Personal Experiences about MSCA-IF2020

Applying 2019-2020
Implementation 2022-2023

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Contents

1. Why, Who, and How
2. Proposal Preparation
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Section 1 - Why, Who, and How
Why

There’re many reasons that an early-career researcher should do parts of her/his research overseas.

• Diverse research environments
• Build international network
• Bilateral knowledge exchange
• Improve your English
• Fulfil the requirement for promotion

EU-MSCA

• Help you to become a mature and independent researcher
• Good salary and lifelong reputation
• Friendly to “old” applicants without strong publication record
Who

I did not have much confidence in my application.

- Monotonous research experience 土博
- No independent and mature research direction 东一榔头 西一棒槌
- Not very strong publication record, no top papers 论文平平
- No direct connection with European researchers 两眼抹黑
- Not good at social activities 社交恐惧

Don't limit yourself, anyone can apply.
How many steps should be taken to apply for MSCA?

1. Find your host professor 方向互补 大牛为宜
2. Get support from your host institute 流程套路不可少
3. Focus on preparing your proposal 老板参与看缘分
4. Review several times before submission 大家来找茬
5. Don’t wait until the last minute 早交早去嗨
Section 2 - Proposal Preparation
## Evaluation Summary Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>IF2019</th>
<th>IF2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 - Excellence</td>
<td>50.00%</td>
<td>4.30</td>
<td>4.60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - Impact</td>
<td>30.00%</td>
<td>4.40</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 - Implementation</td>
<td>20.00%</td>
<td>3.80</td>
<td>4.60</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total score</strong></td>
<td>84.60%</td>
<td><strong>94.40%</strong></td>
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</table>
## Improvement of proposal-2020 compared with proposal-2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weaknesses to strengths</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weakness 2019</strong> - It is not sufficiently demonstrated how the host will benefit from the researcher's previously acquired knowledge and skills; the main expertise of the host group and the researcher are in the same research area.</td>
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<td><strong>Strength 2020</strong> - The two way transfer of knowledge is described in great detail. The researcher will gain important knowledge on heterogeneous catalysis, in situ advanced characterization tools and surface studies. In return, the researcher will transfer to the host knowledge related to selectivity aspects in photocatalytic reactions.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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### Tips
- Novelty, high quality, convincing
- Interdisciplinary aspects
- Host professor and host institute
- Scientific track record - informative resume in Part B2
Impact & Implementation

2 - Impact

• The dissemination plan towards peers is well-formulated and highly ambitious, by targeting very high impact journals with broad as well as specialized audience and targeting some of the most important international conferences on catalysis.

• The proposed measures to communicate towards non-expert audiences are well identified and formulated, through a variety of communication channels, including social media, networking, hands-on-demonstrations and other popularisation activities.

3 - Implementation

• WPs and GANNT chat – clear, consistency, precise allocation
• Risk management
Section 3 - Research at Cardiff
Research at Cardiff

- Enjoy work and life
- Adapt to the new environment
- Role switching – Be your own boss
- Efficient use of research funds and existing resources
- Create cooperation opportunities
- Balance work and life
Thank you for your attention!

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