Dear Colleagues!

Welcome to the April issue of our newsletter. EURAXESS Links North America is looking ahead to a very busy month of May during which you will be able to see/meet us at several scientific conferences and information sessions in Canada and the US. Do not hesitate to spread the word about these activities among your colleagues who might be interested in stopping by. Please refer to the ‘EURAXESS Links North America Activities’ section of this newsletter for more information.

This issue brings you over 50 open calls for proposals in more than 20 European countries (EU Member States & Associated Countries). Our news and development section includes recent and very interesting R&D news from the European Research Area, Canada and the United States.

This month’s EU Insight focuses on the topic of Increasing Access to Higher Education in Europe.

Enjoy reading the newsletter!

Your EURAXESS Links North America Team
EURAXESS Links North America News is a monthly
electronic newsletter, edited
by EURAXESS Links North America, which provides
information of specific interest
to European and non-
European researchers in the
US and Canada who are
interested in the European
research landscape and
conducting research in
Europe or with European
partners.

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Delegation of the European
Union to the US or the
Delegation of the European
Union to Canada.

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1 EU Insight – Increasing Access to Higher Education in Europe

Simply put, more must be done to increase access to higher education in the European Union. This statement succinctly summarises the results of a recently published report by the European Commission—Modernisation of Higher Education in Europe: Access, retention and employability 2014—the second in a series focused on higher education in Europe. Why this is so has much to do with the role that knowledge, and subsequently education, plays in fulfilling the long-term developmental objectives the European Union has set for itself.

The report

Modernisation of Higher Education in Europe: Access, retention and employability 2014 is based on a study conducted by the Eurydice Network, which looked at 36 different education systems within the Europe (including all 28 EU Member States). The aim of the study was to evaluate the extent to which the European Commission's modernisation agenda, which "supports higher education systems in Europe in responding to the needs of our increasingly knowledge-based economy and societies", is being implemented across Europe.¹ The full report plus report brief can be downloaded free of charge at the Eurydice website.

Why access to higher education is important

According to the European Commission, “knowledge [is] at the heart of the Union’s efforts for achieving smart, sustainable and inclusive growth…and higher education in particular and its links with research and innovation, plays a crucial role in individual and societal development, and in providing the highly skilled human capital and the articulate citizens Europe needs to create jobs, economic growth and prosperity”.² Yet even with this lofty goal in mind, the majority of governments within the EU have so far failed to institute proper measures to support access to higher education.

What is behind this outcome?

The report names three distinct factors—an overly narrow focus on quantification, insufficient retainment and transition to labour market—as contributing to the slow pace widening participation in higher education in the European Union has taken so far.

The first of these factors concerns governments’ placing too much emphasis on just increasing numbers, a practice which unfortunately limits access to many social groups and contributes to a lack of diversity. For example, one group not yet addressed by participation widening efforts are young people from disadvantaged families. Additionally, those with disabilities tend not to be included in widening efforts.

The second factor is the lack of sufficient retainment strategies for individuals once they gain access to higher education. Specifically, this refers to the lack of measures to help prevent students from dropping out, in particular those from...
underserved and underrepresented groups. Currently, not enough support is offered in terms of the mode of study (part vs full-time), timeframe (how long should it take to complete programme/degree), and information and guidance to those most at risk.

The third, and last, factor is employability. Because employability is a complex concept with more than one definition, this also means that more than one approach exists to how it might be measured (i.e. employment-based vs. competence-based). This lack of clarity in turn blurs understanding of the type of training students actually need in order to obtain jobs following completion of their degree programmes; all too often measures and policies (if they exist at all) confuse or conflate employment for the things (skills, previous work experience, mode of study) which actually account for one’s ability to be employed.

However, beyond these factors, perhaps the most crucial reason underlying the problems associated with the widening of participation in higher education is a general lack of systematic monitoring processes. According to the report, all EU countries plus the eight additional European countries included in the study do have some type of policy measure in place to support higher education. The problem, unfortunately, is that at the current moment such measures are uneven and "insufficiently developed to provide an evidence-based picture across Europe".³

To date, only one EU member state has truly stepped up to address this challenge—Ireland.⁴

Sources and further information

1 Eurydice Network, Modernisation of Higher Education in Europe: Access, retention and employability 2014


4 Ibid.
2 EURAXESS Links North America Activities

2.1.1 EURAXESS Links North America at the eMerge Americas Conference – May 4-5, Miami Beach, FL, USA

EURAXESS Links North America will be present together with colleagues from the BILAT USA 2.0 team from the Project Management Agency at DLR, Germany and Florida EU Centre of Excellence, Florida International University. A Horizon 2020 booth #B18 will be present displaying EURAXESS as well as BILAT USA 2.0 information on EU-US collaboration and funding opportunities. During the conference, a session will be held on the Horizon 2020 program including the individual fellowships for researchers and the EURAXESS initiative.

More information about the conference can be found on their [website](#).

2.1.2 EURAXESS Links North America at ERA-Can+ Information Sessions – May 12-13, Edmonton, AB & Winnipeg, MB, Canada

The Public Policy Forum and its ERA-Can+ partners are helping Canadian researchers access potential sources of European funding. To learn about these opportunities and how you can access funds for science, technology, innovation, social science and humanities projects, please register for an information session.

More information and registration can be found [here](#).

2.1.3 EURAXESS Links North America at Nature Jobs Career Fair – May 20\(^{th}\), Boston, MA, USA

The [Naturejobs Career Expo 2015](#), hosted for the second time in Boston, United States, offers young, talented researchers an excellent opportunity to meet a diverse selection of national and international employers from academic institutions and scientific industries, such as pharmaceutical organizations, digital technology companies, science publishing and more.

More information about the Career Fair can be found [here](#).

2.1.4 EURAXESS Links North America at CONGRESS 2015, May 30th to June 5th, University of Ottawa, ON, Canada

Now in its 84th year, this flagship event is much more than Canada’s largest gathering of scholars across disciplines. [Congress](#) brings together academics, researchers, policy-makers, and practitioners to share findings, refine ideas, and build partnerships that will help shape the Canada of tomorrow.
During CONGRESS, a Mini Destination Europe Event will be held on May 31st from 13:00 - 18:00.

This afternoon event hosted by ERA-Can+ and Euraxess will feature presentations on programs that encourage and facilitate international research collaboration between the European Union and Canada. All are welcome to attend the event and learn more about Horizon 2020 the newest EU framework program to support research and innovation; the European Research Council; Euraxess, a pan-European initiative that provides information and support services to researchers going to Europe; and, the Marie Sklodowska Curie Actions, the EU program to promote researcher mobility. The event will be followed by a free reception from 16:30-18:00.

http://congress2015.ca/program/events/destination-europe

3 News & Developments

3.1 EU and Member States

3.1.1 European Commission launches scientific debate on how to feed the planet

The European Commission has launched an online consultation on how science and innovation can help the EU ensuring safe, nutritious, sufficient and sustainable food globally. The discussion is linked to the theme of this year's Universal Exhibition (Expo Milano 2015) "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life", which aims to go beyond cultural activities and open a real political debate on

The paper was presented on 13 April in Brussels by Tibor Navracsics, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, and responsible for the JRC, together with Franz Fischler, Chairman of the Expo 2015 EU Scientific Steering Committee.

Commissioner Navracsics said: "The European Union has a vital role to play in tackling the challenges associated with food and nutrition security and sustainability. Expo 2015 offers us a great opportunity to showcase what the EU is already doing in this field. I hope it will also breathe new life into our efforts and further foster international collaboration. I commend the work of the Joint Research Centre and look forward to working on these issues closely with my colleagues, in particular my fellow Commissioners in charge of agriculture, health, research, environment and development."

Chairman Franz Fischler said: "I believe that science and innovation are crucial if we are to guarantee access to safe and nutritious food for all, produced in a sustainable way. We have worked hard to ensure that Expo 2015 has a strong scientific dimension. I hope that the consultation and the discussion paper will steer a global debate."

The consultation will underpin the debate on a future research agenda to help tackle global food and nutrition security challenges. It will focus on the areas where the EU's research efforts can have the strongest impact, such as how to improve public health through nutrition, increase food safety and quality, reduce food loss and waste, make rural development more sustainable, increase
agricultural yields through sustainable intensification, as well as how to better understand food markets and increase access to food for people around the world.

The consultation is available online for input by all interested stakeholders until 1 September. The results of the consultation will be published on 15 October, ahead of World Food Day, and will contribute to shape the EU's legacy for Expo 2015. They will complement the scientific programme taking place at the EU's Expo Pavilion, which will bring together experts and decision makers from around the world.

Source: Joint Research Centre

### 3.1.2 European Commission launches €3m prize to improve air quality in cities

A prize of €3 million will be awarded to the person or team that develops the best material to reduce the concentration of particulate matter in urban areas, the European Commission announced on 16 April. The aim is to improve air quality in cities and reduce the serious health risks posed by particulate matter (PM), the air pollutant which has the most severe impact on health.

The Horizon Prize on materials for clean air aims to stimulate innovative thinking to find a material-based solution to the problem. The material can be made from any chemical substance (e.g. plastic, concrete, asphalt, etc.) capable or reducing PM concentration in the air (e.g. by capturing it).

Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, said: *Poor air quality is a major problem for health and the environment. Air pollutants kill half a million Europeans every year. Under Horizon 2020, we are continuing to invest in key enabling technologies, such as advanced materials, to reduce particulate matter in the air for the benefit of everyone.*

The prize is open to established scientists as well as other innovators. It leaves applicants total freedom to come up with the most promising and effective solution. The award criteria just require the solution to be affordable, sustainable, innovative and well-designed.

As of today, the rules of contest are available online. Contestants will be able to submit their entries from 26 January 2017 until 23 January 2018.

Source: European Commission
3.1.3 European Inventor Award finalists 2015: inventors behind 15 ground-breaking innovations selected

Their inventions make day-to-day life easier, create economic value and generate employment. They sometimes even save lives. The European Patent Office (EPO) announced on 21 April the 15 finalists for the European Inventor Award 2015. With this prestigious annual award, the EPO honours scientists and engineers in five categories whose inventions have been patented by the EPO and have contributed to technological progress, social development and economic growth. The 10th edition of the award will be held in Paris on 11 June, when the winners will be announced at a ceremony attended by prominent representatives of the worlds of politics, business, research and industry. Once again the public will select the winner of the Popular Prize, which will be decided by online voting in the run-up to the ceremony.

More than 300 individuals and teams of inventors were proposed for this year's award, 15 of whom have been selected as finalists by the independent international jury. The 2015 finalists are from 11 countries: Austria, Australia, China, France, Japan, Latvia, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK and the US. Their inventions cover a wide range of technological fields including biochemistry, civil engineering, energy, electronics, industrial chemistry, material science, medical technology, nutrition and physics.

"These ground-breaking inventions showcase Europe's role as a prime technology region and a hub of innovation for inventors from all over the world," said EPO President Benoît Battistelli. "The European patent system not only provides appropriate conditions to inventors from around the world for realising their creativity but also incentivises investors and entrepreneurs to strengthen their R&D activities and thus contribute to the economic prosperity of a region of 600 million people. These inventions once again show that the development of the European economy lies in its innovative capacity."

Source: European Patent Office

3.1.4 A new Wave of Scientific Transatlantic Cooperation

The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Simon Coveney T.D. joined on 16 April 2015 with Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, and Karmenu Vella, Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries in Brussels, along with Canada’s Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Gail Shea, to announce the first trans-Atlantic mapping survey to take place under the Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance.

The Irish research vessel, RV Celtic Explorer will undertake a mapping expedition between St. John’s, Newfoundland, Canada and Galway in Ireland in June of this year, as scientists from the Marine Institute, Ireland will be joined by a multi-national team made up of USA, Canadian and European ocean mapping experts. This is an important step following the agreement reached at Galway in May 2013 and is an example of scientific diplomacy in action.
Speaking from Brussels, Minister Coveney said “Information from the sea-floor is vital to the sustainable management of the Atlantic as well as to important industries such as fisheries, aquaculture and tourism. Ireland has developed a world-leading reputation for sea-bed mapping and is also very committed to the implementation of the Galway Statement and so I am delighted to put at the disposal of the team, Ireland’s state-of-the-art research vessel-RV Celtic Explorer.” Commissioner Moedas stated “I am committed to harnessing the societal and economic value of our oceans, while protecting fragile marine ecosystems. Under Horizon 2020 we have invested just under €70 million to support the Galway Statement follow-up. The first calls delivered excellent project proposals involving international teams. I am glad that this investment is being leveraged to make our transatlantic vision a reality.”

Commissioner Vella welcomed the announcement, stating. “One of the priorities of my mandate is Ocean Governance. Our wish is that the EU continues to be fully engaged on this subject. The sea-bed mapping expedition announced today illustrates the EU’s capacity as a global leader and partner. The ‘Celtic Explorer’s’ mission across the north Atlantic will be undertaken by crew from ‘both sides of the pond’. This embodies the spirit of cooperation that we need in the field of Ocean Governance. Their work will help inform the mapping of the European seabed, which is set to be completed by 2020. I congratulate all those involved”. Welcoming the initiative, the Honourable Gail Shea, Canada’s Minister of Fisheries and Oceans said “Canada recognizes the importance and complexity of Atlantic Ocean science. Our nations’ cooperation is key to broadening our scientific understanding of the Atlantic Ocean and helping to ensure it remains healthy, resilient and productive. This is why our scientists are collaborating through the Galway Statement to pool resources, share expertise and advance our science goals.”

The announcement was made at the European Commission hosted event, “The Atlantic- Our Shared resource. Making the Vision Reality, which was a follow up to the May 2013 signing of the Galway Statement on Atlantic Ocean Research Cooperation between the EU, Canada and the United States of America.

This event is the launch pad for all the Galway Statement follow-up projects funded with the first Horizon 2020 Blue Growth calls - the main financial instrument on the EU side implementing the Galway Statement commitments.

With a view to translating commitments into investments, the European Commission has earmarked around € 70 million in calls under Horizon 2020, the EU Research and Innovation Programme for the period 2014-2015.

Source: European Commission

3.1.5 Foresight 2025: integrated and fast-evolving standards key to innovation

A JRC foresight study suggests the European standardisation system should accelerate and rely on an integrated strategy. The study argues this is the only way standardisation will be able to keep pace with technological developments and societal challenges, stimulating innovation and fostering competition.

In an ever-more globalised economy with increasingly fierce competition, European industry will need to rely more on new, advanced manufacturing systems and technologies, for which new or upgraded standards will be needed.
on a regular basis to ensure quality and performance throughout the production and distribution system.

The study focuses on a 2025 vision and identifies five priority areas: integration, which aims at having standards that can cope with converging technologies and infrastructures, and assure interoperability and interconnectivity; environmental sustainability, focused on resource efficiency, zero waste and energy neutrality; quality and performance; services, meaning that consumers’ demand for high-quality services as part of any product package will need to be addressed and "de-risking", referring to having standards that provide confidence towards innovative solutions and ensure protection from potential risks to health, security, safety and privacy.

The foresight study was carried out at the request of the European Commission’s Directorate-General for internal market, industry, entrepreneurship and SMEs and with the participation of the Directorate-General for research and innovation. It was presented on 21 April at StandarDays - Your chance to discover the world of European Standards, held in Brussels.

The study also provides a template to identify standardisation needs so that they can be addressed earlier and in a more systematic way.

Source: Joint Research Centre

3.1.6 Cheap and renewable electricity anywhere

Most wind energy comes from turbines 150 metres above ground level. Winds at this altitude are however weak and intermittent, with most wind farms operating at only 25 - 30% of their capacity. EU-funded researchers have developed a prototype wind energy system that works at much higher altitudes, where winds are stronger and more constant, increasing electricity production dramatically. A commercialised product is in the pipeline.

Read more here.

3.1.7 Infoday: Science with and for Society 2015

Date: 22/05/2015

Venue: Brussels, Belgium

The information day and brokerage event is targeted at all stakeholders interested in the Science with and for Society Programme of Horizon 2020. Science with and for Society will help build effective cooperation between science and society, to recruit new talent for science and to pair scientific excellence with social awareness and responsibility.

The main objective of the Science with and for Society networking event is to provide, in the first session, first-hand information by the European Commission officials about the first Horizon2020 Science with and for Society 2014-2015 calls,
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launched on the 10th December 2013, and to bring in the second half of the day all stakeholders together (universities, research institutions, civil society organisations, SMEs, public bodies, Science Centres etc.), in order to meet potential coordinators and partners in a fruitful networking environment.

The networking event will be of particular interest and relevance to members of the Science with and for Society research community who are looking for networking and funding opportunities within Horizon 2020. It will be mainly targeted at the researchers and other stakeholders preparing for the first and second calls of Horizon 2020 relevant to the Science with and for Society.

This event is organized by SiS.net2, the international network of National Contact Points (NCPs) in the field of Science with and for Society in Horizon 2020 in cooperation with the European Commission

Source: European Commission

3.1.8 European Commission Foresight fiches : "Global Trends to 2030"

The set of European Commission Foresight fiches, analysing global trends to 2030, which was developed in the preparation of ‘The Future of Europe is Science’ report, is now available. This report was presented by the President’s Science & Technology Advisory Committee (STAC) at the "Future of Europe is Science" conference in Lisbon in October 2014.

At a time when the new European Commission announced that it will concentrate on bold initiatives, it is important to recall that any policy decision has complex ramifications. Indeed, an increasing number of decisions affect several policy portfolios, and they need to take into account an increasing number of parameters, like geo-politics, economics, finance, security, health, environment, climate change, sociology, urbanisation, ageing society, and integrate fundamental European social values such gender equality and ethics. In addition, the technological breakthroughs are accelerating as never before in history and social innovation (e.g. social media) augments the speed of information gathering and dissemination.

Because societies become ever more complex, collaborative long-term anticipation must replace the "silo" thinking habits and the short-termism that has characterised many aspects of policy-making in Europe.

Foreseeing is not sufficient anymore because it is only a tactical ex-trapolation of current trends; it is the future of the past. Foresighting however is strategic because it is based on more disruptive views; it is about the future of the future. But foresight needs also to become more integrated and collabora-tive, using coproduction of knowledge by means of "concurrent de-sign" approaches. These will foster anticipatory and more consistent policies and thus lead to more visionary governance. ‘The rougher the seas the more connected watch-towers are needed’.

Europe invented the modern World despite a resource poor continent because we used the most precious resource we have: our brains. Eu- rope’s real strength
lies in its diversity that is a powerful driver of innovation. Where different minds meet, there is inspiration. This is why the network of foresight experts has such a great potential. It is an excellent way to obtain a comprehensive analysis that integrates the various scientific, technological, but also social aspects. This is encompassed in the concept of Responsible Research and Innovation.

‘We cannot predict the future, but we have the opportunity to invent it, based on sound science and technology foresight’.

Related Documents:
Foresight Fiches 2014
Source: European Commission

3.1.9 Smart grids in Europe: outlook and large scale application

On 1 April 2015, the JRC released two reports in the area of smart grids, which look at how smart grids research and innovation can help achieve the Energy Union's targets of secure, sustainable, competitive and affordable energy.

The first report, entitled "Smart Grids Laboratories Inventory 2015" is a first edition of a periodic report that will gather and disseminate information on the smart grid laboratories active in Europe and beyond. The report presents the results of a survey carried out to obtain a complete overview of smart grid technologies operational at laboratory level in order to identify trends and gaps in smart grids research and innovation.

The report highlights that the surveyed smart grid laboratories, which invested on average around EUR 1 million to set up their facilities, are mainly serving industrial customers, followed by utilities, academia and governments.

The JRC, along with the report, has also launched a webpage with information from the participating laboratories. In the future, it will be merged with the existing inventory of smart grid projects in Europe. The objective is to create an interactive platform to share best practices and knowledge on smart grid activities, facilities, technologies and standards.

In the second report, "A Smart Grid for the City of Rome", the JRC investigates whether smart grid technologies can be profitably scaled up to a large city scale. To this aim, the JRC in collaboration with ACEA (Rome's Electricity Distribution System Operator) applied, for the first time, its Smart Grid Cost-Benefit Analysis to a full-scale smart grid urban project. This scale-up would entail expanding the impact area from a thousand consumers to more than 1 million. The central result is that the overall outlook for the extension to Rome of the smart grid project is positive from both the private investor and the societal perspective.

This analysis, which is based on data coming from daily grid management and real demonstration testing, helps evaluate the costs and benefits of developing a smart grid. In particular, the report makes an effort to monetise the several effects of interventions on software and physical infrastructure aimed at improving operation automation, constantly monitoring the health status of the grid (reducing the risk of failures and the consequent costs), and allowing for
integration of more distributed generation (such as solar and wind power), thereby decreasing fossil-fuelled generation and CO2 emissions.

Both reports have been presented at Innogrid, the European Research & Development conference for electricity transmission and distribution grids taking place on 31 March-1 April 2015 in Brussels, by JRC Director, Giovanni De Santi. The conference was attended by experts from the industry, associations, EU institutions, projects, NGOs and EU Member States contributing to the exchange of information and debates on the development of future electricity grids.

Source: Joint Research Center

3.1.10 U-Multirank 2015 edition

The European Commission global university ranking tool, U-Multirank, which assesses the performance of more than 850 higher education institutions worldwide, recently released its second set of results.

Particularly interesting for students and PhD candidates, the tool allows to compare performance of more than 1,200 higher education institutions, 1,800 faculties and 7,500 study programmes from more than 83 countries.

3.2 Canada

3.2.1 Government of Canada supports colleges and local businesses with new applied research partnerships

New applied research partnerships between colleges and local businesses will bolster entrepreneurship

The Honourable Minister of State (Science and Technology), Ed Holder, joined by David Sweet, Member of Parliament for Ancaster—Dundas—Flamborough—Westdale, announced over $40 million in grants to colleges across Canada to support applied research and development activities with industry. The 38 projects will create jobs and opportunities in key areas including manufacturing, green buildings and mobile technology, while training the next generation of highly skilled Canadians. Colleges also received support to purchase specialized research equipment.

The Minister made the announcement in Hamilton, at Mohawk College’s Additive Manufacturing Resource Centre (AMRC). The college is receiving $2.3 million to provide additive manufacturing capabilities to local companies to develop and enhance their products. Mohawk’s unique approach uses metal alloys, rather than plastic, and fuses these together with high-powered lasers. Projects at AMRC will focus on creating aerospace and satellite parts, tools for early detection and treatment of breast cancer and new 3D-printed bicycle parts.

The funding announced was awarded through the College and Community Innovation (CCI) Program and the College Industry Innovation Fund (CIIF) Program.
3.2.2 Thirty Meter Telescope

As part of its efforts to support research excellence in areas of Canadian strength, the Government of Canada has invested in transformative infrastructure projects supporting Canada’s key research strengths, such as astronomy and astrophysics, and engaged in international partnerships that foster ambitious scientific achievements in these disciplines.

To this end, on April 6, 2015, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced the Government of Canada’s intention to provide up to $243.5 million over 10 years to support Canada’s participation in the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT), an international project that will build one of the world’s largest and most advanced astronomical observatories in Hawaii. Overall projects costs are expected to total U.S. $1.5 billion. Other partners in the project are Japan, China, India, as well as the California Institute of Technology and the University of California from the United States.

The TMT project was founded by the California Institute of Technology, the University of California, and the Association of Canadian Universities for Research in Astronomy, whose membership includes 20 universities across the country. The TMT is the result of more than a decade of scientific consultations, thorough design and planning.

3.2.3 A new model for reducing water pollution

Charting the way to cleaner water

Freshwater and marine systems around the world are continually subjected to chemical and biological contaminants that affect everything from the quality of our drinking water to the prosperity of our fisheries and tourism industries. One of Canada’s most vulnerable waterways is the Red-Assiniboine Basin where storms and spring flooding send a great number of agricultural pollutants into Lake Winnipeg, the area’s largest freshwater resource. The resulting nutrient runoff acts like fertilizer, feeding microscopic algae which multiply rapidly and which create an “algal bloom” that depletes the oxygen in the water, increases water toxicity and puts fish, wildlife and people at risk of consuming these toxins.

Because the Red-Assiniboine Basin straddles the Canada-U.S. border, it falls under the mandate of the International Joint Commission (IJC), a binational organization charged with overseeing shared water use by both federal governments. Knowing that pinpointing the origins of these pollutants is key to reducing their impact on the lake’s ecosystem, the IJC sought an organization that could help it to track the source of the nutrients and to identify the most problematic “hot spots”.

In 2011, the IJC commissioned the National Research Council’s (NRC) Marine Infrastructure, Energy and Water Resources (MIEWR) program to lead a watershed-scale study that would help both countries to identify where they could most effectively focus their efforts towards nutrient abatement and control.
3.3 United States of America

3.3.1 Exploring the unknown frontier of the brain

James L. Olds, head of NSF’s Directorate for Biological Sciences and the Shelley Krasnow University Professor of Molecular Neuroscience at George Mason University describes why and how NSF-funded researchers are working to understand the healthy brain.

To a large degree, your brain is what makes you... you. It controls your thinking, problem solving and voluntary behaviors. At the same time, your brain helps regulate critical aspects of your physiology, such as your heart rate and breathing.

And yet your brain--a nonstop multitasking marvel--runs on only about 20 watts of energy, the same wattage as an energy-saving light bulb.

Still, for the most part, the brain remains an unknown frontier. Neuroscientists don’t yet fully understand how information is processed by the brain of a worm that has several hundred neurons, let alone by the brain of a human that has 80 billion to 100 billion neurons. The chain of events in the brain that generates a thought, behavior or physiological response remains mysterious.

Why the big mystery? The brain is the most complex known biological structure in the universe. When researchers do figure out how it works, they will accomplish perhaps the greatest scientific achievement in recorded human history.

Read more (Source: National Science Foundation)

3.3.2 Researchers improve efficiency of human walking

Unpowered exoskeleton developed by Carnegie Mellon and North Carolina State researchers helps individuals walk using less energy.

Humans have evolved to be incredibly efficient at walking. In fact, simulations of human locomotion show that walking on level ground and at a steady speed should theoretically require no power input at all.

But anyone who works on their feet or has taken an arduous hike knows otherwise. In fact, people expend more energy during walking than any other activity in daily life, and for the elderly and those with mobility issues, that energy can be precious.

For decades, engineers have envisioned systems that could make walking easier. In fact, so many researchers have tried to build unpowered exoskeletons and failed that it was hotly debated in the field whether it was even possible to improve the efficiency of walking without adding an external energy source.

In news reported in Nature, researchers from Carnegie Mellon University and North Carolina State University have demonstrated an unpowered ankle exoskeleton that reduces the metabolic cost of walking by approximately 7 percent. The results are roughly the equivalent of taking off a 10-pound backpack, and are equivalent to savings from exoskeletons that use electrically-powered...
devices. The research was based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation.

Read more (Source: National Science Foundation)

3.3.3 On the Failure of R&D Projects

According to a study from the University of North Carolina, employ a woman as a principal investigator is a success factor in a R&D project funded by a public body.

3.3.4 Basic Scientific and Engineering Research at U.S. Universities

From 1953 to 2012, the share of basic research funded by universities has increased eightfold. Furthermore, in 2012, 64% of university research was fundamental, according to the organization Association of American Universities (AAU). To learn more: see the note of the AAU.

3.3.5 Research Infrastructure in the President's 2016 Budget

According to the report of the Office of Science and Technology Policy addressed to the US Congress, the President proposed in his 2016 budget, to invest US $ 2.8 billion in research infrastructures, which are defined as support for the construction of facilities dedicated to R&D, the renovation and the purchase of capital goods of prime importance to R & D.

This amount which represents an increase of US $ 265 million compared to the 2015 budget, would be taken from a federal portfolio of US $ 145.7 billion. For example, the budget proposes to pay US $ 75 million to the Major Research Instrument program of the National Science Foundation. This program promotes the acquisition and the development of instruments so that they can be used by being shared between universities, research centers, museums and non-profit organizations.

The budget also proposes to pay US $ 51 million to the Defense University Research Instrumentation Program of the Department of Defense. This program funds competitive grants to improve the capacity of universities to conduct world-class research to meet the critical needs of the Department.

To learn more: see the rapport of the OSTP

3.3.6 Preserve the reputation of the US as a leader in discoveries and innovation

Senator Dick Durbin and Bill Foster, Democrat Representative announced the filing of a bill aimed at preserving the US position as a world leader in regard to discoveries and innovation.

This bill calls for a constant and stable increase in the budgets for basic research equivalent to inflation plus 5%, in the next decade for advanced research led in the five largest US federal research agencies, which are:

- the National Science Foundation (NSF);
- the Department of Energy (DOE);
- the Department of Defense (DOF);
- the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST);
According to the politicians Durbin and Foster, federal funding for research and development (R & D) is pursuing a downward trend for several decades. Today, in constant dollars, discretionary federal spending in terms of R & D represents a decrease of almost two thirds (65%) compared to what they were in 1965. Also, because of inflation, federal funding for science and technology has lost 20% of its value in just three years. This lack of funding has led to a lack of investment of 1.5 trillion USD and prompted a growing number of young researchers, considered among the best, to leave the country to new horizons.

For more information: read the press release from the House of Representatives

3.4 Cooperation EU/Canada – EU/USA

3.4.1 Canada, Quebec - Creation of an Institute of entrepreneurial mentoring in the greater National Capital, the first in North America

In order to support Quebec companies that have strong growth potential, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Quebec announced the creation of an Institute of entrepreneurial mentoring in the greater National Capital, the first in North America. This initiative is realized in partnership with the French Association of Institutes of Entrepreneurial Mentoring (l'AFIME – IME France). For more information: read the press release of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Quebec (in french only)

3.4.2 The Atlantic our Shared Resource – Making the Galway Statement reality, 16-17 April, Brussels

The implementation activities of the Galway Statement on Atlantic Ocean Research Cooperation, signed in May 2013 by the EU, Canada and the United States of America, and launching an Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance, moved to a new exciting stage.

This 2-day event that took place in Palais d’Egmont in Brussels, Belgium, was the launch pad for all the ‘Galway Statement follow-up projects’ funded with the first Horizon 2020 Blue Growth calls – the main financial instrument on the EU side to make the Galway Statement commitments reality.

Find more information in the event programme and the list of the speakers’ biographies.

Source: ERA-Can+
3.4.3 Report: Trilateral EU-US-Canada Workshop - Arctic scientific cooperation in the framework of the Transatlantic Ocean Research Alliance

The report on the Trilateral EU-US-Canada Workshop - Arctic scientific cooperation in the framework of the Transatlantic Ocean Research Alliance that took place at Tromsø, UiT The Arctic University, Wednesday 21 January 2015 is now publicly available here.

Objectives

In the framework of the Transatlantic Ocean Research Alliance between EU, US and Canada, launched with the Galway declaration of 24 May 2013, two bilateral EU/US and EU/Canada Working Groups on the Arctic have been set-up in 2014.

This Trilateral Workshop aimed at exploring potential areas of trilateral scientific cooperation in the field of Arctic and among the similar fields of activity that each of the bilateral Working Groups has identified so far in their Statements of Purpose.

Source: BILAT USA 2.0

3.4.4 The JPI “More Years Better Lives” launches Call for Proposals which is also open for Canadians

Announcement of First Call “Extended Working Life and its Interaction with Health, Wellbeing and beyond”. Please find call specifications for Canadians provided by CIHR here.

The call invites proposals for funding research into one or more of four broad topics:

1. Modern work factors
2. Longer working life & Inequality
3. Health challenges
4. Caring responsibilities

Research is expected to cross the traditional boundaries of Government departments and occupational sectors and to examine the implications of extending working life for older workers (50+), new labour markets, health, wellbeing and intergenerational equity.

The call is launched on April 1st 2015 with a submission deadline of June 2nd 2015 (12:00 CET). Expected project start: early 2016

Source: ERA-Can+

3.4.5 Webinar on opportunities for Europeans in programmes by the Canada Foundation for Innovation, May 6, 2015

ERA-Can+ Canadian project partners are hosting a live webinar about research opportunities for Europeans to participate in programs offered by the Canada
Foundation for Innovation. The webinar is open to European researchers, research managers, and representatives from universities, colleges, government agencies and the private sector.

Canada’s Public Policy Forum and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada will host a webinar to introduce the ERA-Can+ project and Horizon 2020—the European Union’s current Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. The second part of the webinar will feature the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and explore its research opportunities open to Europeans.

Date: May 6, 16:30 – 18:00 Central European Summer Time (CEST)
Speaker: David Moorman, Senior Advisor, Policy and Planning, Canada Foundation for Innovation

For more information and to register: http://ppforum.ca/webinar-research-opportunities-europeans-canada-foundation-innovation

The panelist will be available to answer questions from audience members following his presentation.

For further information please contact Danielle Lenarcic Biss at dbiss@aucc.ca. Any technical questions pertaining to ERA-Can+ of Horizon 2020 can be directed to the ERA-Can+ helpdesk at helpdesk@era-can.net.

Source: ERA-Can+

4 Grants & Fellowships

4.1 Europe

4.1.1 Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions, named after the double Nobel Prize winning Polish-French scientist famed for her work on radioactivity, support researchers at all stages of their careers, regardless of nationality. Researchers working across all disciplines, from life-saving healthcare to ‘blue-sky’ science, are eligible for funding. The MSCA also support industrial doctorates, combining academic research study with work in companies, and other innovative training that enhances employability and career development.

In addition to generous research funding, scientists have the possibility to gain experience abroad and in the private sector, and to complete their training with competences or disciplines useful for their careers. More information about various funding schemes and requirements for applying is available here.

Open call:


Deadline: 10 September 2015
4.1.2 Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions: Pocket guide

Considering a doctoral degree? Looking for partnerships between academic and non-academic organisations or staff exchanges? Keen on outreach activities? There is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie action for you.

The EU's Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions fund all kind of opportunities for researchers from Europe and beyond. This starter booklet gives you the needed information to make the right first choice.

Guide available for downloading or online reading here.

4.1.3 Fulbright-Schuman Program

The Fulbright-Schuman Program, administered by the Commission for Educational Exchange between the United States and Belgium, is jointly financed by the U.S. State Department and the Directorate-General for Education and Culture of the European Commission. The program funds graduate and postgraduate study, research, and lecture proposals in the field of US-EU relations, EU policy, or EU institutions for interested American and EU citizens.

More information

4.1.4 European Research Council Grants

Researchers from anywhere in the world can apply for a European Research Council (ERC) grant to go to Europe and conduct research (for at least 50% of their working time). Currently over 300 ERC grantees out of nearly 4,000 are non-Europeans. Research teams set up by ERC grantees are highly international – an estimated 20% of team members are non-Europeans.

Open calls:

- ERC Advanced Grant | ERC-2015-AdG

Deadline Date: 2 June 2015

- ERC Proof of Concept | ERC-2015-PoC


More information: European Research Council

4.1.5 Jean Monnet Postdoctoral Fellowships

The Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (RSCAS) offers one or two-year fellowships to postdocs in an early stage of their academic career. Priority will be given to proposals that fit well with one or more of the Centre's core research themes: European Institutions, Governance and Democracy, Migration, Economic and Monetary Policy, Competition Policy and Market Regulation, Energy Policy and Climate Policy, Global Governance & International and Transnational Relations of the EU.

More information
4.1.6 EMBO: Fellowships

The European Molecular Biology Organisation (EMBO) brings together more than 1500 leading researchers within 27 Member States and promotes excellence in the life sciences.

Young scientists actively seek EMBO Long-Term Fellowships for postdoctoral research to fund and support their internationally mobile careers. The EMBO Long-Term Fellowships are awarded for a period of up to two years and support post-doctoral research visits to laboratories throughout Europe. International exchange is a key feature in the application process.

Hundreds of scientists also benefit each year from EMBO Short-Term Fellowships, returning to their home laboratories with new skills as well as contacts for future collaborations. They fund research visits of up to three months to laboratories in Europe. The aim is to facilitate valuable collaborations with research groups applying techniques that are unavailable in the applicant's home laboratory.

Deadlines: Rolling basis (Short-Term)

4.1.7 Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP): Postdoctoral Fellowships

HFSP postdoctoral fellowships encourage early career scientists to broaden their research skills by moving into new areas of study while working in a new country. HFSP fellowships are for three years. Fellows may choose to stay for up to three years in the host country or use the last year of their fellowship to return to their home country or to move to another HFSPO member country.

Next deadline: 27 August 2015

More information

4.1.8 European Respiratory Society/EU RESPIRE2 postdoctoral Marie Curie Fellowship

ERS/EU RESPIRE2 postdoctoral Marie Curie Fellowship opportunities in the broad field of respiratory science, co-funded by the European Union. The programme is aimed at experienced researchers from any discipline and will help fellows to become the future leaders in respiratory research.

Next deadline: 31 July 2015

More information

4.1.9 Erasmus+ joint Master Degrees

Scholarships for 116 different Joint Master Degree programmes starting in September 2015. Between 13 and 20 student scholarship holders and 4 invited scholars/guest lecturers per intake can take part. Find out more about Joint Master Degrees here as well as the list of participating universities here.

4.1.10 2015 Erasmus+ call for proposals

Open to any public or private body active in the fields of education, training, youth and sport may apply for funding within the Erasmus+ Programme. See the
EURAXESS LINKS NORTH AMERICA

**Erasmus+ Programme Guide** for the 2015 General Call for Proposals for detailed conditions for participating in the call for proposals, as well as information on the priorities for funding. It constitutes an integral part of the 2015 Erasmus+ Call for Proposals. Depending on the action and thematic line, deadlines vary from 4 February 2015 to 1 October 2015.

4.1.11 National EURAXESS portals

The latest information on open calls for national grants and fellowships in the 40 member countries of the EURAXESS network can be accessed on the respective national EURAXESS portal.

**Austria, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, FYRoMacedonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, UK.**

4.2 EU Member States and Associated Countries

4.2.1 Austria: Franz Werfel Grant

Franz Werfel, who was born 1890 in Prague and died 1945 in California, is one of the most famous representatives of Austrian Literature. Therefore the Franz Werfel Grant addresses itself to young university teachers whose work focuses on Austrian Literature. The grant programme, which was initiated in 1992, is open to applicants from all over the world. Recipients of Werfel grants can work as visiting researchers at university departments and carry out specialist studies in libraries, archives or at research institutions.

This grant does not only offer material support for up to 18 months but through follow-up support also guarantees sustainability.

**Closing date for application: March 1st and September 15th (new)**

More information

4.2.2 Austria: Lise Meitner Program for Scientists from Abroad

**Target group:** Highly qualified scientists of any discipline who could contribute to the scientific development of an Austrian research institution by working at it. **Requirements:** completed doctoral studies, international scientific publications, no age limit, invitation from an Austrian research institution.

No deadline – **call constantly open.**

More information
4.2.3 Austria: ISTFELLOW*: Call for Postdoctoral Fellows

Are you a talented, dynamic, and motivated scientist looking for an opportunity to conduct research in the fields of BIOLOGY, COMPUTER SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS, PHYSICS, or NEUROSCIENCE at a young, thriving institution that fosters scientific excellence and interdisciplinary collaboration?

Apply to the ISTFellow program

Applications are accepted at any time for the IST FELLOW program, but fellows will be selected twice a year in October and April. The application deadlines for each selection are the 15th of September and the 15th of March, respectively.

* IST FELLOW is partially funded by the European Union.

More information

4.2.4 Austria: The Austrian Science Fund and funding categories

The Austrian Science Fund (FWF) is Austria’s central funding organization for basic research.

The purpose of the FWF is to support the ongoing development of Austrian science and basic research at a high international level. In this way, the FWF makes a significant contribution to cultural development, to the advancement of our knowledge-based society, and thus to the creation of value and wealth in Austria. One of the FWF’s most important goals is to promote the internationalisation of basic research in Austria by taking special organisational measures, creating suitable framework conditions, and offering concrete funding instruments for this purpose.

More information

4.2.5 Austria: Richard Plaschka Scholarship

The grant is named after the Austrian historian, who died in 2001 and who worked at the University of Vienna as a university professor for Eastern European history from 1967 to 1993. In 1981/1982 he was the rector of the University of Vienna. Moreover he was the head of the Austrian East and Southeast Europe Institute from 1958 to 1988. Throughout his life Richard Plaschka committed himself to a cross-border and joint way dealing with the history in the eastern and southeastern European area. The grant recipients should place emphasis on cross-border collaboration in their scientific activities.

Applications are open to university lecturers of history whose main focus of academic interest is Austrian history. Recipients of Plaschka grants can work as visiting researchers at university departments and carry out specialist studies in libraries, archives or at research institutions.

Grants are awarded for up to 18 months; follow-up support is scheduled for grant recipients who have consumed at least 12 scholarship months.

Deadline: March 1st and September 15th of each year (new)
More information

4.2.6 Belgium: Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique
Brief Outgoing Fellowships

This funding is devoted to researchers working in a university of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation who would like to go abroad for a short stay to acquire new knowledge. Various research fields. All nationalities. **Deadline/Request 3 months prior to the stay outside Europe.**

More information

4.2.7 Belgium: Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (F.R.S.-FNRS) - Post-doctoral temporary fellowship

This funding aims to finance a research fellowship (up to 3 years) for a non-Belgian PhD holder coming from abroad to work for a research programme financed by F.R.S.-FNRS. Various Research Fields.

More information

4.2.8 Belgium: Research Foundation Flanders (FWO)
International Mobility

The FWO encourages mobility among researchers and international contacts between research groups. For this purpose, FWO offers different possibilities to researchers to go abroad and to build international networks.

More information

4.2.9 Czech Republic: Office of Naval Research: Visiting Scientist Program (VSP)

VSP is designed to facilitate visits by foreign technologists with Department of the Navy counterparts for the purpose of collaboration. The visits are typically to the United States, but can be to non-U.S. locations of special interest to the Department of the Navy science and technology community. Along with Liaison Visits, the Science & Technology Insertion Program is part of a process to develop international collaborations. Requests should be received at least eight weeks in advance of the proposed visit.

More information

4.2.10 Denmark: Ministry of Higher Education and Science: PhD scholarships outside the universities

The Danish Council for Independent Research invites proposals for PhD scholarships to be carried out at Danish research institutions outside the universities.

More information
4.2.11 Estonia: Scholarships
The Estonian Government offers a number of scholarships intended for university students, researchers or lecturers for studying and doing research at Estonian public universities and institutions. Mostly scholarships are for the master’s degree or doctoral degree, but some bachelor degree scholarships are also possible.

More information

4.2.12 Estonia: Scholarships for visiting PhD students (Activity of ESF DoRa programme)
The DoRa programme activity 5 „Facilitating international research cooperation by supporting short-term research projects of visiting doctoral students in Estonia“ supports the short-term study and research activities of visiting PhD students in Estonian universities. The support scheme is aimed at supporting the active participation of universities in the international exchange of knowledge and to make Estonian universities and doctoral studies more international.

More information

4.2.13 Finland: CIMO Fellowships
The CIMO Fellowships programme is open to young doctoral level students and researchers from all countries and from all academic fields. Master's level studies or postdoctoral studies/research are not supported in the programme.

There are no annual application deadlines in the CIMO Fellowship programme. Applications may be considered at all times. However, please note that applications should be submitted at least 5 months before the intended scholarship period. Decisions will be made within approximately 3 months after receipt of application.

More information

4.2.14 France: Overview of research exchange programs US – France
The Office for Science and Technology (OST) located in the French Embassy to the United States (Washington D.C.) regularly updates an overview of research exchange programs addressing all categories of researchers in various areas. A specific section of the OST website contains current calls for proposals, career opportunities, and information on French higher education programs.

Download the USA to France Research Exchange Programs booklet in PDF format.

Open Calls for Proposals [here](#):
• **Pasteur Post doctoral Fellowship program: Call 2015**

**Deadline: September 10, 2015**

Three-year fellowship positions are open to U.S. citizens wishing to work in one of the laboratories of the Institut Pasteur. Located in Paris and founded by Louis Pasteur in 1887, the Institut Pasteur is one of the world's leading private nonprofit centers for scientific research including (...)

• **ANR "Hosting High-Level Researchers" 2015 call is open**

**Deadline: May 29, 2015**

This funding instrument is dedicated to individuals and open to all scientific fields enables "junior" or "senior" researchers from any country to carry out an ambitious research project in a reputed institution in France. The ANR funding is designed to help French laboratories fulfil their (...)

• **Young Enterprise Initiative (YEi) 2015 Call for Applications**

**Deadline: May 27, 2015**

The Young Enterprise initiative (YEi Start in France) is organized since 2006 by The Office for Science and Technology of the Embassy of France in the US. This program is an accelerator designed to help entrepreneurs start and grow their business in France and Europe. It provides to all the (...)

• **ANR-NSF Partnership for International Research and Education (PIRE) Joint Call for proposal**

**Deadline: May 15, 2015**

The French National Research Agency (ANR) cooperates with the National Science Foundation (NSF) to finance the French teams selected by the two countries as part of the PIRE "Partnerships for International Research and Education" call for proposals issued by the NSF. The PIRE program is a (...)

4.2.15 France: 15 Postdoctoral Fellowships in Biology and Information Technologies

Call for applications launched by the French Atomic and Alternative Energies Commission (CEA).

WHAT? 2 years post-doctoral fellowships on:
- Genetics and Personalized Medicine
- Functional Imaging of Plants
- 3D cell culture Imaging
- Engineered Protein based Materials

Working language is English and knowledge of French language is not necessary. The host Institutes are located in Grenoble, Cadarache and Paris-Saclay.
WHO? open to PhD in physics, informatics, biology, chemistry or engineering of all nationalities

No specific deadline: The positions are open until they are filled by appropriate candidates. Applicants are selected in a competitive process.

More information

4.2.16 Germany – Canada: Joint Funding Opportunity by the Canadian Space Agency and the German Aerospace Center

The Canadian Space Agency (CSA) and the German Aerospace Center (DLR) announced an opportunity in their Earth Observation Applications Development Program. Follow the links for

funding information at the Canadian Space Agency

funding information at the German Space Administration (in German)

4.2.17 Germany: DLR-DAAD Research Fellowships in the fields of Space, Aeronautics, Energy and Transportation Research

DLR-DAAD Research Fellowships is a new programme implemented by the ‘Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt’ (DLR - German Aerospace Center) and the ‘German Academic Exchange Service’ (DAAD).

This special programme is intended for highly-qualified foreign doctoral and postdoctoral students as well as senior scientists. DLR-DAAD Fellowships offer outstanding scientists and researchers the opportunity to conduct special research at the institutes of the DLR in Germany.

DLR-DAAD Fellowships are defined and awarded on an individual basis. Each fellowship announcement will indicate the specific qualification requirements and terms of the visit. The current offers are published under DLR-DAAD Fellowships - Current Offers on the homepages of the DAAD and the DLR. Currently there are open positions in Aeronautics; Space; Transportation; Energy. The application deadline depends on the offer.

More information

4.2.18 German Chancellor Fellowship of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation is now OPEN!

Founded in 1953 by the Federal Republic of Germany, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation fosters and funds international collaboration between excellent individuals, be they prospective leaders or active researchers and academics, through its fellowship programmes and awards. We view ourselves and everyone who has received funding from us as a worldwide family which today counts more than 26,000 Humboldtians in more than 140 countries.

Each year, the German Chancellor Fellowship for prospective leaders gives up to 50 highly talented young professionals from Brazil, China, India, Russia and the USA the opportunity to spend a year in Germany enhancing their professional qualifications. Working with a host and mentor of their choice, the
fellows implement independently developed projects in their respective field, e.g. in politics, business, society, culture or the media. The fellowship programme is under the patronage of the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany. The **deadline for applications is 15 September.**

Application requirements include

- a Bachelor's or equivalent academic degree
- initial proven leadership experience
- German or English language skills
- a project plan
- a letter of acceptance from the fellow's German host, who may work e.g. in an organisation, a business, in public administration, a museum or the media.

More information on the German Chancellor Fellowship is available at [www.humboldt-foundation.de/youngleaders](http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/youngleaders).

4.2.19 Ireland: Enterprise Partnership Scheme (Postdoctoral): Now open

The Enterprise Partnership Scheme is an innovative initiative whereby the Irish Research Council, in partnership with private enterprises and public bodies, awards co-funded postgraduate scholarships and postdoctoral fellowships to the most promising researchers in Ireland.

**The Enterprise Partnership Scheme for Postgraduate and Postdoctoral**

The Scheme offers researchers the opportunity to gain additional beneficial experience and insight into the commercial arena while completing their research.

It provides industry with flexible and easy access to an exceptional pool of competitively selected, high-calibre researchers and the opportunity to build links with relevant academic research groups.

The Scheme facilitates the establishment of new relationships and the strengthening of existing ones between enterprise and academia while offering financial support to researchers at an early stage of their career development.

**Deadline: 17 June 2015**

More information

4.2.20 Ireland: US-Ireland R&D Partnership Programme

The US-Ireland Research and Development Partnership, launched in July 2006, is a unique initiative involving funding agencies across three jurisdictions: United States of America (USA), Republic of Ireland (RoI) & Northern Ireland (NI). Under the US-Ireland R&D Partnership programme, a 'single-proposal, single-review' mechanism is facilitated by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and National Institutes of Health (NIH) who accept submissions from tri-jurisdictional (USA, NI and ROI) teams to a number of their existing funding programmes. All proposals
submitted under the auspices of the Partnership must have significant research involvement from researchers in all three jurisdictions.

As part of this funding process, the governments and relevant research funding agencies within the Partnership contribute to the research costs of researchers based in their jurisdictions. The partner agencies in the USA are the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The partner agencies in RoI are Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) and the Health Research Board (HRB). In Northern Ireland, the Health & Social Care R&D Division (HSC R&D) supports health-related projects, while the Department for Employment and Learning Northern Ireland (DELNI), and Invest Northern Ireland (InvestNI) support projects related to Sensors & Sensor Networks, Nanoscale Science & Engineering, Telecommunications, and Energy & Sustainability. InvestNI and DELNI support health-related projects in the area of Sensors & Sensor Networks and Nanoscale Science & Engineering.

More information

4.2.21 Italy: Call for 86 posts in PhD courses at the Scuola Normale Superiore

The Scuola Normale Superiore PhD School in Pisa, Italy offers fully-funded PhD programs to both Italian citizens and students from outside Italy. Fields: Philosophy, Modern Literature and Philology, Classics, History of Art, Modern and Contemporary History, Physics, Condensed Matter Physics, Mathematics, Financial Mathematics, Methods and Models for Molecular Sciences, Neurosciences, Biophysical Sciences, Renaissance Studies, and Political Science and Sociology

All students admitted to the PhD program receive full financial support. This includes tuition, fees, and a cost-of-living stipend (14,187 euro per year, plus free meals).

Applications for admission to the selection process must be registered online by 23:59 CET of 31 August 2015, for the autumn session.

Click online for more information.

4.2.22 Lithuania: Lithuanian Research Council: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Researchers from Lithuania and abroad who have been awarded a Ph.D. degree within the period of 3 years (maternal and childcare leave are not taken into account) can apply for the Postdoctoral Fellowships. The Fellowships are funded on the competitive basis with the duration of Fellowships of up to 2 years. Postdoctoral Fellows in the spheres of Social Sciences, the Humanities, Physics, Biomedicine, Agriculture, and Technologies are welcome to participate. Any higher education institution, research institute, research center or other research establishments and enterprises in Lithuania can act as a Host Institution.

More information
4.2.23 Luxembourg: National Research Fund (FNR) - INTER Mobility Call for Proposals 2015

The aim of the INTER Mobility Programme is to promote the scientific exchange between research groups of the Luxembourg public research institutions and research groups abroad in order to foster innovative, internationally competitive research and support the exchange of key knowledge and technological know-how.

Next deadline: 30 June 2015

More information

4.2.24 Luxembourg: National Research Fund (FNR) - Grants for NASA-ARC

The National Research Fund Luxembourg (FNR) intends to strengthen the cooperation between Luxembourg and NASA's AMES Research Centre (NASA-ARC) in order to support the thriving national aerospace sector.

First of all, the FNR earmarks two grants for PhD candidates or postdoctoral researchers allowing them to undertake their research activities at NASA-ARC. Research projects can be done in cooperation with a Luxembourg based public or private research institution or full-time at NASA-ARC. Funding will be granted up to 4 years for PhD candidates and up to 2 years for postdoctoral researchers according to the rules of the AFR grant system.

The Call for Proposals is also open to researchers based in Luxembourg companies who have spent at least 5 years in Luxembourg and envisage undertaking a PhD or Postdoc project in collaboration with NASA-ARC.

More information

4.2.25 Malta: University of Malta: Junior Research Fellowships

Junior Research Fellowships are available as part of the Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellowships. Open to doctoral students and recent Ph.D. recipients who are U.S. citizens.

More information

4.2.26 Netherlands: Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO): Visitor’s Travel Grant

Researchers in the Netherlands can apply for a visitor's grant for highly qualified senior researchers from abroad who hold a PhD. With this grant these researchers can stay in the Netherlands for a maximum of four months.

Next deadline: Continuous application

More information
4.2.27 Netherlands: Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO): Graduate Research Opportunities Worldwide (GROW)

The best PhD students from NSF's Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) can do 3 to 12 months of research abroad thanks to GROW.

GROW is a collaboration between the National Science Foundation (NSF) in the United States and 12 partner countries including the Netherlands.

More information

4.2.28 Netherlands: Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW): Evert Willem Beth Foundation: funding for research and symposiums

The Evert Willem Beth Foundation funds some research and symposiums in the following disciplines: modern logic, philosophy of science, history of logic, history of the philosophy of science and scientific philosophy in general.

Students as well as researchers can apply. Applications are now accepted.

More information

4.2.29 Norway: Fulbright Norway: The U.S. - Norway Fulbright Grant Program

The U.S. - Norway Fulbright Foundation offers a range of mobility scholarships to students and researchers for stays with Norwegian and American host organizations.

More information

4.2.30 Norway: The Research Council of Norway: Graduate Research Opportunities Worldwide (GROW)

The best PhD students from NSF's Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) can do 3 to 12 months of research abroad thanks to GROW.

GROW is a collaboration between the National Science Foundation (NSF) in the United States and 12 partner countries including Norway.

More information

4.2.31 Norway: The Research Council of Norway: Personal Visiting Researchers Grants

The KLIMAFORSK programme is announcing funding for research stays abroad, visiting researcher stays in Norway and events that promote the scientific and strategic objectives of the programme. A total of up to NOK 2 million is available for all three types of support.

Next deadline: 27 May 2015

More information
4.2.32 Norway: The Research Council of Norway: Personal Visiting Researcher Grant

Funding may be sought for research stays in Norway for international researchers with qualifications at the professor level. Guest researcher grants provide a means of strengthening Norwegian research groups in the field through international collaboration. The Research Council allocates funding for Personal Visiting Researcher Grants in the form of a framework grant. The grant covers documented costs of settling in and other associated extra costs incurred in connection with a research visit in Norway at fixed rates.

Next deadline: **ongoing**

More information

4.2.33 Poland: Foundation for Polish Science: IDEAS FOR POLAND

The objective of the program is to encourage young, brilliant researchers from all over the world to choose Poland as the place to carry out their research projects submitted for the ERC competition. The program is designed for people whose previous scientific record demonstrates that they are highly independent as researchers, and warrants that they will conduct world-class quality research.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis.

More information

4.2.34 Poland: Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland: Thesaurus Poloniae

Thesaurus Poloniae is a three-month-long Fellowship of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland implemented by the International Cultural Centre in Krakow in autumn 2009. The programme is addressed to non-residents of Poland who conduct their research on culture, history and multicultural heritage of the Republic of Poland as well as on Central Europe.

The second call will be announced between the 31st of May and 15th of June with a deadline between 30th of June and 15th of July 2015.

More information

4.2.35 Poland: Polish-U.S. Fulbright Commission: Inter Country Travel Grant

Polish higher education institutions may apply for a travel grant from the Fulbright Commission to support short visits by American Fulbright lecturers placed in a European country. The Fulbright travel grant will cover the visiting lecturer's airfare using the most economical fare. The Polish institution is expected to cover other resulting expenses. The inter-country lecture visit must take place during the American lecturer’s Fulbright grant period.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis.

More information
4.2.36 Poland: Fulbright Commission: Fulbright Specialist Program

The program awards grants to U.S. faculty and professionals approved to join the Specialist Roster in select disciplines to engage in short-term collaborative projects (lecturing, conducting seminars, teacher training, conferences or workshops, collaborating on faculty development and curriculum or institutional planning, etc.) at institutions in over 140 countries worldwide, including Poland.

Next deadline: **May 8 & July 3, 2015**

More information

4.2.37 Portugal: Science and Technology Foundation (FCT): 2015 Call for PhD Studentships, PhD Studentships in Industry and Post-Doctoral fellowships

With this call, FCT aims to support the best graduates who wish to pursue research leading to a PhD degree, and the most creative post-doctoral researchers in pursuing cutting-edge projects, in Portuguese or foreign research centres, in all fields of research.

Next deadline: **11 May 2015**

More information

4.2.38 Slovakia: Slovak Academic Information Agency (SAIA): USA – The Fulbright Specialists Program (Teaching/research stays for 2-6 weeks)

Next deadline: **rolling basis**

More information

4.2.39 Slovakia: Scholarships of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic – study/research stay for PhD students (5 months)

More information about the deadline and eligibility criteria can be found [here](#).

Next deadline: **31 May 2015**

4.2.40 Slovakia: Scholarships of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic – teaching/research stay for university teachers and researchers (3 months)

More information about the deadline and eligibility criteria can be found [here](#).

Next deadline: **31 May 2015**

4.2.41 Sweden: VINNOVA: VINNMER Marie Curie Incoming Fellowships

The purpose of this call is to support experienced researcher careers through mobility and international collaborations.
Next deadline: **16 September 2015**

**4.2.42 Sweden: The Swedish Research Council: Graduate Research Opportunities Worldwide (GROW)**

The best PhD students from NSF's Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) can do 3 to 12 months of research abroad thanks to GROW.

GROW is a collaboration between the National Science Foundation (NSF) in the United States and 12 partner countries including Sweden.

More information

**4.2.43 Switzerland: Swiss National Science Foundation: International Exploratory Workshops**

The International Exploratory Workshops allow for researchers working in Switzerland to organize workshops with partners from abroad. The aim of this funding instrument, which is open to all fields of research, is to allow researchers working on a similar question to meet and advance their knowledge on the issue.

Next deadline: **Anytime**

More information

**4.2.44 Switzerland: State Secretariat for Education Research and Innovation (SERI): Graduate Research Opportunities Worldwide (GROW)**

The best PhD students from NSF's Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) can do 3 to 12 months of research abroad thanks to GROW.

GROW is a collaboration between the National Science Foundation (NSF) in the United States and 12 partner countries including Switzerland.

More information

**4.2.45 Switzerland: CERN: Non-Member State Postdoc Fellowship Program (Theoretical Physics)**

The Non-Member State Fellowship Programme in Theoretical Physics awards two postdoctoral fellowships per year. They are granted for two years and can exceptionally be extended to a third year.

Next deadline: **15 October 2015**

More information

**4.2.46 Switzerland: CERN: Fellowship Program**

The Fellowship Programme is addressed to graduates from universities or higher technical institutes in a wide range of applied sciences, computing and engineering with limited or no work experience. **Senior Fellowships** are awarded to doctorate (PhD or equivalent) graduates whereas **Junior Fellowship** are intended for BSc or MSc graduates looking to work in a research group.
Next deadline: **7 September 2015**

[More information]

### 4.2.47 Turkey: TÜBİTAK: Fellowships for Visiting Scientists and Scientists on Sabbatical Leave

In order to contribute to the improvement of human resources and the research in Natural Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Medical Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities (*) at universities, research institutions and industry in TURKEY, eminent scientists/researchers are supported to visit Turkey by giving seminars/conferences/lectures, or doing R&D activities.

Next deadline: **applications are accepted on a rolling basis**

[More information]

### 4.2.48 United Kingdom: Wellcome Trust: Career Re-entry Fellowships

This scheme is for postdoctoral scientists who have recently decided to recommence a scientific research career after a continuous break of at least two years. It gives such scientists the opportunity to return to high-quality research, with the potential to undertake refresher or further training.

The fellowship is particularly suitable for applicants wishing to return to research after a break for family commitments.

Next deadline: **15 May 2015**

[More information]

### 4.2.49 United Kingdom: BBSRC: International Scientific Interchange Scheme (ISIS)

The aim is to help scientists add an international dimension to their BBSRC funded research by making and establishing new contacts with international counterparts.

Next deadline: the call is currently **OPEN – apply any time**

[More information]

### 4.2.50 United Kingdom: RCUK & NSF/SBE: Co-lead Agency Agreement PILOT

The Arts and Humanities Research Council of the UK and the US National Science Foundation have been collaborating in support of research of mutual interest for several years. A Memorandum of Understanding is in place to encourage interdisciplinary research and facilitate the peer-review and joint-funding of USA-UK collaborative research in areas at the intersection of the two agencies’ missions.

Next deadline: **See agreement for details**

[More information]
4.3 Databases and Further Information

4.3.1 Austria: Database of scholarships and research grants available

Austria’s most comprehensive database for scholarships and research grants in German and the English language offers an overview of about 1,200 funding opportunities for incoming and outgoing researchers, graduates and students.

More information

4.3.2 Austria: Information from the Office of Science & Technology in Washington D.C.

"Building bridges of knowledge and expertise between Austria and North America" - this is the mission of the Office of Science & Technology (OST) at the Embassy of Austria in Washington, D.C. The OST is the strategic interface in the sciences, research, and research policy between Austria and North America. OST staff can inform you on most relevant funding opportunities in Austria.

4.3.3 Belgium: a comprehensive webportal

Calls for proposals are published all through the year on the Belgian Federal portal for research and innovation.

Further information

4.3.4 Canada: ERA-Can+ Project - Promoting Canada-EU research

The ERA-Can+ project helps you to identify funding opportunities in Canadian Programs, as well as funding opportunities in Europe for Canadian researchers.

More information

4.3.5 Canada: Government of Canada - International scholarship

Canada is committed to participation in international study and research partnerships, which build understanding among peoples, develop global citizens and leaders, and contribute to the development of nations.

For Canadians: Learn about opportunities for graduate study and research abroad.

For Non-Canadians: Learn about opportunities for study and research in Canada.

4.3.6 Cyprus: the Research Promotion Foundation

The Research Promotion Foundation (RPF) promotes the development of scientific and technological research in Cyprus. The RPF has established a list of research stakeholders, some offering funding opportunities.

More information
4.3.7 Denmark: Funding programmes for research and innovation and Danish Innovation Centre in the USA

The Danish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Higher Education has published an exhaustive guide to Danish funding programmes. Innovation Centre Denmark, Silicon Valley, provides you with information about Danish research environment and funding opportunities.

More information

4.3.8 Estonia: Estonia Research portal

Estonian Research Portal is the public section of the Estonian Research Information System. It gives an overview on various aspects of Estonian R&D including funding opportunities.

More information

4.3.9 Finland: Key links to Finnish funding agencies and opportunities

Funding for scientific research in Finland comes predominantly from private companies and the government. Other important sources of funding include various funds and foundations.

Here are some of the biggest funding agencies.

4.3.10 France: Find your PhD with the new website "PhD in France"

This website presents French PhD offers on one platform and is open to all foreign students.

This site aggregates the offers of the laboratories and universities in France. It helps in making research simple for all foreign and English-speaking students wishing to pursue a PhD in France.

For the majority of the scientific doctorates, the student gets a 3-year employment contract for a gross amount of approximately EUR 1,700 / month (1300 EUR net).

More information

4.3.11 Germany: Funding and resources opportunities for graduate and doctoral students, postdocs and faculty and researchers

The German Center for Research and Innovation based in New York compiles all existing funding and resources opportunities for graduate and doctoral students, postdocs and faculty and researchers.

More information

4.3.12 Ireland: Research opportunities

The Irish Research Council (IRC) manages a suite of inter-linked research schemes, funding scholars at various career stages, from postgraduate study to senior research project-based awards. For early stage researchers these include
the Gov. of Ireland Postgraduate scholarships and Gov. of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowships, which fund research at pre- and postdoctoral levels, and the Research Project Grants Scheme, which allows researchers and research teams to expand their activities into new research areas by way of stimulus project grants and knowledge transfer initiatives. The IRC manages and monitors all awards funded under these schemes on a bi-annual basis.

More information

4.3.13 Netherlands: EURAXESS portal: Overview of Dutch Fellowships and Grants

More information

4.3.14 US: National Science Foundation - Science Across Virtual Institutes (SAVI)

Science Across Virtual Institutes (SAVI) is a mechanism to facilitate collaboration among teams of NSF-supported U.S. scientists and engineers and their international partners who have complementary strengths and common interests and who wish to form virtual institutes to foster enhanced research collaboration; data sharing; networking; and technical exchanges of students, postdocs, and junior faculty across borders.

More information

See the list of the International Funding Opportunities at NSF:

5 Jobs

5.1 EURAXESS Portal

There are currently over 9,900 research jobs and fellowship programmes (all over Europe, but also in other countries such as in the USA/Canada, and in all disciplines) accessible via the EURAXESS Jobs database.

Check out the latest jobs offered on the portal or search positions by keyword, research profile, country or field.

Online Jobs and Fellowships on the EURAXESS Links North America website. Research organisations (public and private) can upload their job vacancies located in Canada and the US. It is free of charge.

5.2 Other Research Career Sites

5.2.1 Canada

Career opportunities in Canada: National Research Council Canada and careers

5.2.2 Europe

Find A Postdoc: http://www.findapostdoc.com/

Find Scholarships in Europe: http://www.scholarshipportal.eu/

Find PhDs in Europe: http://www.phdportal.eu/

Career.edu: http://www.career.edu/index.php

Academic Jobs EU: http://www.academicjobseu.com

Euro Science Jobs: http://www.eurosciencejobs.com/


Careers with the European Union: European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO)

Careers with the European Union (EPSO), Non-permanent Posts

EuroBrussels: http://www.eurobrussels.com/

5.2.3 USA

AAAS support: Science careers from the Science journal


NSF guidance of funding opportunities for Graduate students

NSF guidance of funding opportunities for Postdoctoral fellows

Funding opportunities at researchusa.com
## 6 Events

### 6.1 Europe: Forthcoming events

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<td>Publication of ESOF2016 for Scientific Session Proposal</td>
<td>2 March – 1 June 2015</td>
<td>Manchester, UK</td>
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<td>EXPO Milano 2015</td>
<td>1 May – 31 Oct 2015</td>
<td>Milan, Italy</td>
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<td>Joining Forces Towards Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans – First JPI Oceans Conference</td>
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<td>European Climate Change Adaptation Conference (ECCA)</td>
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<td>Future of the doctorate</td>
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<td>Nanotech Europe 2015 &amp; EuroNanoForum 2015</td>
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<td>A new start for Europe: Opening up to an ERA of Innovation</td>
<td>22-23 June 2015</td>
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<td>65th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting</td>
<td>28 June – 3 July 2015</td>
<td>Lindau, Germany</td>
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6.2 North America: Forthcoming events

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<tr>
<td>eMerge Americas Conference</td>
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<td>ERA-Can+ Information</td>
<td>12-13 May 2015</td>
<td>Edmonton, AB &amp; Winnipeg, MB, CANADA</td>
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<td>Nature Jobs Career Expo</td>
<td>20 May 2015</td>
<td>Boston, MA, USA</td>
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<td>ACFAS Congres</td>
<td>25-29 May 2015</td>
<td>Rimouski, QC, CANADA</td>
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<td>2015 CONGRESS of</td>
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About EURAXESS Links North America

EURAXESS Links North America is a network of thousands of European and non-European researchers, scientists, and scholars throughout North America (USA and Canada). This multidisciplinary network includes members at all stages of their careers. It allows them to connect with each other and with Europe, ensuring that they are recognized as an important resource for European research, whether they remain in North America or return to Europe.

For further information about EURAXESS Links North America, please visit: http://northamerica.euraxess.org.

To sign up for membership in our network, and to the virtual SINAPSE community of members, please go to our website and click on the Join the EURAXESS Links North America community hyperlink on the right-hand side of the page. Membership is free!

Editors: Viktoria BODNAROVA and Stephanie JANNIN, EURAXESS Links North America, Regional Representatives

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