The report was presented to the traffic alderwoman of the city council of Veghel. Also a presentation was given to all stakeholders, including those in favour of a by-pass. In this very lively atmosphere the researchers stressed the fact that their proposal was based on the requirements that were addressed by these very same stakeholders.

Because of its urgency the project generated a lot of publicity in (local) newspapers. It represented also a solution for problems that are faces all over the country. That is why the researchers wrote an article in a magazine that is very well read in policy circles (<http://documents.plant.wur.nl/wewi/rom-erp.pdf>).

Derk Jan Stobbelaar

Manifestation and Gateways

Two Journals on Community Research and Engagement

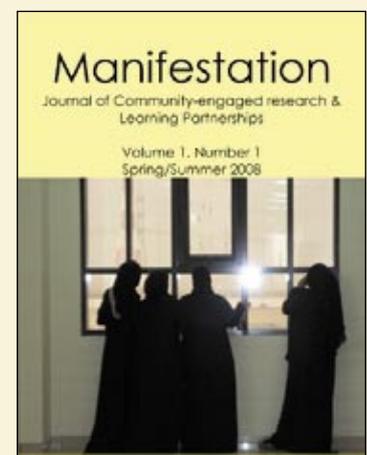
In the Living Knowledge network context for the moment it is not foreseen to place longer articles on the network's website. The last issue of the printed LK magazine was shipped at the beginning of this year. Therefore I would like to draw your attention to the two following publications on Community Based Research and community engagement. Both will also publish in the context of Living Knowledge and therefore can be seen as a replacement for the publishing possibilities of the Living Knowledge magazine.

Manifestation: Journal of Community Engaged Research and Learning Partnerships

(ISSN 1913-651X)

is an open-access, electronic, peer-reviewed journal dedicated to the conversations about how to most beneficially support and engage in community-based research, community-campus partnerships, service-learning, action research, and other inclusive methods and practices that build and empower our communities.

The inaugural issue of the journal (Volume 1, Number 1) will officially be launched during the CUexpo 2008 in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. This online issue will be available before the end of May.





Please follow www.manifestationjournal.org for submission criteria and deadlines for the Volume 1, Number 2 on **Funding and Resource Models** for Community-engaged Research and Learning Partnerships. **Contact:** Peter Levesque, editor in chief, editor@manifestationjournal.org,

Gateways

is a refereed journal concerned with the practice and processes of community engagement. It provides a forum for academics, practitioners and community representatives to pursue issues and reflect on practices related to interactions between tertiary institutions and community organizations: academic interventions in community; community-based projects with links to the tertiary sector; and community initiatives. Gateways is jointly edited and managed by UTS Shopfront at the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS) in Australia and the Centre for Urban Research and Learning (CURL) at Loyola University in Chicago, USA.

Contact: Philipp Nyden, CURL, pnnyden@luc.edu

Interface: A Journal for and about Social Movements at the Start

The development and increased visibility of social movements in the last few years, has made it clear just how much knowledge movements generate. This knowledge is generated across the globe, and in many contexts and a variety of ways. The journal will be a space for abstraction from and translation between movements by seeking to develop analysis and knowledge by both movement participants and academics. It seeks to include material that can be used in concrete ways by movements. The journal will be online, free, and multilingual, in order to make it as widely accessible as possible. The editors' hope is to have a number of semi-autonomous groups focussed in different regions of the world and on different languages. These groups would share a common vision and translate articles from and for each other, but with a wide degree of freedom in how they go about developing their own section of the journal. Please read more about 'Interface' at www.interfacejournal.net. If you are interested in this project and would like to participate, please email laurence.cox@nuim.ie or join the journal planning group at <http://groups.google.com/group/globaljournalproject>.

Action groups for people without legitimate stay

An exploring study into action groups which fight against deportations of people without legitimate stay in Flanders.

Lieve Elst-Van den Bergh for its research went

in search of action groups or citizens in Flanders, Belgium, which engage for people without legitimate stay. In its research she describes the profile and mainsprings for action of the different groups, how they organize themselves. The research results can be downloaded at www.vub.ac.be/wetenschapswinkel/publicaties/thesisonderzoeken.htm (in Dutch).

Contact: wetenschapswinkel@vub.ac.be

CIPAST in Practice

The EC-funded project CIPAST (Citizen Participation in Science and Technology) has confirmed that training for public participation in science and technology has to be considered as a multiple objective aim: as training activity before (and for) the implementation of a public participation initiative but also as an offer to get informed about public participation in general – and not being directly targeted to the translation into training action. CIPAST therefore has decided to put case studies at the core of its training and to focus on a process of active and participative learning. CIPAST in Practice now provides elementary sets for teaching and learning which are based on 'real life case studies' and which can be used and re-assembled by potential users. The given tools are completed through information resources about designing participatory procedures experts, literature and additional experiences.

All case studies presented in this training package were developed by involving actors and users. All case studies were tested in training sessions in two international workshops 2006 and 2007.

You can order a free CD of CIPAST in Practice from Norbert Steinhaus, norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de or make use of the training offers at the CIPAST website. If you want to learn more about the CIPAST platform, the CIPAST consortium and its activities, please visit the website www.cipast.org.

Particulars

Prof. Thomas Auf der Heyde, one of the fathers of the Science Shops in South Africa, and with us in the earliest days of SCIPAS, from 1 April was appointed Deputy Director-General International Cooperation and Resources at the Department of Science and Technology of the University of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Prior to his current appointment as Professor and Executive Director: Research & Innovation at the University of Johannesburg, Professor Auf der Heyde held the position of Dean of Research at the same institution and at its predecessor the Technikon Witwatersrand.

From 2000, Thomas Auf der Heyde has been part of an international consortium of mem-



bers from 10 different countries funded by the European Union to research the international experience of "Science Shops" (SCIPAS). This project also had its origin in Professor Auf der Heyde's efforts to establish the Science Advice Unit (SAU) at the University of Cape Town, an initiative that closely mirrored the functions of Science Shops. In setting up the SAU, Professor Auf der Heyde drew on his long-standing involvement on science and technology issues with civil society and labour organizations. Congratulations

Science Shops

Best practice, ideas and strategies

Proceedings of the 3rd LK conference

A DVD with the documentation of the conference with detailed papers, its presentations, posters, pictures and videos is now available. Please ask for a free copy of the DVD at the International Science Shop contact point livingknowledge@wilabonn.de To get an impression of the conference you can already have a look at some pictures and a conference video at www.livingknowledge.org

Flyer, EU Website and Brochure

A flyer on Science Shops, printed by the EC 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 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 contributions of two Science Shop workshops organised by the European Commission ☺.

Living Knowledge Database

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 - which will be finished by the end of this month - delivered 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 by sending your question to livingknowledge@wilabonn.de.

Conferences

Connecting for Change - CUexpo 2008

May 4-7, 2008, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada
Community University Research Partnerships.
www.cuexpo08.ca

Science for a better life: EuroScience Open Forum (ESOF)

July 18-22, Barcelona, Spain
ESOF is an open platform for debate and communication for the science community to promote the European Research Area (ERA).
www.esof2008.org

Joint Meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science

European Association for the Study of Science and Technology (EASST)
August 20-23, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
The theme for this conference is „Acting with science, technology and medicine“.
www.4sonline.org/meeting.htm.

4th LK Conference, Belfast 2009

29.8. to 1.9.2009, Belfast, North Ireland
Depending on interest a Summer School may run during the day on the 29th August. Emma McKenna and Eileen Martin would like to hear from you if you have any ideas for the conference or would like further information.
e.mckenna@qub.ac.uk and e.martin@qub.ac.uk

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