



Joint European Mentoring Initiative [JEMI]

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Timeline of JEMI

- Launch of JEMI – December 2017
- Mentees call (open to all European researchers based in North America)
- Mentors call – through MCAA (open to all MCAA members who already signed up for the MCAA mentoring)
- Matching (Management Team) – 5 pairs selected
- Mentors (4 based in Europe, 1 based in Japan)
- Mentees (4 based in the US, 1 based in Canada)
- Start of JEMI Pilot (October – December 2018)
- December 2018 – JEMI session at ESD18 (1 mentor & 1 mentee invited)

Type of mentoring/Mentee responses (35)

1. Research Career Development (49%)
2. Industrial Mentoring/Transition to Industry (17%)
3. Adjustment to new geographic location (European in North America/ North American in Europe) (9%)
4. Networking (25%)

Evaluation – 3 months JEMI Pilot

- 17 responses (8x mentee & 9x mentor)
- Communication frequency: on average 3-4 times (skype, in person, e-mails, WhatsApp)

Questions included as follows:

How has your overall experience with the Mentoring Program been so far?

“It has been excellent. I've become much more knowledgeable about the academic job process in Europe.” (Mentee)

“I have been very happy so far, I feel like this is the perfect match for me and I hope to gain a lot of knowledge, insights into industry, and help preparing my application documents from him.” (Mentee)

“The experience is being very enriching, my mentee has quite similar reasoning than mine, so I think we are a good match, and so far it has been delightful to talk to her and identify the same anxieties I had at her stage and age, and be able to provide some reassurance.” (Mentor)

So far, how has this program contributed to your research career development in



What aspects of this program were most useful or valuable?

“The possibility to value my own experience and share it with others”
(Mentor)

“Career planning (e.g. apply for funding - Marie Curie etc.)” (Mentee)

“Being matched with a mentor who works closely to the field I am interested in working after graduation and sharing/learning from the mentor's experience and challenges.” (Mentee)

Next steps

- Institutionalize JEMI (i.e. non-profit)
- Establish a board/committee
- Matchmaking tool/software -> Being able to match more pairs
- Fundraising

Quote from a Management Team Member

“Science has no borders. My hope for JEMI is that there will be no limits. My hope is that going forward there will be many helping hands that can help JEMI tackle the challenges ahead. I think that we should all pull forces together to build a global mentoring initiative to benefit researchers of all disciplines, of all career stages in any geographical location, from any country, with any citizenship or doing research anywhere in the world with the goal to support globally mobile researchers.”

Contact

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