



April 2019

NEWSLETTER



We made it! Over 650 researchers from academia and industry, entrepreneurs, policymakers, National Contact Points and the general public gathered in Vienna on 24-25 February for the MCAA General Assembly and Annual conference. Take a look at our special coverage!

Have you heard about Science Careers? Its mission supports the commitment of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) to furthering careers in science and technology. Learn more.

Discover the SciEd project, an international network of researchers and educators who are travelling around the world and are giving lectures at local schools.

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PARTNER

SCIENCE CAREERS

Science Careers is dedicated to being the world leader in matching qualified scientists with jobs in industry, academia and government. We are committed to providing all the necessary career resources for scientists, as well as effective recruiting solutions for employers. Our mission supports the commitment of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) to furthering careers in science and technology.

Science Careers

FROM THE JOURNAL SCIENCE  AAAS

SOMETIMES THE GRASS REALLY IS GREENER SOMEPLACE NEW.



SEARCH FOR YOUR DREAM JOB

Produced by Science and AAAS, Science Careers offers key job search and proprietary resources to advance your career. Thousands of searchable jobs from around the world are available online, and our advanced search function can help you narrow results by discipline, location, sector and other criteria that can help you find your perfect fit. Start browsing at Jobs.ScienceCareers.org.

Registering for a free account unlocks even more invaluable features, including timely email alerts about job postings that match your custom search criteria. You can also save jobs, manage your applications, and upload your resume to let employers connect with you.

MORE WAYS TO USE SCIENCE CAREERS TO ADVANCE YOUR CAREER

- Use myIDP, an individual development plan (IDP), to explore ca-

reer possibilities and set goals to follow the career path that fits you best.

- Download our career booklets, including Career Basics, Careers Beyond the Bench, and Work and Wellbeing.
- Read relevant career advice articles from our library of thousands.
- Attend in-person and virtual career fairs to connect with the best employers from around the world.

Whether you need career advice or access to the latest job opportunities, visit ScienceCareers.org today.

Employers can reach the best and brightest scientists who visit the site regularly to utilise all these essential features. If your needs involve recruiting, visit Employers.ScienceCareers.org or contact advertise@sciencecareers.org today.

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EMPOWERING POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS TO SPEARHEAD THE LIFE SCIENCES



The Vienna BioCenter is one of Europe's leading life science research centres. Four research institutes share a common vision in supporting fundamental science and in training scientists at the highest level. The Vienna International Postdoctoral Programme, VIP² is a new **three-year fellowship programme**, which will provide prime research conditions as well as a comprehensive scientific education scheme for postdoctoral scientists. **English** is the working language (no German is required or needed). Vienna is a fun, young city embedded in beautiful old buildings, an international metropolis in the heart of Europe, which is rated as the **number one city in the world for quality of life**.

The Vienna BioCenter offers an outstanding research environment, and VIP² will boost the careers of fellows by offering a structured training and career development programme under the principle **"Inform, Inspire, Innovate"**:

- **Inform** via structured mentoring and a training programme.
- **Inspire** by providing outstanding supervision within a vibrant life sciences research campus.
- **Innovate** by supporting fellows to make groundbreaking discoveries that enable them to become leaders in the academic sector and other sectors.

VIP² will foster exposure to different sectors and facilitate career transitions. The programme offers a two-mentor scheme (the second mentor can be from a different sector) and opportunities for a two-month secondment. Fellows will be advised and supported by an inter-sectoral advisory board.

The research groups participating in VIP² **cover the full scope of modern life sciences**. The research topics range from structural to organismal biology, from gene expression to neurobiology, and from microbiology to molecular medicine. A similar diversity is seen in the research models that are being explored. The Vienna BioCenter has an extremely collaborative and collegial atmosphere, which is facilitated by opportunities for communication and interaction, like the campus seminar series and regular social events.

CALL FOR APPLICANTS:

The first VIP² call for 15 fellows opened on 15 April (deadline 15 June), applicants with a PhD in biology, chemistry, physics, medicine, engineering, computer science, and bioinformatics are eligible to apply.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- A PhD in life sciences or related disciplines.
- A scientific project, matching the research carried out on campus.
- A first-author publication or manuscript published on bioRxiv or arXiv.
- By the time of the call deadline applicants should not have resided in or carried out their main activity (work, studies) in Austria for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the call deadline.

For more information visit our website: <https://training.vbc.ac.at/post-docs/vip2/>

This fellowship programme will be supported by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No. 847548.



SPECIAL COVERAGE GENERAL ASSEMBLY & ANNUAL CONFERENCE

SIXTH MCAA GENERAL ASSEMBLY & ANNUAL CONFERENCE ATTRACTS RECORD NUMBERS

Over 650 researchers from academia and industry, entrepreneurs, policymakers, National Contact Points and the general public gathered in Vienna on 24-25 February.

The core theme of this year's conference was 'Research and Innovation beyond the Information Age'. The event asked participants to embrace the future of research, discuss its role in society and to have an open mind about what they can expect to learn from it.

THE OVERALL FOCUS WAS ON RESEARCH CAREERS, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE POLICY.

Attendees from all over the world explored new career paths with sponsors and partners, discovered the opportunities of industry 5.0 and networked extensively with interna-

tional researchers and innovators. Higher education institutions, funding agencies, companies and industry leaders provided funding and job opportunities on site. The job fair also featured a CV clinic.

Participants benefitted from 24 interactive sessions that incorporated training workshops, presentations

and debates. The sessions addressed the evolving research environment, including topics on writing project proposals, starting an entrepreneurial venture and transitioning from academia to industry.

Hot topics like open science, science diplomacy and Artificial Intelligence were also covered, as



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was sensitive subject matter such as researcher mental health and refugees in higher education. The five parallel sessions reflected the results of a recent MCAA survey on major challenges faced by researchers. Several of the sessions were live-streamed.

DURING THE CONFERENCE, RAPPORTEURS PRESENTED THE MAIN POINTS FROM THE VARIOUS SESSIONS

The event featured three keynote speakers: Themis Christophidou, Director-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture at the European Commission; Dr Sabine Herlitschka, CEO of Infineon Technologies Austria AG; and Prof. Anton Zeilinger, President of the Aus-

trian Academy of Sciences. Other guest speakers included Barbara Weitgruber, Director General for Scientific Research and International Relations at the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research and Martin Kalinowski, Chief of the Capacity Building and Training Section in the International Data Centre Division of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO). Panel discussions and Q&A periods were held following keynote speeches.

The Conference welcomed more than 827 registrations, MCAA Vice-Chair and lead organiser Mostafa Moonir Shawrav credits the surge in registrants to extensive preparation and planning long before the event. About 100 members from the Erasmus Mundus Association also attended. A first

for the event was the digital poster presentation via a dedicated conference app.

The annual MCAA awards ceremony was held during the gala dinner. The four winners were Stefka Fidanova (Career), Pavlo Bazilinskyy (Best Innovator), Francisco Valente Gonçalves (Social Impact) and Fernanda Bajanca (Outstanding Contributor).

The best poster awards were presented in the following categories: life sciences; mathematics; chemistry; physics; environmental science; engineering; and social sciences, humanities and arts. Benelux took home best European Chapter, while Brazil was awarded best non-European Chapter. The top Working Group went to Policy.

A BOARD MEETING FOR BOARD MEMBERS, CHAPTER AND WORKING GROUP CHAIRS PRECEDED THE CONFERENCE

Attendees were treated to an evening of stand-up comedy by MCAA members after the conference ended.

Live streaming videos can be viewed on the MCAA YouTube channel [here](#).

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AN INTERVIEW WITH CHAIR MATTHEW
DIFRANCO AND VICE-CHAIR MOSTAFA
MOONIR SHAWRAV

Meet the MCAA's dream team! Chair Matthew DiFranco and Vice-Chair Mostafa Moonir Shawrav are two major reasons why this year's General Assembly & Conference was the biggest and best ever.

With over 800 registrations, it's the largest event ever organised. About twice as many registrations as last year, and more sponsors.



"I WANT THIS ANNUAL EVENT TO
BECOME A DATE ON THE CALENDAR"

What was the key to this year's success?

Mostafa: It all began with a thought. We were fortunate that a few of us thought about the same thing at the same time. But you know, as Seneca said: "Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity". A vision followed by contributions and ultimately total commitment

are what made the 2019 GA & Conference what it is today.

We created an unofficial dream team as early as 2016. Matthew, Clara and I exchanged ideas and gradually turned them into action beginning in 2017. From the very start, we planned, delegated and executed based on lessons learnt from previous events. We also

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"LUCK IS WHAT
HAPPENS
WHEN
PREPARATION
MEETS
OPPORTUNITY"



incorporated members' expectations and challenges while designing the GA panel and sessions. I believe this led to the highest number of attendees. I must admit a few individuals' extreme dedication became the driver of success.

The successful achievement of this year's partnership is also due to our sponsorship group. I received

a lot of support from Matthew, Bale, Zsofia and Guilherme. We started organising this event in August 2017. Initially, there were a couple of members like Matthew and Clara who helped a lot. New sponsors were actively sought, sponsorship benefits were strategically communicated and regular follow-up was maintained.

Sessions and workshops with the most relevant issues for young researchers from career development, entrepreneurship, funding to marginally discussed topics like researchers' mental health, workplace harassment, diversity and inclusiveness in research were very appealing to participants.

Lastly, I believe that Vienna as a tourist hotspot played a part in attracting people.

Matthew: First of all, we started early. The team of the Board, Mostafa our Vice-Chair and lead organiser, and myself had a vision and plan. We already knew that Vienna would be an attractive place for researchers and an appealing venue for people coming from other parts of the world. Our goal was to double the size of the event by also attracting the public. We didn't just want it to be an event for MCAA members.

For the first time, we wanted to show off a bit, boast about what MCAA does, what we can do and what we can offer to the public,

stakeholders and researchers. Ultimately, our mission isn't just about providing services to MSCA fellows, but engaging the general public, too.

What was the added value of the Conference for members and non-members?

Mostafa: The best part about the Conference was that we didn't discriminate between members and non-members. Both audiences had the opportunity to learn from 24 sessions on various topics that will be important to them in the future. As sessions were organised based on communicated needs, attendees could pick and choose issues that were most relevant to them. We tried to make all sessions as interactive as possible.

We also offered CV assessments, a workshop on responsible research and innovation and networking opportunities with experts from the same field via a web app.

The keynote speakers and distinguished guests shared their valuable experience and wisdom. Role models and real-life heroes from academia, industry, policy and other paths gathered for this event on the podium, panels, workshops and sessions.

This has been the most wonderful and unparalleled opportunity for us to introduce ourselves and to make valuable connections.

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Matthew: The interaction with members and the engagement opportunities that we provided over the course of the Conference were the key aspects. It's what people want. They want access to networking opportunities and they want to feel like they are part of a community. As mobile researchers, we often don't have access to a community that we feel as our own. Oftentimes, you're isolated in a lab or working on a project in a new country. Even though the MCAA isn't tied to a specific location or discipline, it's the shared experience that you can participate in within the network.

We opened up engagement opportunities with partners, sponsors and stakeholders. We're showing European Commission policymakers that their investment in our network is paying off in the sense that we're engaged, we have a voice, we have a structure in place where we can communicate with our network and the public.

What did you get out of this event? What's your takeaway?

Mostafa: I truly believe in the notion that you cannot debate success. The greatest takeaway for me was that I have been successful. I have always dreamed of organising

such an event for researchers like me. Personally, this event proved to be a herculean task, extremely demanding and challenging, not only physically or logistically, but also emotionally.

I believe I have learned a lot as an organiser, created lasting relationships and proving to myself what a great leader I can be under demanding conditions. My dedication, personal commitment, problem-solving ability and innovation have been challenged to the highest degree.

I know I have given my best to make it a good one. The inspiration,

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motivation and appreciation that I have received is truly amazing, and I know this event will be a springboard for my future success.

Matthew: My takeaway was simply to prove that we can do it, to actually say we are an association that's capable of organising a large event and we can continue the success. At the end of the day, I want this annual event to become a date on the calendar.

Given the success of the registration and our sponsorship drive – a campaign run almost entirely by Mostafa – this proves that people are willing to pay to attend and to sponsor us because they believe in the event itself and its true value.

And the value is our network and the energy that we bring to research careers and the reach that we have. Because we have 32 global Chapters, we can reach a lot of very highly qualified people all around the world.

Concerning the main theme of the event “Research and Innovation beyond the Information Age”, what do you believe is the future role of research in society?

Mostafa: I'm not sure how many of us actually realise that we're transitioning from an information-based industrial or so-called digital economy to a knowledge economy. As we face current and future societal challenges such as changing demo-

graphics, emerging and re-emerging disease profiles, climate change and ever-growing discrepancies in the distribution of world wealth, it's only through new knowledge and novel solutions and innovation that we can expect to endure. To mitigate natural disasters, to avoid world wars, to lessen the gap between the haves and have nots, we must create a paradigm shift. But that power of change has to be given to the masses through responsible research and innovation.

I believe science is the only solution because science gives us hope to change, hope to prepare and hope to dream. Research beyond the information age has to become open for all and truly democratic, that is, of the people, by the people and for the people. Research also has to be funded not only for profit, but to create justice, equality and equity.

While our economies become more and more dependent on innovation, it becomes the responsibility of researchers to be actively involved in the political, economic, social, technological, environmental and legal (PESTEL) dynamics of science and society. At the same time, society overall has to understand and appreciate the actual role and impact of research work beyond the laboratories and university campuses.

Matthew: Research and innovation is one of the core features or values of how researchers can

go beyond just the traditional academic career and how they can find opportunities. And that's where the innovation comes in. We really need to emphasise the future and to say we know that we live in a digital information age, but we're also aware that this won't last forever.

Society is changing, the ways we communicate are changing, the ways we think are changing, and the ways we live are changing. The information age is ending and something new is coming – but what is it? That's what we're trying to find out.

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INTERVIEW WITH THEMIS
CHRISTOPHIDOU, DIRECTOR-
GENERAL FOR EDUCATION, YOUTH,
SPORT AND CULTURE AT THE
EUROPEAN COMMISSION

We caught up with keynote speaker [Themis Christophidou](#), Director-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture at the European Commission, to discuss the future of research, European R&I take-up and the MCAA's function in society.

"WE MUST PROVIDE SUFFICIENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH, AND WE NEED TO SUPPORT RESEARCHERS THEMSELVES"

What role do you believe research will play in European society in the future?

The social, economic and political development of European society is intrinsically linked to education and research. If we want to live in a prosperous society, then research is the means through which Europe can find solutions

to whatever obstacles stand in our way. The Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions are based on the principle that knowledge is not a zero-sum-game, and so, through them, we give researchers the opportunity to seek knowledge from all over the world and to see how it can be applied to the benefit of all of us, in Europe and beyond.

But research also plays another fundamental role – it develops competences such as critical thinking. Critical thinking can be read as a permanent exercise in speaking truth to power, with the independence academia has got us used to. But it can also be understood as an exercise in making policy-work more efficient, providing us with new understanding

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and approaches on how to help society in the best way.

Europe has world-class researchers. In fact, almost half of the MCAA members are young researchers. The Commission wants to be at the forefront of Research and Innovation (R&I), but competition is fierce. How can the Commission boost R&I uptake across Europe?

First of all, we need to retain the best researchers. Research has turned a page. In the 19th century, only the most privileged could pursue a life dedicated to the acquisition of knowledge. Nowadays, we have largely democratised academia. This means that we now have a much larger pool of talent from which to draw our best and brightest – but it also means that we have to support them to a much greater extent so they can do what they do best with the same freedom of their intellectual forefathers. To that end, we must provide sufficient financial support for research, and we need to support researchers themselves, as people, giving them a good salary, enough stability to realise all of their potential. I think Europe is uniquely positioned to provide this positive environment.

But boosting R&I uptake across Europe is also about making the best use of that research, namely by embedding it into the fabric of our economy and society, while ensuring the freedom of research-

ers to look into the topics they are most interested in. Our funding programmes invest in targeted research, where the topic serves a policy goal, but also support ‘bottom-up’ research where the topic of research is chosen by the researchers themselves, and is financed on the sole criterion of scientific excellence. The synergies between these lead to the acquisition of the knowledge we need most, produced with the greatest passion for discovering the world. By doing this, we provide our companies with the best means to innovate, creating new products that change people’s lives for the better.

Since 2012, the MCAA has been supporting and contributing to the advancement of knowledge for a global, diverse, and informed society. How important is the Association’s mission to European citizens?

Researchers are no longer in the ivory tower. When the European Union funds their work, we are not just investing in results. We are also investing in people – people that can contribute to informing our society as a whole; people that are actively involved their communities, championing causes close to their hearts; people who can provide an independent voice and act as a check on the work of our governments.

The Marie Curie Alumni Association is a great example of research-



ers stepping up and answering the call to participate in our democracy. There is no question that the Commission supports a global, diverse and more informed society, and that this is achieved through more and better knowledge. The MCAA is an important partner in these endeavours and can count on our support.

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'GO BEYOND YOUR LIMITS, CREATE YOUR OWN PATH'

How can you successfully transition from academia to industry? Keynote speaker [Dr Sabine Herlitschka](#) shares her formula for success.



Let's take a closer look at Dr Herlitschka's career path. She began in academia, pursuing doctoral and postdoc studies, became Vice Rector for Research Management and International Cooperation at the Medical University of Graz, then Director of the International and European Programmes Division at Austria Research Promotion Agency, a

national funding agency for industrial R&D. She was also a Fulbright Scholar.

In 2011, Dr Herlitschka joined the semiconductor company Infineon Technologies Austria AG, before quickly becoming CTO (2012) and CEO in 2014.

How did you go from being a leading light of the academic world to successfully leading a company?

Basically, my development was shaped by experiences in both worlds the entire time. I did my PhD, moved on from university to do my postdoc at an international biotech company because I was interested in the application side of things. And in the steps I took to further my

professional development, I didn't encounter such a major issue between pure academia and pure application in the business world.

I was always interested in understanding what drives things more generally and in specific areas of expertise, and how an application is developed. As a result, I followed this particular interest.

How did you translate the success of the academic domain to industry?

My personal approach is always to follow my passion and interests, this is the best prerequisite to developing real excellence. To try to be the best that I can be and try to understand how particular systems work.

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What problems did you face along the way, and how did you resolve them?

I think it's easier not to constantly think about problems. For instance, when I did my postdoc at the biotech company, I was driven by specific content-related questions. In my case, it was biotechnology. So you pursue that, and if you don't find the answers you want within your milieu, think about how to seek answers elsewhere and how to team up with other experts in the private sector or the academic domain.

I'm not that driven by identifying problems here or there, but rather in screening and scouting for opportunities to find solutions to the questions I'm working on.

What advice do you have for academics who are thinking of transitioning to industry?

In essence, think it through and go for it. Create your own experiences.

You're a member of the EC's Horizon 2020 high-level strategy group on industrial technologies, and were also a member of the high-level expert group for the ex-post evaluation of the 7th EU Framework Programme (2007-2013). How can we remove barriers to innovation and make it easier for the public and private sectors to work together in delivering innovation?

What is innovation? Innovation is an idea successfully introduced

into the market. Innovation is not the idea itself. The idea is scientific research. But then translating it into a successful market product or technology – that's innovation. So it all goes back to how you can carry out a seamless interaction between academic research and application. I think the best route is always people who transition from one sector to the other. And, of course, in universities nowadays, for instance in Austria and in many other countries, it's part of their mission to reach out to companies to try to apply their results, or contact companies that are interested in the application of results to products or technologies. This is already quite a significant field – the "third mission", as it is being called. In addition to education and research, the university has a third mission: to engage with society and market demands.

Generally speaking, in Europe we have an innovation dilemma. We seem to be good at academic research and generating results. However, we're not that effective in translating results into innovation that will lead to real products for markets and people. It's encouraging that, in the last few years, in Europe as a whole we have quite a lot of activity involving spin-off companies, start-ups, venture capital or other ways of financing innovation. And, of course, large companies like the one I'm in charge of work intensively with SMEs. On average, companies like mine work with 900 smaller companies in various areas. This kind of interaction takes

place because it's necessary to inspire entrepreneurs to translate their outputs into something real.

In 2017, you were named the most important woman of the year and Austria's Industrie Magazin ranked you 10th among 1,000 managers. What tips or strategies do you recommend for professional success?

For me, it's all about following my own passion, which means following my interests, because this is where I have the capability to really excel. The second most important tip I can suggest is that, if you fail, try again.

So many people are preoccupied with failing and this tragic notion of failure. If you fail, try again; it's that simple. Failure is another way of learning. I created an award at my company for the most successful failure. And the most successful failure involves sharing the learning experience with others, because failure is about learning. And it works really well. My third principle is focused on working in teams and learning from others. Lastly, go beyond your limits, try new things and create your own path. That's when it really starts to get exciting.

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MURAT GUNES, SECRETARY OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, BOARD MEMBER

The Conference was successful because we had a clear-cut goal and high motivation. We knew exactly what members were interested in through past experiences, Working Group and Chapter suggestions. Members were looking for excellent content and interactivity. The Board also examined past events, helping us to better frame the GA and Conference both scientifically and socially.

I talked to members and asked for their feedback about the event and overall opinion about MCAA activities. I encouraged them to take an active part in Working Groups by bringing their knowledge, expertise and good vibes.

It's an amazing opportunity for networking: bringing researchers, policy-makers and CEOs together, and giving them the opportunity to discuss and debate. A key added value is meeting new people, sharing ideas and encouraging participation. The event enables us all to hold meaningful exchanges.

VALERIE BENTIVEGNA, CHAIR OF COMMUNICATION WORKING GROUP

The MCAA is growing every year, and that's just amazing. It means that at every General Assembly and Conference, there are even more people to network, exchange ideas and start collaborations with. That's the power of the MCAA: this vast network of researchers providing such a big pool of talent and ideas that everything is possible.

Networking is the biggest added value. But it's also an opportunity to be exposed to disciplines and ideas you might not hear about at a "regular" scientific conference.

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ANGELA BELLIA, CHAIR OF EVENTS & NETWORKING WORKING GROUP

Creating a sense of belonging. Both young and senior researchers can share and get informed about opportunities in and issues related to their research field. This is important because many researchers struggle with high levels of job insecurity and it's vital for them to be up-to-date and share good practices. It's also important to explore new research avenues and find out where research is taking place or headed.

GIAN MARIA GRECO, BOARD MEMBER (COMMUNICATION WG)

The huge success of the Conference is a clear sign that the importance of the MCAA is growing stronger every year. We can now see how our voice is being heard throughout Europe. We represent a big and important share of young scientists in Europe. This means that it's a kind of recognition of the importance of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions programme.

PhD students and post docs can learn a lot from meeting peers to discuss, to share ideas and visions. It's events like these where we connect on different levels and understand that research and a common desire for knowledge are things that help human beings come together.

NEHAMA LEWIS, MCAA BOARD MEMBER

Meeting like-minded people, discussing research issues and finding areas of overlap. I also enjoy meeting people from both academia and industry.

I think that the structure of the General Assembly first and then the Conference makes sense so that we can present the MCAA's value to members and describe what we've done in the past year and what we're planning to do. Because it's an interdisciplinary event, it appeals to people from all backgrounds. The broad range of topics is both relevant and interesting.

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IVANA KRAISELBURD, BOARD MEMBER (COMMUNICATION WG)

This is my third Conference and what I like most is networking and coming into contact with other MCAA members. This exchange helps me in my science outreach and promotion planning. As researchers, we have a huge responsibility in keeping society informed about what we're doing and why we're doing it. There's not enough communication between us on such matters, so this event is key.

SARA RICARDO, MCAA BOARD MEMBER, MEMBER (POLICY WG)

The current and previous Board has put a lot of effort into increasing MCAA awareness. It's much more known now, and this is reflected in our membership. We have members all over the world, and meeting physically makes a huge difference when it comes to working together in the future.

One of my professional interests is how to help, support and bring awareness to the work environment and to the career progression of more senior researchers because they're normally under-represented. MCAA can represent them. Many associations only represent students. One of the sessions focused on senior researchers and bringing them into the discussion.

YULIYA SHAKALISAVA, MEMBER (RESEARCH FUNDING WG)

This event is a massive networking opportunity. You don't get this kind of network at scientific conferences. It covers topics that are important to us as researchers, or topics that we might not be following on a daily basis.

For instance, in life, you're probably busy in a lab somewhere, but during these two days you really get caught up in all the event hype. I think that people realise this is a critical force that can really drive change.

People come here with their ideas because they are heard here. And the right people are invited to this Conference, influencers from the European Commission to other funding bodies to big universities. They can hear your opinion and voice.

NEWS FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

MEET THE PEOPLE BEHIND MCAA'S GROWING DATABASE AND WEB PORTAL

The Information and Data Access Group (IDA-WG) was created in November 2013, since the inception of the Marie Curie Alumni Association. The group's chair, Mauricio Manfrini, tells us more about this group, its activities and how members can help them serve the MCAA better.

Providing background information about how he became chair of the IDA-WG, Manfrini explains, "I was elected to the first MCAA board. During the first board meeting, we assigned key working groups to each board member that was necessary to the establishment of the MCAA. Given my science and technology background, I became chair of the IDA-WG."

WHAT DOES THE GROUP DO?

The IDA-WG is primarily responsible for taking care of the MCAA database, and for improving the platform and web portal for MCAA members and EU officers. It is, as Manfrini outlines, "the communication channel – the backbone between MCAA members and the contractors who support and produce the MCAA portal."

The working group strives to ensure that what is on the MCAA web portal is meaningful. "In the past this was not the case, as there was a lot of unsuitable and uninteresting information," notes Manfrini.

To prevent the reappearance of such information, the IDA-WG collects input from MCAA members, the board and the EU officers. Monthly online discussions are also held with the contractors where priorities and workplans are assigned to ensure the implementation of requests. A special annual meeting is also held to go over the workplan for the coming year.

IDA-WG NEWS

Due to the 2019 General Assembly last February, the working group has been busy with making sure the dedicated pages on the web portal and material for this event were ready. In addition to these activities,

online reimbursement forms for all MCAA calls have been rolled out.

"Today, there is much more content available on the portal such as webinars, documents, MCAA Academy and more," reports Manfrini. "There is also a lot of new cool features too. Those who have been with the MCAA for some time will be able to see how much the portal has improved from the early days, which is a continuous effort – sometimes there are small or major updates, but they are constant."

HELPING THE IDA-WG

The main purpose of the working group is to serve the MCAA – to make sure that the information on the web portal is relevant, secure and properly stored as well as complies with regulations.

NEWS FROM THE WORKING GROUPS



It is for these reasons Manfrini stresses the need for people to become more active when it comes to informing them about any issues they encounter, if there are things they believe should be changed or if there are any other features they would like to see on the portal.

“This helps to ensure that the working group continues their work in a more efficient way. As most of the

time, we receive feedback when it's too late,” advises Manfrini.

WANT TO JOIN THE IDA-WG?

“We are very open to new members - to receive more help. Anyone is welcome to join,” says Manfrini.

More information about joining this work group can be found at: <https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/groups/information-and-data-access-working-group>

THE MCAA
NEWSLETTER STAFF

NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS

ITALY CHAPTER



The Italy Chapter was launched in Bologna in January 2019. Its co-chairs, [Luigi Caranti](#) and [Vladislav Garyusev](#), provide an overview of the main achievements so far and upcoming activities.

LUIGI CARANTI, IN HIS OWN WORDS:

I am an Italian professor of political philosophy. I teach at the University of Catania. After graduating in Italy, I earned a PhD from Boston University in the US. I returned home and took my first academic job in Rome. I received three Marie Skłodowska-Curie individual grants, but right now I coordinate the Marie Curie RISE project [Kant in South America](#) (KANTINSA).

VLADISLAV GARYUSEV, IN HIS OWN WORDS:

My nationality is both Russian and Italian. I was born in Russia and have lived more than 20 years in Italy. I earned my master's degree in physics at the University of Florence in Italy, with an experimental thesis on ultra-cold atoms at LENS. I obtained a PhD in physics at Heidelberg University in Germany, funded by a Marie Curie fellowship within the COHERENCE ITN project. There, I developed a technique to optically image highly excited (Rydberg) atoms. My optics and hardware skills helped me transition into my current position as a postdoctoral Marie Curie Research Fellow at University of Florence and LENS, where I'm developing a new light-sheet microscope to map the human brain structure and investigate the long-range neuronal structural changes caused by neuro-degenerative pathologies, such as Focal Cortical Dysplasia.

CHAPTER'S KICK-OFF

The Italy Chapter enjoyed a successful launch on 19 January 2019. Over 60 members attended. A representative of the Italian National Point, Serena Borgna, held a session explaining how to apply for an ERC grant. Angelo d'Agostino addressed issues related to Marie

Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships.

FOR THE MEMBERS

The chapter currently counts just over 260 members. We started with 25 members five years ago. We are marching at an increase pace of 50 % per year. We are quite satisfied by these numbers. The impression is

that people know that if you are a member of our Chapter, you have access to interesting events and opportunities.

So far, our members have received assistance on issues such as taxes, laws relevant to their job contract and pensions. Moreover, we usually organise info days on MSCA individual grants and on European

NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS



Several companies have already expressed their interest to participate. The list includes PI, Hamamatsu, Crisel, Lot-qd, Altran, Accenture, Deloitte, Leonardo, IBM, Mathworks, Menarini, Chiesi, Ely-Lilly, Novartis Merk, Roche, Aptuit and Basf.

This is the first time the Italian Chapter is organising an event such as this, and participation is expected to be impressive!

Research Council (ERC) grants.

Finally, we cooperate with the Italian National Contact point that offers members further assistance on the managing of their job status in addition to information on grants opportunities.

We hope to have more than 300 members by the end of the year!

CAREER DAY

The Chapter is currently organising a career day that will take place in June at the University Ca' Foscari of Venice. The main aim is to connect researchers with industry representatives so that:

- companies meet talented people and understand better what they could do for their business;
- scientists have direct contact and learn first-hand the range of career possibilities that exist outside academia and how to best search for them.

Soft skills development courses will be delivered in collaboration with the present companies, and half a day will be dedicated to meetings with the industry representatives, as well as activities like team building games or project development.

Voluntary contributions are more than welcome!



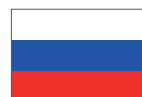
Interested?

Contact the Italy Chapter: italy.chapter@mariecuriealumni.eu

LUIGI CARANTI &
VLADISLAV
GAVRYUSEV

NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS

MEET THE CHAIRMAN OF THE RUSSIAN CHAPTER



Founded in 2015 by [Nikolay Bobylev](#), the Russian Chapter is now led by [Boris Voronin](#). We caught up with Boris to learn more about past and upcoming activities. If you're conducting research in Russia, you should definitely consider joining!

BORIS VORONIN, IN HIS OWN WORDS:

I was born in Western Siberia in the industrial city of Novokuznetsk (Kuzbass). I graduated from the Department of Mathematics and Mechanics of the Tomsk State University and pursued postgraduate studies at the V.E. Zuev Institute of Atmospheric Optics, Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, (IAO SB RAS). My Marie Curie Project of 2005-2008 was conducted at the Physics and Astronomy Department UCL, London, UK (scientific supervisor Professor Jonathan Tennyson). As a result, the most complete and accurate line list (spectrum) of heavy water HD16O was calculated (almost 700,000,000 transitions). Currently, I live and work in Tomsk. I am a senior fellow of IAO SB RAS. My scientific interests are water vapour spectra in the IR and visible region, assignment and calculation of few-atom molecules, spectra and parameters for atmospheric and astrophysics applications. My hobbies include travelling, reading, playing the guitar and the theatre. There is a small amateur theatre at our scientific centre that puts on small comedy musicals. Most roles are played by researchers of the Tomsk Scientific Centre. I managed to play, for example, the roles of Ivan Karamazov (based on the works by Dostoevsky), Hamlet (based on Shakespeare), Noah, and other roles. I believe a creative environment inspires solutions of scientific problems.

CHAPTER'S CREATION AND ACTIVITIES

The Russian chapter was created in 2015. Our founder and first chairman is Nikolay Bobylev. He did the difficult work of organising the chapter. In the fall of 2015, the first meeting was held. Our meetings traditionally take place at St. Petersburg.

The Russian Chapter held three large meetings, namely, "Transfer of knowledge. Scientists, ideas, practices" in 2015, "Transfer 2. Scientists, ideas, practices" in 2017, and "Transfer 3. Scientists, ideas, practices" in 2018.

In 2015 and 2017, we held round tables at large conferences.

Last year, we tried to organise a separate event that was only for

members of the Russian Chapter. But I think it's better to do so as a part of a large conference, maybe even for young scientists.

CREATING SYNERGIES

One of the main goals that we set is the transfer of experience and knowledge, especially to young scientists. This includes the writing of papers, working with reviewers

NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS



and editors, preparation of projects and grants, consulting and transfer of knowledge. An internal goal is the creation of joint projects among chapter members. The chapter includes experts in various fields of science. Formal and informal communications between the members lead to new ideas.

For example, together with Nikalaya Bobylev we plan to write a joint article on the underground tunnel built in Novokuznetsk in the 1930s. Olga Boytsova has contacted me on the terahertz range and its use. Andrei Anikev and Nikolai Bobylev have common interests and pos-

sibly projects in the field of urban ecology.

UPCOMING ROUNDTABLE

We are planning a large round table for scientists "Transfer 4. Scientists, ideas, practice" at the International Symposium on Atmospheric Radiation and Dynamics (ISARD-2019). This will take place at the University of St. Petersburg from 25-27 June 2019. We are currently at the stage of coordination and discussion for this meeting – both among the

chapter members and with the organisers of the event.

JOIN!

If you look at the MCAA website, there are only 166 members from Russia. Most of them, due to active mobility, have moved to other countries, and are members of other chapters. But I believe that the number of 100 may be our strategic target.

The Russian Chapter is a part of the MCAA and encourages local networking, recruits and attracts new members to the Association, and generally enhances the image of the MCAA within the Russian Federation, as well as among the broader Russian speaking community.

All MCAA members residing in the chapter's geographical area can become a member of the Russian Chapter.

Membership to the Chapter is free!



Interested? Learn more about the [Russian Chapter](#)

BORIS VORONIN

RESEARCH

A CINEMATIC CONUNDRUM: FACT, FICTION OR IMAGINATION

Categorising films may seem straightforward. But public perceptions have changed throughout the centuries, leaving experts puzzled and pondering ways to understand and revise classifications.



In Steven Spielberg's epic Hollywood film *Saving Private Ryan*, a team of US soldiers go behind enemy lines to recover a paratrooper whose brothers have been killed in combat during the Second World War.

Capped with innovative cinematography and surround-sound technology, the action-packed film affords

one of the most graphic portrayals of war in US movie history.

Even so, it is fiction. And cast against earlier generations, reviews and commentaries would probably prove hugely different, mainly, in perception, according to the Marie Curie Individual Fellowship (MSCA IF) project [Fiction, Imagination and Early Cinema](#) (FIEC).

"If you read commentaries around 1900, you'll see that people described many films we nowadays treat as fictions as documentary recordings of theatrical performances," says project leader Dr Mario Sluga.

This means viewers of earlier eras would have screened *Saving Private Ryan* as a documentary of Tom

RESEARCH

Hanks dressed up as John Millers, the US Army Rangers captain, pretending to beat another actor dressed up as the enemy force, in pursuit of saving another actor playing Private Ryan.

Launched in 2017, this EU Horizon 2020 funded project, aims to determine how and why people view films as fictional while others consider them documentaries – and vice-versa.

Ultimately, explains Dr Slugan, a leading fellow at the Department of Communications at Ghent University in Belgium, it all amounts to “figuring out the categorisation... and to do that you need to look at the discourse surrounding cinema [at a given time] – the production evidence, promotional materials, exhibition patterns and reception.”

Under its proposition, the project proposes that the period between 1880 and 1915 offers a particularly unique opportunity for construing how a representational medium such as cinematography becomes employed in the production of fiction.

The methodology used in the research is highly unique in its two-fold approach, combining strands of analytic philosophy and new film history.

“Analytic philosophy provides me with a toolbox for defining what fiction is, including mandated imaginings,” says Dr Slugan. “On the other hand, new film history, which is the exploration of the discourse about imaginary engagement surrounding films, allows me to identify how the mandate was articulated over time.”



The project focuses primarily on the period of early cinema.

FIEC is due for completion in September 2019 and the first findings underscore the volatility of fiction's categorization.

“The most important claim made so far in the study,” says Dr Slugan, “is that fiction is a temporally unstable category in its own. There are films that we treat as fictional that were treated as non-fictional by their contemporaries and vice versa.”

Captivating films like Saving Private Ryan could prove complex conundrums for viewers.

In such cases, Dr Suga explains, “you are supposed to make-believe that all the events featured in the

movie happened rather than believe it. This is not to say that the film is not realistic. But whether something is realistic or not is entirely different – and confusing – to whether something is fictional or not.”

THE MCAA
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RESEARCH

GROUNDBREAKING ON-SITE ANALYSERS PAVE WAY FOR NEW FOOD TESTING

With mobile diagnostics gaining pace, FoodSmartphone marshals new resources to improve quality and safety testing, also cracking down on fraud in the food chain.



Ever considered a pint-sized, pocket food analyser? Or, whipping out a smartphone to snap your fruit snack to detect pesticides, toxins and other chemicals? FoodSmartphone envisions just that, paving the way for new food testing and management controls.

Set up two years ago and led by scientist Michel Nielen, the 2.8 million Euro project aims to improve quality and safety testing, advancing what experts call a much-needed paradigm shift that will help free up resources, enabling more rigorous attempts to crack down on fraud in the food chain.

“Today’s world moves at an incredible speed compared to 50 years ago and the analytical sciences follow that trend,” as written in the start-up of FoodSmartphone, a project that received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under a Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant.

With the new globalised market of imports and exports of raw material and finish products, the development of fast and easy systems to monitor food quality and safety has become virtually inevitable.”

Indeed. From infectious diseases to identity management, mobile diagnostics are on a rise, allowing for rapid and on-site analyses that drastically reduce the time and cost of a more laborious testing.

Existing food and quality testing mechanisms are considered inefficient and expensive, unable to assure consumers of complete safety.

Research teams participating in the project include 11 PhD students in six different countries, offering high-level training, integrating expertise and knowledge from a variety of fields into a common pan-disciplinary pool.

“This will allow the delivery of knowledge and expertise when facing major socio-economic challenges, such as maintaining a healthy, safe and fair food supply,” according to the projects statement.

Earlier this month, researchers and EU project officers gathered in The Netherlands to review a first set of finds.

They have yet to be made public. Still, they are due to be released to key stake holders, embedded in education programmes and translated into a final exploitation plan.

The project is coordinated by RIK-ILT Wageningen UR, in the Netherlands, with substantial contribution of QUB (leader of WPs on Data handling and Software tools and Network-wide Training) and VSCHT (leader of WPs on Demonstration of FoodSmartphone Applicability and Benchmarking and Communication, Social Media and Dissemination).

[More information about the project.](#)

THE MCAA
NEWSLETTER STAFF

RESEARCH

LOCKED BETWEEN FORMULAS: CREATIVITY IN ORAL AND TRANSITIONAL POETIC TEXTS

Is there a cognitive basis of creativity in verbal art? The Marie Skłodowska-Curie project ORFORCREA investigates, examining this interplay with both oral tradition and literacy. We learn more about this project from fellow Sarali Gintsburg.

An Arabic philologist by trade and a native of Saint Petersburg, Russia, Sarali Gintsburg was fascinated by the oral traditions that exist in the Arab world. Her PhD research, first and foremost, focused on verbal creativity and traditionality, as well as the impact of literacy on the poetic language of oral poets.

Taking this a step further, Gintsburg decided to add the cognitive aspect to her research in ORFORCREA, which she points out, “is, for the most part, a logical continuation of my PhD research.”

NATURAL LAB

ORFORCREA's main objective is to attain a better understanding of the verbal aspect of human creativity.

“Instead of working with everyday human speech, which is extremely complex for analysis because of its vast lexical and phraseological resources, my project focuses on modern oral poetic traditions, which are used as a ‘natural lab’,” explains Gintsburg.

Oral traditions are typically organised in narrower terms, because of poetic requirements such as the constraints of the poetic line, rhyme



patterns, plots, or themes, as well as form-meaning normativity.

Additionally, ORFORCREA works with ‘irregular’ lab samples, that is, with those poetic texts that represent a transition from orality to the world of writing.

“Such transitional texts, which can be found in a great number of traditions, are of special interest because they combine two different modes of performing and transmitting poetry - oral and written,” notes Gintsburg.

RESEARCH



By studying linguistic irregularities and their patterns in transitional texts and comparing them across three different languages, ORFORCREA will demonstrate to what extent such differences will have an impact on traditional poetic composition.

“My project uses extensively the multimodal aspect of human language. I use the oral poetic tradition of the Jbala – Arabic language, Morocco – as my case study,” adds Gintsburg.

LATEST NEWS

As part of her public engagement activities, Gintsburg organised a cultural event last year which involved poetic duelling between two female poets: Maialen Lujanbio (Basque) and Latifa Laaroussia (Morocco).

This Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellow also shares, “I have the immense benefit of working with now living traditions, so I have a direct access to both the poets and their audience, which makes my work more time absorbing but also more interesting.”

Gintsburg was able to demonstrate how certain theories in the field of cognitive science, first of all, semantic frame and cognitive script, can be used in oral and transitional texts in order to research cultural and cognitive factors. The same theories also explain how these factors condition poets’ choice of words and ensure that communicative and creative functions of poetry have been performed.

Further to this, Gintsburg was also able to show how analysing oral poetic texts that were once performed live and then were written

down, “often robs them from meaning and that the multimodal aspect of human language is of key importance.”

“My project is still far away from its completion. I am now working on a paper where I compare Moroccan and Basque oral poetry,” notes Gintsburg who is now living in Navarra, a place known for bert-solarismo – one of the few living oral poetic traditions in Europe.

THE MCAA
NEWSLETTER STAFF

RESEARCH

DISCOVER THE SCIED PROJECT

SciEd is the international network of researchers and educators who are travelling around the world and are giving lectures at local schools. In 2017, the SciEd project was initiated by three MSCA scientists from Spain, Germany and France.

ABOUT SCIED

The SciEd network is non-profit organisation, which aims to enhance interconnections between scientists, educational associations and schools around the world. Its main goals are to motivate students in remote areas to stay in school and to allow scientists to participate in outreach activities by giving lectures at local educational institutions.

Researchers hail from different countries and academic fields such as physics, mathematics, climatology.

MAIN RESULTS

SciEd was launched in Nepal when two visiting researchers gave lectures about mathematics and climate change at public schools where the medical association “Ear Care Nepal” was conducting med-

ical treatments. Then researchers from Indonesian-German project engaged students near Jakarta on the subject of biodiversity. Following the first lectures organised in different countries researchers from France, India, Germany, Uruguay, Indonesia, Switzerland, Russia and Greece started discussing how to organise lectures for travelling scientists.



RESEARCH



INTERACTIONS WITH MSCA NETWORK

Researchers involved in MSCA European projects and research projects in several countries allowed researchers to create a sustainable programme of lectures at local schools. Following the lectures, main materials are distributed online through the SciEd platform to make the information available to local communities of teachers.

Moreover, SciEd is interacting with MCAA African and French chapters, particularly with researchers who are travelling from France to other countries (in Eastern Europe) and travelling to Africa from Europe (recent activity together with MSCA fellows).

So far, several connections between scientists and schools have been formed: Nepal (6), India (10), Indonesia (8), Russia (15), Georgia (5), France (8), Germany (7), Greece (4), Uruguay (4) and Senegal (4). The main topics of the lec-

tures are mathematics, physics, biology, computer science, but there are plans to cover more disciplines.

This year, the SciEd network is planning activities together with Marie-Curie alumni within the framework of SciComm. The SciEd network project is helping to boost

outreach activities, which are particularly relevant for MCAA members. MCAA members who participate in the network are developing transferable skills related to Science Communication (Sci-Comm):

- Science communication offline or online;
- Managing the distributed network of travelling researchers and promoting outreach;
- Co-organising international workshops for researchers and educators.

If you are a researcher and are interested in working with the SciEd network or researchers around the world, register on the website: scied.network/page



Contact liubov.tupikina@cri-paris.org - More information about SciEd

LIUBOV TUPIKINA

EVENT

A FRUITFUL WORKSHOP ON MOBILITY, GENDER EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The [MCAA Mobility, Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion](#) workshop on 15 March 2019 was open to researchers at any career stage and from any scientific panel. It welcomed 23 participants from diverse gender, age, and ethnical backgrounds and from various universities across the United Kingdom, including Cardiff, Dundee, Newcastle, Nottingham, Northumbria and Sussex. Organiser [Yana Wade](#), who was also one of the speakers, tells us about the event.

INSPIRING SESSIONS

The MCAA's UK Chapter and GEMS working group were introduced by me, Maria Magdalena Razalan and Magdalini Theodoridou.

Laura Heels opened the workshop. Her research at Newcastle University is focused on gender bias in computing education. Laura introduced the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion as a key strand of the new University Strategy.

Martin Embley is professor of Evolutionary Molecular Biology at

Newcastle University and the Vice Chair of Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MC) Individual Fellowships of Environment Panel. He introduced the audience to the current MC Individual Fellowships schemes and shared valuable tips for successful application writing.

Olga Efremova is a lecturer at the University of Hull. Olga discussed challenges she has faced during her career, such as the "two body problem", "significant career gaps in CV" and "work-life (im)balance".

Hilary Noone is an Assistant EU and International Research Funding Development Manager and the

Chair the Newcastle University Women's Professional Services Network. She is also an advocate for social justice. Hilary presented a detailed overview of the EU and International Research Funding schemes, which support mobility opportunities available at Newcastle University.

The keynote speaker, **Brian Cahill**, is a Project Manager of the Train@Ed MSCA COFUND at the University of Edinburgh. He screened the Science in Exile documentary that was filmed by The World Academy of Sciences. It which focuses on the lives of four researchers who fled their homelands due to conflict and war. The documentary has been presented at a number of places around the world.

IMPORTANCE OF MOBILITY

Transnational, intersectoral and interdisciplinary mobility is an aspect of a successful career in science, which is encouraged by Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions.



EVENT



Mobile researchers contribute to increasing the pool of diverse experts and development in environments for studying and working in science that are open to all. Although we could not focus on all mobility related Equality, Diversity, Inclusion (EDI) issues, we certainly made a good start by discussing some aspects and solutions to increase inclusivity in the research environment.

There are a number of factors relating to the importance of mobility for researchers and these often depend on the career stage of the individual. For early career researchers, development of new skills and having access to data, infrastructure and expertise not available at their home institution is beneficial for their future careers.

The opportunity to develop networks and collaborations across borders is also a very important goal of mobility for researchers at all career stages, but especially those seeking to establish themselves in a highly competitive job market.

As with interdisciplinary research and industry engagement, collaboration at an international level broadens the individual's research

perspectives, allowing them to challenge established ideas that are often formed within a smaller community of academics from their home institution or country.

HELPING REFUGEE SCHOLARS

One example of how the scientific community can help refugee scholars was introduced by the keynote speaker. It was the Mentoring Work Package within the BRIDGE II project, which was funded by the EU and the MCAA is an associate partner. The project provides opportunities for committed academic and non-academic mentors to facilitate the preparation of researchers for a highly skilled job market in the host countries and for a smoother integration into European societies, new environments and cultures.

Through this, they are able to receive the necessary help to develop their skills through training, provide guidance and (most importantly) to build their confidence as overseas and non-native speakers. In general, each individual can make a little contribution in helping people struggling either through word of mouth or social media.

COLLABORATING WITH OTHER CHAPTERS

I support any type of collaboration mainly due to the increased pool of bright ideas during collective brainstorming. Although some misunderstanding may occur, the constructive discussion based on a series of questions, facts and compromises formulated on logic will eventually

help the entire group to discover the correct solution about the topic.

From my experience, I would suggest starting any event organisation with clear views on both what you are able to offer and your expectation from all parties. You should set up tasks that are required for the successful delivery of work and allocate these to people who are willing and able to help with performing these through to the end. Additionally, the shared group's budget adds valuable means for future events, but the financial aspects have to be agreed and they need to be clear and fair between collaborators.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The EDI issues in the research environment are clearly addressed within MCAA. The GEMS working group will hold a workshop at Research Area CNR in Bologna in May. A "Gender Equality, Diversity and Mobility in Spanish research" Symposium will be held later in the academic year at Madrid's Universidad Autónoma.

Inspired by the workshop? Get in touch with the Gender Equality and Diversity for Mobile Researchers in Science Working group: WG-GEMS@mariecuriealumni.eu

YANA WADE

EVENT

ESOF 2020 IS COMING! YOU CAN NOW SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL

Save the date! The next Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF) will take place in Trieste, Italy from 5 to 9 July 2020. If you wish to contribute, start submitting. The call for proposals is open!

WHAT'S IN THE PIPELINE

The conference programme is tailored around three interrelated tracks:

Science

- Blue planet
- Nourishing the planet
- I compute therefore I am
- Live long and prosper
- Science for policy / Policy for science
- The smart city
- Sustainable future
- Breaking frontiers in science and knowledge
- Science and society

Careers

- Research careers: from academia to industry and back

- Active collaboration
- Portfolio career: coping with insecurity and sequences of jobs in research
- Entrepreneurship education
- Horizontal mobility in the 4th industrial revolution.

Science to business

- The 4th industrial revolution;
- Value-driven innovation;
- Public-private partnerships;
- Innovation ecosystems.

SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL

It's easy! Proposals may be submitted through the platform, accessible from the esof.eu website.

A submission form and detailed instructions are available here: www.esof.eu

Deadline is 15 June 2019

Got a question? Contact Bruno Della Vedova, Programme Manager of ESOF 2020: bruno.dellavedova@esof.eu

SCIENCE IN THE CITY FESTIVAL

Think science shows, workshops, exhibitions, theatre and music. This is what the Science in the City Festival is all about.

It's a prominent feature of each [EuroScience Open Forum](#). Dedicated to people of all ages who are curious about science and technology, the festival aims to engage the public.

Spanning three weeks (27 June to 11 July 2020) in the city of Trieste and the Friuli Venezia Giulia region, the festival is one of largest events of its kind in Europe.

Submit your proposal [here](#).



ESOF2020
EUROSCIENCE OPEN FORUM
TRIESTE
JULY 5-9

Submit your proposal on www.esof.eu

- Science Programme
- Science to Business Programme
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Deadline:
15 June 2019,
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