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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

Christmas is over and the end of a busy and very active year is close. I hope you found already some relaxed moments of reflection. Enjoy this issue and please keep sharing your expertise. The LK newsletter lives from your contributions. I wish you all a good start in 2012 and a successful new year. Looking forward to welcoming you at the 5th Living Knowledge Conference in Bonn next May.

Norbert Steinhaus

Living Knowledge Website has a new face

We proudly present the new website of the Living Knowledge Network. The new layout facilitates getting a quick overview of the various focus areas of the network. Besides news for the network you have a Science Shop section to get answers to frequently asked questions, read suggestions, get access to archives and a toolbox service. On the pages of the European funded project PERARES (Public Engagement with Research and Research Engagement with Society) you will find detailed information about alternative forms of agenda setting dialogues, about the investigation on the role of higher education institutes and research funders in supporting co-operation with CSOs. On the website we like to welcome you to participate in the PERARES online debate series with the pilot on nanotechnology. Feel free to comment on the posts in the Blog or Forum and to submit new questions. We do our best to terminate the reconstruction status of a few pages and are looking forward to meeting you under www.livingknowledge.org or www.scienceshops.org.

PERARES Online Debate

PERARES partners believe that if wider civil society has more of a say in setting research questions, innovation is more likely to develop in ways that are responsive to societies’ needs. That’s our vision. Please take part in the online debate series which start with a pilot on nanotechnology. Help us to promote research that directly addresses your concerns, requests and curiosity. Anyone is welcome to contribute to this debate and may comment as an individual or as representative of an organisation. If you have any questions about this platform or just about the possibility to initiate a research and discuss with dedicated people we are looking forward to hearing from you.

Contact: Nicola Buckley, nicola.buckley@admin.cam.ac.uk or Rob Doubleday, Rvld2@cam.ac.uk

Call for papers – Living Knowledge Journal 2012

The 10th issue of the Living Knowledge journal will pick up the 5th Living Knowledge conference theme “Re-imagining Research Relationships – Co-creating Knowledge in a Dem-
ocratic Society”. It will be prepared to be handed out during the conference next year. But the journal 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. Reports and detailed articles should follow the editorial guidelines for the journal. Information about LK and the editorial guidelines can be found at the homepage of the Science Shop network under http://www.livingknowledge.org/livingknowledge/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Journal_editorial-guidelines.pdf

Please note that Living Knowledge journal 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 and similar organisations in the field of (demand driven) community based research matters.

Deadline for submissions for the 10th issue of Living Knowledge will be 30th January 2012. Please send your contributions to: norbert.steinhaus@wilabonn.de

**BioSense – New Science Shop in Portugal**

End of October 2011 opened the first full running science shop in Portugal. The BioSense Science Shop in Lisbon is being built under the project “Science engaging society: life sciences, social sciences and publics” funded by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology. The Science Shop involves two Portuguese universities through the cooperation of the Institute for Molecular and Cell Biology of the University of Porto and the Centre for Social Studies of the University of Coimbra. The objective of this initiative is to develop action research and collaborative projects at the intersection of the social sciences, life sciences, health and environment, aiming the production knowledge that contributes to solving the problems identified by the civil society.

Henk Mulder, of the science & society group at University of Groningen (The Netherlands), member of the LK Network and coordinator of the European project PERARES, was invited to the opening of the BioSense Science Shop to speak about the science shops experience in Europe. During the talk he stressed the importance of the involvement of the academic institutions in the promotion of science-society dialogues and collaborations and of the interfaces between research and society as catalysts for joint knowledge creation and student learning with civil society.

Information and contact: www.biosense.org.pt, biosense@ces.uc.pt.

**German Nature Protection Award for Science Shop Bonn**

Science Shop Bonn wins the first German Nature Protection Award with the submitted project “Tatort Wald – change of perspectives through simulations”. The project aims at making young people familiar with the conflicts of interest in the use of the forest in a playful way. The project will raise social awareness for nature and motivate especially young people for a conservation commitment. More details: www.deutscher-Naturschutzpreis.de or at www.wilabonn.de/index_3694.htm

**The Danish government plans to close the Danish Board of Technology!**

Michael Søgaard Jørgensen, Department of Management Engineering, Technical University of Denmark; msj@man.dtu.dk

Incredible, but true! The new Danish center-left government has proposed to close down one of the few Danish democratic public institutions, the Danish Board of Technology and use the annual public funding (1.5 million Euro) for other research activities. The Board was set up in 1986 to advise the Folketinget, the Danish parliament, but its work has also been important outside Denmark, where it is seen as one of the pioneers within participatory methods to assess societal impacts of new technologies and develop visions for a
more sustainable and democratic development. The Board has for example inspired the development of the scenario workshop method. The Ministry of Education has written a short paper explaining the background for the proposal, but this paper is not considering the loss of national capacity, and international credibility and funding, which the closure will imply. The proposal is in national and international hearing until 2 January 2012. Comments can be sent to Lone Kjær at lone@fi.dk with reference to no. 11-120589 in the subject line of the email. The parliamentary debate starts probably Mid January. I hope negotiations for a continuation of the Board can be initiated before the parliamentary debate.

Democratic experiments
Science affects everyone on the planet, so how and to what extent should the public help set its agenda? Jon Turney looks to the notion of vox populi research for some ideas. Science, we often hear, is too important to be left to scientists. It is a daft thing to say, really. Scientists undergo long and arduous training, work implausibly hard and take specialisation to a degree rarely matched in other disciplines. If you want science done at all, leaving it to them seems an excellent idea. Read more at www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=26&storycode=417989&c=1

Public Attitudes to Science 2011
Public Attitudes to Science (PAS) 2011 is the fourth in a series of studies looking at the UK public’s attitudes to science, scientists and science policy, building on previous research in 2000, 2005 and 2008. The research highlights the challenge of public engagement with science. Fewer people say they feel informed about science, and scientific research and developments (43%) than say they do not (56%). In addition, while many are keen for the public to be involved in decision-making on science issues, most do not want to be personally involved. More details: http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2764/Public-attitudes-to-science-2011.aspx

Participedia – Strengthening democracy through shared knowledge
Participedia is an open global knowledge community for researchers and practitioners in the field of democratic innovation and public engagement. The platform harnesses the power of collaboration to respond to a recent global phenomenon: the rapid development of experiments in new forms of participatory politics and governance around the world. As we live in a world in which citizens of most countries are asking for greater involvement in collective decisions. Many governments, non-governmental organizations, and even some corporations are responding by experimenting with ways to increase public participation. Participedia responds to these developments by providing a low-cost, easy way for hundreds of researchers and practitioners from across the globe to catalogue and compare the performance of participatory political processes. Practitioners, activists, government officials, and journalists will benefit from a searchable database of cases, methods, and organizations, including knowledge about how well processes have worked for similar problems, under similar conditions. Social scientists, policy analysts, democratic theorists, and other scholars will benefit from access to a dynamic, diverse, and growing source of comparable qualitative and quantitative data. We encourage you to contribute information on case studies, methods and organizations. The more you participate, the more you will appreciate what this site has to offer. More details: www.participedia.net

Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement
The mission of the Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement (JHEOE) is to serve as the premier peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary journal to advance theory and practice related to all forms of outreach and engagement between higher education institutions and communities. This includes highlighting innovative endeavors; critically examining emerging issues, trends, challenges, and opportunities; and reporting on studies of impact in the areas of public service, outreach, engagement, extension, engaged research, community-based participatory research, action research, public scholarship, service-learning, and community service. More Information: http://openjournals.libs.uga.edu/index.php/jheoe/index
At Open-Access Meeting, Advocates Emphasize the Impact of Sharing Knowledge

Impact, not ideology, was the watchword at the Berlin 9 Open Access Conference, held at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. The 260 high-level researchers, fund providers, and open-access advocates who attended didn’t waste time bashing publishers who keep research behind paywalls. (Some commercial publishers, including Elsevier, attended.) Instead they focused on the benefits of putting research—in the humanities and social sciences as well as in the sciences—quickly and freely into the hands of scholars, students, innovators, and the general public.


Gateways: International Journal of Community Research and Engagement

Gateways is pleased to publish its fourth volume, a special edition on the theme of ‘Sustaining community-university partnerships’. It is the result of a collaboration between Gateways and the University of Brighton Community University Partnership Programme (Cupp), and is guest edited by Professor Angie Hart and Simon Northmore of Cupp.

Compiled in this volume are articles from around the world, reflecting on projects and partnerships big and small, young and more established. The articles provide us with a wealth of detailed material and identify some important characteristics of sustainable community-university partnership working, often in the context of socioeconomic disadvantage. The commitment, creativity and ingenuity on display in these articles suggest that there are many reasons for optimism when reflecting on the sustainability of community-university partnership working.


The Disclosure of University Research for Societal Demand: A Non-Market Perspective on the „Third Mission“

Many nations, universities, and regional governments commit resources to promote the dissemination of scientific and technical knowledge. The emphasis has been on knowledge-based innovation and the economic function of the university in terms of technology transfer, intellectual property, university-industry-government relations, etc. Faculties other than engineering or applied sciences may not be able to recognize opportunities in this „linear model“ of technology transfer. In our opinion, more options for relating demand and supply in terms of innovations can then be explored.

In this study, we elaborate on an idea originally developed in the context of the Dutch science shops in the late 1980s: the two Amsterdam universities were questionnaired about keywords and expertise at the level of individual researchers. Using the internet, this experiment was redesigned for questionnairing the academic staff of the Gabrielle d’Annunzio University (UdA) in Italy. The recall was highest among the humanities (keywords) and social sciences (expertises). On the basis of this data an interface was constructed that allows to build bridges across disciplinary divides and using considerable semantic precision.


The big question: How to engage scientists with the public?

There is a lot of focus on the question of how to engage the public with science. However, recent research suggests that focus is also needed on the question of how to engage scientists with the public. The research, ‘How scientists view the public, the media and the political process’, was published in September. The research combines a wide range of existing studies on scientists’ views, and integrates two new studies, one with a representative sample of scientists in the UK, and the other with members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and considers a number of studies into scientists’ views on public engagement. The research suggests that scientists often view engagement as chiefly about dissemination rather than dialogue and, although they are supportive of public engagement in general, they are often motivated by increasing citizen knowledge or combating the public’s unfounded fears about science. Research by the Royal Society showed that, when asked what engagement means, just 12% of scientists indicated it meant listening to or attempting to understand the views of the public.

More details: http://www.sciencewise-erc.org.uk/cms/the-big-question-how-to-engage-scientists-with-the-public/?stage=Live&dm_t=0,0,0,0,0
Social Media: A guide for researchers
Social media is an important technological trend that has big implications for how researchers and people in general communicate and collaborate. Researchers have a huge amount to gain from engaging with social media in various aspects of their work. This guide has been produced by the International Centre for Guidance Studies, and aims to provide the information needed to make an informed decision about using social media and select from the vast range of tools that are available.
Download the guide under: http://www.rin.ac.uk/our-work/communicating-and-disseminating-research/social-media-guide-researchers

CCPH Annual Award
The Community-Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH) Annual Award recognizes exemplary partnerships between communities and higher educational institutions that are striving to achieve the systems and policy changes needed to overcome the root causes of health, social, environmental and economic inequalities. The award highlights the power and potential of community-campus partnerships as a strategy for social justice. The award will be announced and recognized during a ceremony at CCPH’s 15th anniversary conference, April 18-21, 2012 in Houston, TX USA.
Partnerships nominate themselves and need not be members of CCPH. Partnerships that have applied in the past but did not receive the award or honorable mentions may re-submit. We welcome nominations in English from any country or nation. Nominations are due no later than Jan 16, 2012.
For the nomination guidelines, info on past awardees, answers to frequently asked questions and other resources, visit http://bit.ly/brRlPK

CONFERENCES
Universities’ Third Mission: Indicators and Good Practices
2-3 February 2012 in Dublin, Ireland
The Conference will discuss issues related to measuring the Third Mission, and, as final conference of the E3M Research Project, will provide an opportunity to present a set of indicators developed by the project, and to share good practices in attempts to develop a European-wide measurement framework for Third Mission activities.
The conference, designed as a highly interactive event, is aimed at Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), accreditation and ranking agencies, policy makers, institutions working with universities in the areas of technology transfer and innovation, continuing education and social engagement, international organisations and other colleagues working on projects in similar areas and having interest in the development of Third Mission activities.
Read more about the project and the conference at http://www.e3mproject.eu/index.html

Bringing Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics curricula to life through public engagement
1 March 2012, Birmingham, UK
There is increasing recognition – from students, employers and academic staff – that undergraduates need to continually develop their capacity to communicate effectively with others, to support the learning of others, work across cultures and institutions, and operate in complex inter-connected environments. Evidence suggests that embedding public engagement as part of a degree can help to develop these attributes whilst enriching student learning, developing skills that are desired by employers and helping to develop students’ civic and social responsibility.
This one day workshop will provide training and guidance on models of community-engaged learning and explore pedagogic and assessment issues. More details: http://www.publicengagement.ac.uk/news-and-events/events/bringing-science-technology-engineering-and-mathematics-stem-curricula-life-t?

Stakeholder Participation Workshop in Planning, Needs Assessment and Monitoring and Evaluation
6-11 February, 2012 in Tepoztlan, Mexico
The workshop is based on a hands-on approach to participatory development that can be applied in the South, in both urban and rural community settings. You will be introduced to the concepts and tools behind participatory development, also referred to as „Participatory, Learning and Action“ (PLA) and „Participatory Rural/Rapid Appraisal“ (PRA). Practice
assignments in the community will enable you to master and improve the tools and approaches to participation, to help you and/or your organization interact more effectively with groups and/or the community.

http://www.mosaic-net-intl.ca/takeholder.shtml

**INTED2012**
5-7 March, 2012 in Valencia, Spain

The 6th International Technology, Education and Development Conference will be an International Forum for those who wish to present their projects and innovations, having also the opportunity to discuss the main aspects and the latest results in the field of Education and Research. The general aim of the conference is to promote international collaboration in Education and Research in all educational fields and disciplines. The attendance of more than 700 delegates from 70 different countries is expected.

www.inted2012.org

**PCST Conference**
18-20 April 2012 in Florence, Italy

This conference in the field of Public Communication of Science and Technology is a continuation of the very successful PCST series. The next Conference will again represent the largest single gathering devoted to the subject, thanks to the massive participation of professionals and graduating students from all over the world, making the PCST 2012 the ideal arena for exchanging information and an international forum to discuss your emerging ideas and plans for research and development relative to PST. More information: http://www.pcst2012.org/about.php

**Community-Campus Partnerships for Health**
18-21 April 2012 in Houston Texas, USA

Community-Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH) is convening the 15th Anniversary Conference, to nurture a growing network of community-campus partnerships that are striving to solve our most pressing health, social and economic challenges. Held at a pivotal time in the history of CCPH and the community-campus partnerships “movement,” the conference promises to be worthwhile as hundreds of community members, faculty, staff, students, funders and policy makers from around the world convene for 4 days of skill-building, networking and agenda-setting!

Online registration: www.eiseverywhere.com/ereg/index.php?eventid=32061&

**Science Communication Conference**
14-15 May 2012 in London, UK

The annual two-day Science Communication Conference addresses the key issues facing science communicators in the UK and brings together people involved in public engagement. This is a diverse group of people from a range of backgrounds that include science centres, charities, universities, press offices or policy-makers and includes those who are experienced in public engagement as well as those who are relatively new to the field. It is a fantastic opportunity to share ideas and best practice, learn about developments and network.

www.britishscienceassociation.org/web/ScienceinSociety/ScienceCommunicationConference

**Second national Rural Research Workshop (RRW) Policy and Research in Community Investment**
24-25 May, 2012 in Ottawa, Canada

The Workshop will focus on the complex relationships between policy and research as they relate to the practice of rural community investment, while examining the challenges, opportunities and lessons that these three-way interrelationships present. This workshop will critically explore the three-way interrelationships between policy, research and development practice. How do they relate to each other? What lessons have we learned from these experiences? How can we improve the connectivity between these three? How can a positive interrelationship be crafted to enhance the creativity and effectiveness of rural community investment?

http://billreimer.net/CRRF/?page_id=556

**CUExpo 2013,**
12-15 June 2013 in Newfoundland, Canada

Grenfell Campus, Memorial University of Newfoundland and the City of Corner Brook will be the official hosts of CU Expo 2013, a Canadian led conference showcasing community-university (CU) partnerships worldwide.

www.swgc.mun.ca/releases/Lists/Release%20List/DispItem.aspx?List=a4175b78%2Ddad69%2D4a24%2Da96c%2Ddb3aed57989&ID=731

**Bringing the science and art of Knowledge Mobilization practice together**
19-20 June 2012, Ottawa, Canada

Knowledge Mobilization has seen a significant growth over the past decade. There are more organizations engaged in active knowledge mo-
bilitation efforts. There are more people with knowledge mobilization as their profession. Research efforts to understand and optimize knowledge mobilization practice have accelerated and are attracting more resources. It is now time to come together to share both the science and art of knowledge mobilization. The Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum will provide access to some of the best minds and most creative practitioners in the field. www.knowledgemobilization.net/ckmbf2012

Community and politics in a world in crisis: Rethinking community action in the new century
21-23 June 2012, Barcelona, Spain

The IV International Conference of Community Psychology (4cipc) is organized by the University of Barcelona in collaboration with the Autonomous University of Barcelona. It continues the undertaking of previous international conferences (San Juan de Puerto Rico, 2006; Lisboa, 2008; Puebla, Mexico, 2010) of forging shared agendas and effective answers to the social problems and aspirations of the new century from an approach that promotes (fosters, enhances) human development by means of social participation and synergic action that, by transcending diversity and plurality of positions, allows cooperation for facing existing challenges. For this conference we pose as specific focus of reflection and discussion the feasibility and conditions of community empowerment and promotion in view of psychological and social implications that current situation of crisis and social exclusion presents to different national and local realities.

More details: www.4cipc2012.org/?lang=en

The 2012 AUCEA Next Steps Conference
9-11 July, Brisbane, Australia

The theme for the conference will be Next Steps: Community Engaged Learning and look at this from student, academic, industry/business and community perspectives. Proposals are due by 31 Jan. 2012. www.auceaconference.org.au

Greater & Greener: Re-Imagining Parks for 21st Century Cities
14-17 July 2012, New York City, USA

The City Parks Alliance’s International Urban Parks Conference will bring together park and recreation leaders; community development professionals; municipal and federal government staff; elected officials; academics; city planners; neighborhood leaders; and private developers to celebrate, debate, organize, connect and share with others working to change the landscape in cities across the nation and around the world.


INFORMATION

Flyer, EU Website and Brochure

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.

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.

This newsletter is part of the output of PERARES (Public Engagement with Research and Research Engagement with Society) – which has been awarded financial support by the European Commission as coordination action through the contract no. 244264 in FP7 (Area 5.1.2.1 Broader engagement on science-related questions, SIS-2009-1.2.1.1 Structuring public engagement in research).