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It's been a long time since we had the last Living Knowledge Newsletter. This might explain why some of the information mentioned below refers to last year's events and activities. Thanks to the recently started project PERARES the LK newsletter now again will be edited and published periodically. Enjoy this issue and please share your expertise. The LK newsletter lives from your contributions.

Best regards, Norbert Steinhaus



PERARES

On 1st May a 4 years Science Shop project to strengthen the interaction between researchers and CSOs and citizens in Europe officially started.

The PERARES (Public Engagement with Research And Research Engagement with Society) project aims to strengthen the interaction between researchers and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and citizens in Europe. Twenty-six partners from 17 countries (Science Shops, social organizations, universities and a research funder) will jointly organize transnational debates on scientific research, in addition to many local dialogues – technically supported through the establishment of a website for debates on the European level. The European Commission has awarded EUR 2.7 million to this 4 years project which will also strengthen the European network of Science Shops. The project is coordinated by the Science & Society Group of the University of Groningen.

The partners will actively involve researchers and CSOs, and help both CSOs and general public in all dialogues to articulate research questions. These will then be put on the research agendas of the partnering research bodies.

'The results of a debate can lead to various research questions, which can then be investigated via the Science Shops network. This will make it more interesting for social organizations to become involved in a debate; they will have more influence on the research agenda', says Dr Henk Mulder, project coordinator from the Science & Society Group of the University of Groningen. The answers to these questions can then be linked back in subsequent online debate rounds or discussions during Science Weeks and thus lead to mutual learning. Universities and society will be enabled to develop knowledge collaboratively.

In order to respond to the increasing number of questions, partners in ten European cities will start a facility to do this research with CSOs by setting up a Science Shop. The results of the requested research will be fed back into a next phase of the dialogues, ultimately showing that civil society does have an influence on research agendas.

Building partnerships for public access to research

The views expressed in the notes, messages and links are those of the authors and owners of the website and are not necessarily endorsed by the publisher. Whilst every care has been taken, the publisher does not accept any liability for errors that may have occurred.

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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



PERARES also has three special programs for direct cooperation with social organizations in order to draw up a European research agenda: nanotechnology, domestic violence and Roma/ Traveller's issues and will organize two major international conferences.

Contact: Dr Henk Mulder (project coordinator) h.a.j.mulder@rug.nl, Norbert Steinhaus, International Science Shop Contact Point, livingknowledge@wilabonn.de. See also: www.scienceshops.org, www.rug.nl/wewi



The PERARES consortium.

PERARES Partners:

Netherlands: University of Groningen, Wageningen University, the Agricultural Research Service Foundation - Wageningen, Belgium: Free University of Brussels, Germany: Wissenschaftsladen Bonn, Wissenschafts- und Technologie Transfer Zittau, UK: Queen's University Belfast, University of Cambridge, University of Glamorgan, Ireland: University College Cork, Dublin Institute of Technology, Dublin City University, France: Fondation Sciences Citoyennes, Paris; University of Lyon; Association pour le développement d'une recherche citoyenne active, Grenoble, Spain: Universitat Rovira I Virgili - Taragona, Italy: Università degli Studi di Sassari, Sweden: Swedish Research Council - Stockholm, Norway: University of Stavanger, Denmark: Technical University of Denmark - Lyngby, Estonia: Institute of Baltic Studies - Tartu, Greece: Technical University of Crete, Romania: Politehnica University of Bucharest, Hungary: Science Shop at Environmental Social Sciences Research Group - Budapest, Cyprus: European University - Nicosia, Israel: The Heschel Center for Environmental Learning and Leadership - Tel Aviv

The European Commission

The aim of the Commission is to involve its citizens more in academic research. Through Science Shops, social organizations such as community groups or clubs can commission re-

search projects by students under the supervision of professors without the usual high costs. The European Commission has been supporting Science Shops for ten years via its Science in Society program, but this is the largest grant so far. PERARES started on 1 May 2010 and will last four years. The total costs will be EUR 3.1 million, of which EUR 2.7 million is a grant. Read about [the EU Science in Society Programme](#) here

LK4 Belfast, 27--29 August 2009: Engaged Communities, Engaged Universities - Developing Policy and Practice in Participatory Research

To influence international research policies and establish priorities for community based research and critically reflect on partnership working, the 4th Living Knowledge Conference Engaged Communities, Engaged Universities: Developing Policy and Practice in Participatory Research was organised by the Science Shop at Queen's University, Belfast, Ireland, 27-29 August. Eileen Martin and Emma McKenna were the key organizers of the event for QUB. About 200 participants from 17 countries took the opportunity to consider current practice and future opportunities in the field of research partnerships.



Science Shop summer school in Belfast

This conference marked the tenth anniversary of the Living Knowledge Network Science Shops. Over time, this network has grown to include a diverse range of community-based researchers, practitioners, international and non-government organisations from across Europe, Canada and North America and has growing membership from the Asia-Pacific region. This year the conference brought together some of the key thinkers and practitioners in the area of community based research, university/community partnerships and the Science Shops. The conference and its pre-conference summer



school proved that the Science Shop movement is not only sustaining its strengths, but also expands by numbers of Science Shops. About 14 new Science Shops were established in Shanghai, a new one was set up in Osaka Japan and one in the University of Zululand in South Africa.



Poster Presentation.

The participation of the senior government official for university and research funding of the Government of Ireland, the Pro-Vice Chancellor at the University of Brighton, the Pro Vice-Chancellor for QUB itself, the Director of the English Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement and key funding agencies from Europe, Ireland and the UK provide evidence that there is an increasing interest of senior university, government and funding council leaders in the broader idea of community university research partnerships.

The Living Knowledge Network broadened the international space for dialogue and policy development by welcoming the Global Alliance for Community Engaged Research (GACER) and providing many opportunities for visibility and discussion at the global level. The early success by GACER (of which the Living Knowledge Network is a founding member) in getting some buy-in from the World Conference on Higher Education organized by UNESCO in July of 2009 provided solid evidence of the value of having a global space made up of the already existing other networks in various parts of the world.

[Click here to get some impressions of the conference.](#)

The LK 4 conference - Movies and interviews

The films developed from the Living Knowledge Conference held at Queen's University Belfast in August 2009 are now available. The films reflect the wide range of workshop sessions and include footage of the rapporteurs feeding back

on various issues to the film crew. The films are uploaded to the Science Shop Youtube Channel which has been developed by QUB Science Shop as an information resource to promote engaged research and to encouraging discourse. [The channel can be accessed here.](#)

UCEC 2009 - University-Community Engagement for Sustainability

The UCEC 2009 conference was held from 23 - 26 November 2009 in Penang, Malaysia. Organized by Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and the Division of Industry & Community Network (BJIM) in collaboration with Global Alliance on Community Engaged Research (GACER) and UNESCO-APEID. Chan Lean Heng was the key organizer of the event for USM.

This was the first conference in Asia event aiming at a revision of the missions of universities and to explore ways of making this engagement more meaningful, inclusive and sustainable. The Conference explored ways to create an environment within universities that is conducive for serious engagement to take place and to flourish. [Please click here to see the program of the conference.](#)



Budd Hall, Chen Lean Heng, Henk Mulder, Rajesh Tandon, Norbert Steinhaus and Shirley Walters.

Although Canada, Europe and USA were represented by some few participants, the majority of presenters and participants were from Asian countries. The Living Knowledge Network was represented at the conference by Henk Mulder (Groningen, NL) and Norbert Steinhaus (Bonn, DE) giving a plenary and session presentations but also offering a one day post-conference training/capacity-building workshop on establishing Science Shops. Rajesh Tandon, Budd Hall & Chan Lean Heng from GACER also aimed at exploring techniques and methodologies pertaining to fostering engagement by organizing a post-conference workshop on "Building Effective Community-University Research Partnerships".



The conference has provided a firm basis and framework for continuing the work in this area. In line with the principle of access to knowledge and information in community engagement, all power-point presentations were uploaded at the [conference website](#). It has been proposed that the next UCEC Conference will be held in Thailand.

Social responsibility of Science

A conference *Social responsibility of science: Possibilities of collaboration between academic institutions and nongovernmental organizations* took place in Prague on November 2nd, 2009. It was organized by an association environmental NGOs Green Circle as a middle-term conference in the frame of the project Developing new modes of collaboration between NGOs, the public and the academic sector. The main goal of the meeting was to open up a debate of such collaborations in the context of changing science policy in the Czech republic.

Several presentations were made during the conference: 1) Green Circle team presented results of their research of such collaborations taking place in the country; 2) the secretary of governmental Council for research, development and innovations informed about recent developments of science policy and possibilities for nongovernment sector for participation in research projects and in formation of research priorities; 3) Henk Mulder (University of Groningen) gave a talk about Science Shops as practiced in the Netherlands and their networking and support within the EU; and 4) invited speakers from the academic sector and NGOs shared their experiences with ongoing collaborations and use of academic expertise by NGO.

It was obvious from the contributions that while many collaborations and relations between the two sectors are established and functioning, they are very often on informal or semi-formal basis and need more institutional recognition and support in order to be robust and sustainable. On the level of policies, social responsibility and usefulness of science needs to be framed broadly in terms of knowledge society (not reduced to knowledge economy as most often is the case, explicitly or implicitly). More about the conference as well as the project and the situation in the Czech Republic can be learnt from Tereza Stöckelová (tereza.stockelova@soc.cas.cz) or Kateřina Ptáčková (katerina.ptackova@zelenykruh.cz). Information about Green circle is available here <http://www.zelenykruh.cz/en/>.



Mieke de Lathouwers, co-ordinator of the Antwerp Science Shop, Annick de Vylder en Jacqueline Cramer former Dutch Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment. On the right side of the photo: 'bridge between science and society', the trophy for the winning Science Shop.

Belgian-Dutch Science Shop Award

The biannual Interlandse Wetenschapswinkel-prijs 2010 (Belgian-Dutch Science Shop Award) has been won by Annick de Vylder from Antwerp University for her project "Does reading out loud lead to a better reading attitude? A quasi experimental study in the sixth year of primary education." The Second price went to Andries Middag and Matthijs Timmermans from the Science Shop Wageningen for their study: 'The N340 - The relation between infrastructure and rural development, linked to the character of Vechtdal.' The third price was given to the Jeroen Vetter from the Bèta Science Shop Groningen. The title of his study was: 'A safer route to MDI. An assessment of a phosgene free manufacturing process'. The Belgian-Dutch Science Shop Award is given for the best research that Science Shops have carried out for civil society organisations during the past two years. Contact and [more information](#): Gerard Straver gerard.straver@wur.nl

ComScience

There is an explosion of public oriented information and knowledge from EU research projects. Much of the information is useful and interesting. The challenge is getting the information out to the European public efficiently and in appropriate formats to encourage science dialogue at local levels.

The ComScience Network brings recent EU research results to five EU cities: Bonn (Germany), Stockholm(Sweden), Madrid(Spain), London(England) and Charleroi(Belgium). Before their dissemination, the research results are prepared as information packages in the respective languages. The packages include background readings and films. Five science



topics were chosen that address the concerns and interests of European citizens: stem cell research, the use of genetically modified organisms, obesity and type 2 diabetes, allergies and asthma as well as contaminants in our food.

The topics are presented at events lasting about three hours, targeting the youth and general public. The events are organized by communication experts in the respective countries. A total of 25 public dissemination events will be organized where each topic is subjected to an open dialogue with local scientific experts. Each event is evaluated based on a comprehensive questionnaire filled out by the event participants.

The project structure encourages not only the exchange of information between the public and scientists but also stimulates the exchange of know-how and best practices between the communication experts. In this way, it is hoped that recommendations can be put forward how to enhance the widespread dissemination of European research in local settings while respecting regional differences and needs.

The project, funded by the European Union, is coordinated by the Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich, Germany. The project members are ProBio Partners, Groningen, The Netherlands, CSIC Scientific Culture Department, Madrid, Spain, Centre de Culture Scientifique, Charleroi, Belgium, Vetenskap & Allmänhet, Stockholm, Sweden, Bonn Science Shop, Germany, The British Science Association, London, England and Visions Unlimited Medien GmbH, Munich, Germany. The project runs until April 2012.

Contact: paul.pechan@ifkw.lmu.de (co-ordinator), norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de

Shanghai University Students' Science Shop

On 2005 Shanghai International Forum for The Development of Popular Science, the idea of Science Shop was introduced into China. From then on, Shanghai Science and Technology Commission searches new modes in the city popular science area vigorously and combine it in accordance with the actual conditions in the country and with Shanghai characteristics. It established the Shanghai-mode Science Shop—the College Volunteers' Service Station

of popular science, namely, the Science Shop of Shanghai College Students. In 2006, the first Science Shop in China - the Science Shop of East China Normal University was set up. Afterwards, the number of Science Shop grew. Up to 2009, 11 Shanghai universities had their own Science Shops.

In the end of 2009, the head office of Shanghai Science Shop of College Students was established. It is formed voluntarily by the Science Shops of local colleges. As a serviceable and non-profit organization, it assists the management, consultation, and coordination for the members from local colleges and universities.

The purpose of the head office is to promote the conception and ability of the colleges students based on the principle - serving the community by scientific knowledge, to advance the revolution of fostering creative talents in colleges, to protect the interests of Science Shops, to enhance the service and regularize the behavior of Science Shops, making contributions to the development of all the local Science Shops and the enhancement of scientific level among the citizens.

According to 2010 working arrangement of head office, several months of intense preparation later, the head office website of Shanghai university students' Science Shop has been opened eventually, under the unified leadership of Bureaux of Shanghai Science Dissemination, the active support and cooperation of every university Science Shop.

Contact: FENG Yuli, yulfeng@shou.edu.cn, <http://www.shanghaiscienceshop.org/Item/list.asp?id=847>

5 Science Shops in Beijing

It is reported by Cai Wenqing from Beijing Science Committee that at least 5 experimental units of Science Shops will be set up in Beijing this year. It is known that funds of Science Shop management are offered and supported by Beijing Science Committee which sets aside specialized scientific funds. Currently, under the support of Beijing education committee and Municipal Education Office, the first batch of Science Shops will be set up in Beijing Science and Technology University, Beihang University, Institute of Psychology, Chinese Academy of Science Beijing Institute of Petrochemical Tech-



上海大学生科学商店

Science Shop of Shanghai University Students



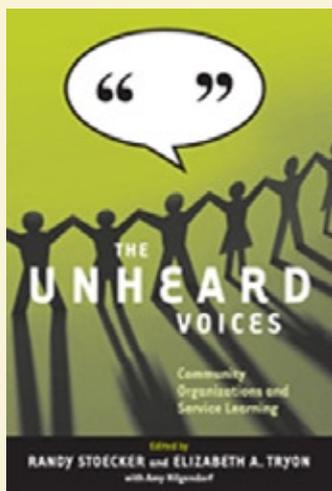


nology and educational base of Capital Medical University.

(taken from <http://www.shanghaiscienceshop.org/Item/Show.asp?m=1&d=3923>)

Unheard voices

Temple University Press is proud to announce the publication of *The Unheard Voices: Community Organizations and Service Learning* by Randy Stoecker and Elizabeth A. Tryon. *The Unheard Voices* presents service learning through the voices of the community organization staff who host service learning students.



For many of these individuals, service learning means that the community organization serves the students, rather than the other way around. Randy Stoecker is a Professor in the Department of Community and Environmental Sociology at the University of Wisconsin. Elizabeth A. Tryon is a community partner specialist for the Human Issues Studies Program at Edgewood College's School of Integrative Studies in Madison, Wisconsin. [To learn more about the book, please visit its website](#)

The Power of Knowledge

An interesting brochure on Knowledge valorization has been published by The Association of Universities in the Netherlands (VSNU). Download [The Power of Knowledge](#) (3,9 MB) in which is written about Science Shops: "Imagine that you are a member of a residents' committee and are seeking legal advice in a conflict with a tenant. Or, you sit on a neighbourhood council and are trying to find out how much air pollution will be generated by the new ring road. To answer questions like these, eight universities have established so-called 'Science Shops' (wetenschapswinkels), which cater largely to less financially resourceful parties. Several universities have combined their SME centre with a Science Shop, while at others both exist side-by-side."

A project of the Wageningen Science Shop has been described on pages 18 and 19.

Survey on CSOs: status, influence, constraints

The Union of International Associations (UIA), in partnership with [GlobeScan](#), requested participation in a survey on global civil society in 2007/2008. The survey was designed to tap civil society organizations' expertise on major global issues as well as views of civil society's role in the world. The results of the survey can be downloaded here www.scienceshops.org/new%20web-content/content/documents/UIA_Global_Survey_Summary_1.pdf. **More information:** www.uia.be

Eurobarometer

Eurobarometer has just published a report of EU attitudes to science and technology which I thought you might find interesting. Please find a summary of results at <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/10/266&format=H>

Science, Technology and Civil Society - STACS report available



STACS (Science, Technology and Civil Society - Civil Society Organisations, Actors in the European System of Research and Innovation) was a capacity building project funded by the EU 6th Research Framework Programme, as part of the Science in Society activities aimed at stimulating participation of civil society organisations

(CSOs) in research activities.

You can [download the STACS report here](#) (pdf, 2mb)

Scientix

Scientix – the community for science education in Europe – was created to facilitate regular dissemination and sharing of know-how and best practices in science education across the European Union. It is open for teachers, researchers, policy makers, local actors, parents and anyone interested in science education. Scientix collects teaching materials and research reports from European science education projects financed by the European Union under the 6th



and 7th Framework Programmes for Research and Technological Development (Directorate General Research), the Lifelong Learning Programme (Directorate General Education and Culture) and various national initiatives. Through various online and off-line services Scientix wants to create a lively community for its users. The Scientix project started in December 2009 and the website was launched in May 2010. Scientix is managed by European Schoolnet (EUN) on behalf of the [European Commission](#) (DG Research).

For more information: www.scientix.eu or contact: **Project manager** Agueda Gras-Velazquez, European Schoolnet ([agueda.gras\[at\]eun.org](mailto:agueda.gras[at]eun.org)) or **Project officer** Monica Menapace, DG Research, European Commission ([monica.menapace\[at\]ec.europa.eu](mailto:monica.menapace[at]ec.europa.eu))



No funding - No Journal RIP: August 13, 2009

Manifestation has been a volunteer effort. The burden of advertising, editing, responding to requests, and general support has however been carried mostly by the Editor - with some very appreciated help with reviewing and advertising by the Board and external reviewers - Thank you! Despite numerous funding requests and the promising discussions with two potential new volunteer editors, I have been unable to secure any funding. I have spent almost \$14k on travel to CBR related conferences, meetings, advertising, supplies, hosting, software - without a cent of external support. As a self-employed person, this has become too much of a burden. The first issue was subsidized with profits from my consulting work but the economic downturn means that I have to work harder for less revenue - leaving me with even less time to do this. As such, Manifestation will no longer be published. This is regretful and weighs heavily on my spirit. For those that know me, community-university research and participatory methods has been something I have been passionate about for several decades. The existing issue will remain online as an archive for the foreseeable future. [Hard copies may also be purchased online.](#) I wish to thank the volunteers and contributors. It has been an interesting and informative experiment. Sincerely, Peter Levesque, (former) Editor, pnlevesque@gmail.com

Science Shops

Science Shop Toolbox for Mentoring and Training.

The EC project TRAMS (Training and Mentoring of Science Shops) produced a series training materials. All materials are available in the Science Shop Toolbox at the Living Knowledge website. The development of innovative practice in Science Shops is now supported through a customised training toolbox and appropriate partnering and exchange (mentoring) among members of Living Knowledge. All members of Living Knowledge can participate in activities (e.g. workshops, conferences) and make use of the results and materials developed during former project activities. This service will empower new Science Shops in developing professional standards and enable existing Science Shops to refine and improve their practice through updated professional know-how. The Toolbox offers: FAQ, Training programmes (a database with documents), E-modules („Getting started” and „How to organise a community-based research project”), Scenario Workshop Toolkit (a handbook), Science Shop Summer Schools, Database of organisations. You will find the [toolbox at the Living Knowledge website.](#)

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 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@wila-bonn.de



Conferences

The 11th International Conference on Public Communication of Science & Technology (PCST-2010) - Science Communication Without Frontiers

New Delhi, India; December 06-10, 2010



The 11th PCST Conference will deliberate on both practical and theoretical aspects of science communication, in a globalised world with major inequalities and development challenges. Science communication practitioners and analysts from all continents will compare experiences and perspectives on science-based issues of today and tomorrow. The aim of 11th PCST-2010 is to consider new ways of thinking about science communication, and new ways of putting the best ideas into practice, models, tools, policy matters and social factors involved in public communication of science and technology. Last date for Submission of Proposals is August 31, 2010

http://www.pcst-2010.org/announcements.htm

<http://www.pcst-2010.org/announcements.htm>

Call for Proposals:

CUexpo 2011. Community-University Partnerships Conference: Bringing Global Perspectives to Local Action

Waterloo Region, Ontario, Canada, May 10-14, 2011

CU Expo 2011 is a Canadian-led Conference designed to showcase the exemplars in Community-University partnerships worldwide, and together to introduce creative ways of strengthening our local communities. Complex social issues require global perspectives to inform local action. Community-University partnerships can be an effective way to stimulate innovative solutions for the pressing concerns within our communities.

The conference organizing committee invites participants to submit summaries of potential presentations. For more information regarding themes, streams and presentation formats, please visit the conference website at www.cuexpo2011.ca. Application deadline: September 10, 2010.

Please contact Bonnie McCutcheon at the Centre for Community Based Research with any questions, at bonnie@communitybasedresearch.ca.

NCCPE – Engagement Conference 2010



London, UK, 7-8 December 2010

The NCCPE (National Co-ordinating Centre for Public Engagement) are hosting their first national conference which will focus on the broad theme of why and how universities should engage the public. Day one will focus on HEI public engagement. Day two will feature student volunteering, informed by our **vinspired students** project.

The aim of the conference is provide an opportunity for people passionate about university public engagement to come together to share effective practice and to explore how to embed public engagement within HEIs. The conference is for university staff (including senior managers, academics, researchers, teaching staff, support staff), community partners, and students. Booking for the conference opened in June 2010.

<http://www.publicengagement.ac.uk/>

Call for Papers:

African Regional Conference on Community University Partnerships and Community Based Research



Cheikh Anta Diop University
Dakar, Senegal, 25-26 March 2011

The Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar in collaboration with Cupp at the University of Brighton and the Sub-Saharan Africa Participatory Research Network are organizing a conference on Community University Partnerships. For more information on the conference and the call for papers, please go to <http://www.brighton.ac.uk/cupp/Events/senegal%20conference.html>



For links and more conferences related to community based research, science and technology and science communication see ,news'