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MESSAGE FROM THE EPWS PRESIDENT

Dear Readers,

It is a great pleasure for me to present the new EPWS Newsletter; many thanks to all who have sent their contributions and helped to compose it, particularly to Ann Marks.

The European Platform of Women Scientists will arrange the next EPWS General Assembly on 28th June 2011 in Budapest during the Conference “Training, Career and Mobility of Researchers in the Innovation Union” in the context of the Hungarian EU Presidency (see below). In the session “Career Paths and Mobility of Women Researchers”, on 29th June, EPWS will make our own contribution (see page 7). We are much obliged to Dóra Groó who has made this arrangement possible. If many EPWS members take part in this congress, we can highlight the fact that this is a very important topic. Therefore I encourage all of you to go to Budapest.

EPWS has been invited to participate in two public consultations: “Green Paper on a Common Strategic Framework for Future EU Research and Innovation Funding” of the European Commission Research & Innovation and “Towards a more innovative Europe: public consultation on the future strategy for the European Institute of Innovation and Technology” of the Directorate-General for Education and Culture. The Executive Committee is working on these questions, especially those which are essential for women scientists and if you would like to make a contribution or have some suggestions about special issues, please send them to me (brigitte.muehlenbruch@epws.org) or to our Vice President (claudine.hermann@cegetel.net).

Looking forward seeing you all in Budapest!

Brigitte Mühlenbruch EPWS President

URLs for consultations: http://ec.europa.eu/research/csfr/index_en.cfm
<http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=OPCEITSIA>

Announcement - EPWS General Assembly 2011

The 2011 EPWS General Assembly will be in Budapest

**on 28th June 2011 between 17.00 and 19.00
during the Conference on**

‘Training, Career and Mobility of Researchers in the Innovation Union’

at the Hotel Ramada Plaza, 1036 Budapest, Árpád fejedelem útja 94,
28 and 29th June 2011

**At the Conference on 29th June, Brigitte Mühlenbruch, the EPWS President
will speak on mobility and Maren Jochimsen, Managing Director, Essen College of Gender
Studies, University of Duisburg-Essen, will chair a session.**

Please see <http://www.tetalap.hu/eumobility/> for registration and further information.

Interview with Gilles Laroche, Head of EU Unit “Ethics and Gender”

Since 1st January 2011, I have been the Head of the Unit “Ethics and Gender”, part of the Directorate “European Research Area” (ERA). This new Unit regroups the entire “Science in Society” programme which was formerly managed jointly by the Units “Governance and Ethics” and “Scientific Culture and Gender Issues”. Being in the ERA Directorate offers new opportunities to the “Science in Society” programme to build on the experience acquired during the past 10 years.

For the final three years of the 7th Framework Programme, “Science in Society” will be oriented towards responsible research and innovation: this implies stronger civil society participation in these areas. It includes dimensions such as public participation, ethics, gender, education and public access to research results in a renewed governance framework. I intend to work closely with our stakeholders, including civil society organisations, research organisations, policy makers, public authorities of the Member States and the associated countries participating in European Research programmes, and industries. In particular, civil society organisations have an essential role to play. They have the possibility not only to express their views, but also to actively participate in the process. I am convinced that we will not be able to tackle the societal challenges on the horizon of 2020 without the engagement of researchers, civil society, industry and policy-makers working together at the earliest stage of the process.

Regarding the Gender dimension in research, this question will continue to have an important place within the “Science in Society” programme under my responsibility. This covers addressing the issue of the unequal representation of women and men in scientific research, as well as developing the gender content of research and innovation, using the new opportunities provided by the ERA Framework and the Lisbon Treaty. In relation to this, building on the knowledge and experience acquired, a Commission Communication is planned for 2012 (soft law approach). It is intended that this Communication will be accompanied by a two-year information campaign which will address stereotypes, and an expert group, including gender experts and communicators, is currently helping us to prepare this campaign in terms of content and target groups.

As you can see, the 10 years of progress mentioned by Luisa Prista, on page 4 of this newsletter, will not be forgotten and the Unit “Ethics and Gender” is already at work to pave a new road opened by the Lisbon Treaty. But to make it a clear success we definitely need the active participation of all actors. I look forward to receiving suggestions and comments from the EPWS.

14 February 2011

Collected by Claudine Hermann – Vice President EPWS

Interview with Luisa Prista

Head of the EU unit “Scientific culture and gender issues” (until 31st December 2010)

Now in charge of the EU unit “Environmental Technologies”

My mandate as head of the “Scientific Culture and Gender issues” unit was very short, a little more than one and a half year but I fully enjoyed it.

Among the most important achievements, I think that the Stocktaking exercise for the 10 years of Women and Science activities was one the most useful. If you read it and use it since it is really a tool, you understand that the work done during the last 10 years by the Commission and Member States was impressive. But it is also with a little of sadness that we can see that the progress at European level was not proportionate to the effort. The issue of Women in Science is far from being completed and a more *“bold and radical approach”* as our Commissioner expressed once would probably be the way out.

In terms of implementation at the Commission level, the Women and Science issues are part of the Science and Society programme. In my view the issue deserves to be an activity of its own to avoid any risk of dilution and of going backwards. As a matter of fact, countries that are making more progress have dedicated programmes and resources to the issue, in particular, to encourage structural changes. This is the case for the ADVANCE programme in the USA. I consider that Member States had already made considerable steps and it is really the moment to take stock and go forward.

Although there is a positive evolution in the number of women students and graduates, discrimination is still present during the career evolution and is particularly striking at the top level including in the public system. Unfortunately, still now women remain more present in less paid and less valued jobs.

Another achievement from last year was that Women and Science issues were again on the political agenda. Indeed it was part of two Council conclusions. We clearly related the gender issue to innovation, not only in terms of women participation in research and technology but also in terms of gender content in research and technology. We set the basis to include gender dimension into the innovation indicators, a work that is now followed by my colleague. We have now all the demonstrations that gender in research produces new innovations and the lack of its consideration is narrowing the potential for innovated products, processes and methodologies. It is a huge potential that Europe cannot afford to lose!



The 10 years of progress should not be forgotten, the Women and Science issue should be pursued and the impetus at Member States level should be increased. I am fully convinced that all the bases are there to take this issue to a very positive end. Networks will have a crucial role in this process.

14 February 2011 **Collected by Claudine Hermann**

ERC Scientific Council - Press Release 9 February 2011

The ERC Scientific Council established a gender equality plan

The ERC Scientific Council has established a gender equality plan, based on the view that women and men are equally able to perform excellent frontier research. The plan has been concluded by the ERC gender balance working group. One of the main goals is to increase the number of female top researchers applying for ERC grants, by means of raising awareness.

Since the creation of the European Research Council, scientific excellence is the sole selection criterion in the ERC grant competitions. Gender mainstreaming is another core principle of this investigator-driven funding organisation for frontier research. Gender mainstreaming means that each process within the ERC - from creating awareness about the ERC to grant signing is designed to give equal opportunities to men and women. In 2008, the Scientific Council decided to take this a step further by setting up a working group to monitor gender issues more closely. The group has concluded an ERC's gender equality plan, endorsed by the Scientific Council (December 2010), laying down objectives in terms of gender equality.

One of the main goals of the plan is to ensure that excellent female researchers are fully informed and aware of the opportunities that an ERC grant offers. It is also essential to convey a clear message that fairness and equal treatment are fundamental in the ERC grant competitions. Moreover, the plan envisages closer monitoring of the gender distribution within the ERC's peer review system, striving for balance.

The Chair of the working group, Prof. Teresa Lago said: "*The ERC Scientific Council is concerned about the gender imbalance in many fields of research, and we monitor carefully the proportion of women among the ERC applicants and grantees in each call. It is crucial for Europe to identify and support the best and most creative brains in frontier research, and we cannot afford a gender biased system. The ERC is determined to contribute to a research landscape where men and women have equal opportunities to pursue research careers and work towards expanding the frontiers of our knowledge.*"

Up to now, around a fifth of the ERC grantees are women in total, with a higher share in the Starting Grant competitions targeted at early-career researchers (26%), than in the Advanced Grant competitions for senior researchers (12%). These relative low shares are partly due to the proportion of women applying to each of the two grant schemes, with an average of 30% in the Starting Grants and 14% in the Advanced Grants. Broadly speaking, these ratios also reflect the proportion of women in research careers in Europe.

The European Research Council (ERC) is the first pan-European funding organisation for frontier research. It aims to stimulate scientific excellence in Europe by encouraging competition for funding between the very best, creative researchers of any nationality and age. The ERC consists of an independent Scientific Council and an Executive Agency set up by the EU under the 7th Framework Programme's "Ideas" specific programme. It has a total budget of € 7.5 billion (2007-2013). The Scientific Council, the ERC's governing body, defines the scientific funding strategy and methodologies, and acts on behalf of the scientific community in Europe to promote creativity and innovative research. It is composed of 22 eminent scientists and scholars, including some Nobel Prize winners, and chaired by Prof. Helga Nowotny.

ERC Scientific Council gender equality plan:

http://erc.europa.eu/pdf/ERC_ScC_Gender_Equality_Plan_2007-2013.pdf

ERC website: <http://erc.europa.eu>

Contact person Dr. Elisabeth Sjöstedt Email: elisabeth.sjostedt@ec.europa.eu

From the French Association of University Women (AFFDU) - 2 March 2011

Issues for inclusion in the Agreed Conclusions in relation with the draft on page 12:

Position of the International Federation of University Women (IFUW) on Education and Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM):

1 In accordance with the four pillars of its on-going programme, IFUW supports education as a human right which is the responsibility of the entire international community.

2 The acquisition of scientific literacy is as crucial to the education and empowerment of girls as basic literacy and numeracy. High quality teachers are vital to this process. In addition, appropriate female role models and mentors are needed throughout schooling from early childhood onwards to stimulate girls' curiosity and interest in careers in science and technology.

3 Good policy is dependent on accurate data collection. Data must therefore be sufficiently desegregated to reflect the social and cultural complexity of diverse populations. In particular statistics must be sufficiently detailed to show disparities between female and males in STEM at all levels of tertiary education from undergraduate to professorial and Head of Department.

4 Priority must be given to optimizing of work life balance in order to promote women's' access to further education and the vast array of STEM careers which will become available to them.

5 Indicators need to be developed to monitor progress towards achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals and the Beijing Plan of action timeline of 2015.

The Commission stresses that education and training is a human right and an essential tool for the empowerment of women, including their economic empowerment. It welcomes the progress made in increasing women's and girls' access to and participation in education and training, including science and technology education. The Commission recognizes the potential of education and training and of science and technology, to contribute to economic growth and accelerate progress towards achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

5. The Commission expresses concern that low quality of education reduces the benefits of education and training for women and girls, and that women's educational gains are yet to translate into equal access to full employment and decent work. It remains deeply concerned by the persistence of gender stereotypes, and the under-representation of girls and women in some sub-fields of science and technology education and employment, and of boys and men in care-related sectors. The Commission recognizes that science and technology research, development and deployment have insufficiently responded to women's needs.

Points to be inserted to reflect IFUW's concerns:

The acquisition of scientific literacy is as crucial to the education and empowerment of girls as basic literacy and numeracy. High quality teachers are vital to this process, together with appropriate female role models and mentors throughout schooling from early childhood onwards to encourage girls to study and take up careers in science and technology.

Good, accurate disaggregated data is required, sufficiently detailed to show disparities between female and males in STEM at all levels, including at tertiary education from undergraduate to professorial and Head of Department.

Priority must be given to optimizing of work life balance in order to promote women's' access to further education and the vast array of STEM careers which will become available to them.

Further indicators are required to monitor progress towards achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals and the Beijing Plan of action timeline of 2015.

Claudine Hermann

Conference to which the EPWS GA is attached:

'Training, Career and Mobility of Researchers in the Innovation Union'

29th June 2011 session between 14.40 and 16.30

<http://www.tetalap.hu/eumobility/>

Career Paths and Mobility of Woman Researchers

Gender aspects of „European partnership for researchers”

Mobility in a gender-sensitive scientific culture

Mobile women in science and technology

Challenges and opportunities for women in today's Europe

Movement of highly skilled women scientists in an enlarging European Union

Watch the EPWS website for more details

On 21st September 2010 the European Commission adopted the

"Strategy for equality between women and men 2010-2015".

The new strategy identifies five priority areas for action:

- equal economic independence;
- equal pay for equal work or work of equal value;
- equality in decision-making;
- dignity, integrity and an end to gender-based violence;
- gender equality in external actions.

As the third priority directly concerns Key actions of the Commission to monitor a 25% target for women in decision-making positions in science and research, it is important to debate on scientific careers. The dynamics of the mentioned process is very impressive. In the up-to-date European Research science vision ("Science Renaissance in Europe"), worked out by the ERAB (European Research Area Board), for 2030 the ambitious target of 50%/50% is foreseen for gender distribution in decision-making positions.

Women are nowadays under-represented in decision-making positions. However they are excellent scientists. Everybody knows that vertical segregation exists in sciences and that it is necessary to use some measures against that. However firstly we should clear in depth what we are speaking about and what careers will be attractive for us.

This is the reason why the **EPWS invites members of the women scientists community to discuss the following questions**, related to the above political targets:

- Does the understanding of scientific career depend on gender?
- Are women and men giving the same importance to leadership features?
- What are the features important for leadership in sciences and do they differ from those needed for leadership in other non-scientific fields of human activities (for example leadership in business)?

The answers to those questions and your opinion on the subject will be very much welcome.

Dalia Satkovskiene and Claudine Hermann

NEWS FROM EPWS MEMBERS

France

The 10th anniversary of the French association « Femmes et Sciences » (Women and Science)

November 2010

On Saturday 27th November 2010, the French association celebrated its 10th anniversary at Palais du Luxembourg, Paris, i.e. the seat of the French Senate, the upper house of the French Parliament. Over a hundred of guests and members were present. A booklet summarising 10 years of activities (300,000 children met, talks given in almost 600 places all over France) was distributed to the participants.



The colloquium was opened by Michèle André, who is a member of the Senate and president of the Senate Delegation on the Rights of Women and Equal Opportunities for Men and Women.

The scientific presentations by three prestigious members of the association, anthropologist Françoise Héritier, geophysicist Anny Cazenave (who sent a remarkable filmed talk, as she was on her way to the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Cancun, Mexico) and astrophysicist

Françoise Combes, were particularly valued. In a multidisciplinary association, hearing pedagogical talks from a variety of disciplines is a real pleasure and this should be done more often in our networks!



Finally private and public partners of “Femmes et Sciences”, all involved in the Women and Science issue, participated in a round table and shared their views on the progress achieved in the last ten years and on the remaining obstacles. At present, the actions which appear as priorities are: coordination at national level of the associations and networks active in this field; mentoring of girls in secondary schools and in higher education; gender-training of education staff.

Claudine Hermann

Launching of the association WiN Europe

(Women in Nuclear)

in Brussels, 13 February 2011

On October 2nd in Budapest was created the Association “WiN – Europe” (Women in Nuclear). This association gathers women from all over Europe working in the many fields of application of nuclear sciences and technologies (energy, space, medicine, biology, art, agri-food sector). Established as

a legal entity with its headquarters in Paris, the Association was founded by the representatives of nine European countries (Austria, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden and Switzerland).



*The participants to WIN-Europe round table
From left to right: Andrea Bachrata, Ph.D student (SLO); Elena Dimitru, European Parliamentary Assistant (RO); Ute Blohm-Hieber, DG TREN, European Commission and Claudine Hermann (EPWS).*

Part of a global network of 3,200 women from 80 Countries, WiN Europe aims to contribute actively to the development of the nuclear industry in Europe. Its principal objectives are:

- To participate in the programmes of the European Commission concerning the development of nuclear technologies and applications,
- To establish partnerships with the major European institutions and organisations, universities and training centres
- To offer support and expertise to the actors in the sector, particularly in countries beginning to develop nuclear technologies
- To contribute to competence renewal by attracting young people to technological and scientific careers
- and to promote diversity and gender equality within the nuclear fields.

The launching consisted in a press conference and a round table in which Claudine Hermann took part and gave the example of EPWS as a European association of women scientists, with its difficulties and its success.

Ms Dominique Mouillot, the president of the new association WIN-Europe, is also the president of WIN-France, an EPWS member.

Claudine Hermann

International Conference on Women in Physics

**Stellenbosch, South Africa
April 2011**

Press release at

http://www.acitravel.co.za/event/event_20/MEDIA%20STATEMENT%20ON%204TH%20INTERNATIONAL%20WOMEN%20IN%20PHYSICS%20CONFERENCE%202011.pdf

The 4th IUPAP sponsored International Conference on Women in Physics (ICWIP) took place from 5th to 8th April 2011 in Stellenbosch, South Africa. 65 countries were represented by about 250 delegates and it was good to see an increase in the number of men present. High profile plenary speakers included Prof. Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell, the President of the Institute of Physics (IOP), Professor Cecilia Jarlsberg, who chaired the Nobel Committee for Physics from 1989 to 2000 and Prof. YanLai Yan, winner of the prestigious Xie Xi-De Prize for physics.



ICWIP: presentation to the plenary speakers during the opening ceremony

The conference was a huge success and presented innumerable opportunities for discussions, networking and collaborations. Recommendations from the conference will be

presented to the IUPAP General Assembly for adoption.

Dalia Satkovskiene, a member of the EPWS Board of Administration EPWS, presented a country poster for Lithuania and a poster about BASNET. Claudine Herman, Ann Marks and Dalia Satkovskiene were joint authors of the EPWS poster.

Ann Marks, a member of the EPWS board of Administration, gave a presentation during the Networking across disciplines workshops on 'EPWS: A network of networks across a continent'. This raised a lot of interest and other world regions, Africa, Americas, Asia/Pacific and Europe will form networks specifically for women in physics groups.

Ann also gave a presentation on 'Action Research', recent successful work by the IOP to attract girls to study physics (http://www.iop.org/education/teacher/support/girls_physics/page_41593.html). She also chaired a session.



Prof Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell (2nd right) with the UK team

On 9th April an outreach event, attended by over 250 girls, with a few boys, was held in a local school. The event attracted young people with a wide range of backgrounds. Conference delegates gave inspiring talks about their experiences and the opportunities opened up by physics careers. There were also physics activities. Ann gave a fun presentation on sound which used items, mainly to be found around the home and she explained the physics behind the unexpected sounds, which were produced with the assistance of the audience.

France

EPWS a tool for disseminating French national gender research results?

Claudine Herman has been contacted by Caroline Bélan-Menagier, member of the Mission Parity of the French ministry of Research and French member of the Helsinki group. The Mission Parity thinks that the EPWS communication tools (website, Newsletter) are valuable and could be used for dissemination of some national gender research results at European level.

Claudine Hermann

Congratulations!

Marie Curie fellow gets Merck Award

Professor Luisa Torsi, coordinator of a Marie Curie ITN project at the University of Bari, Italy, has been awarded the 2010 Analytical Sciences Merck Award. The prize recognizes her research work on organic semiconducting chemical sensors, key for the generation of new-age chemical and pharmaceutical products.

Luisa Torsi is the first woman and the first Italian person to receive the prestigious prize. The award ceremony took place on 31 August 2010 in the framework of the EuCheMS Chemistry Congress, in Nuremberg, Germany.

Dora Groo

Record numbers for the Marie Curie Individual Fellowships

4765 proposals were submitted for the last call for proposals for the individual fellowships (IEF-IOF-IIF). This represents an increase of

almost 20% on the 2009 calls when 4041 proposals were received. The 2010 Marie Curie Actions Individual Fellowships have a total budget of €151 million which is expected to support more than 700 researchers for periods of 2 or 3 years.

Dora Groo

Robert Schuman Foundation Policy Paper

Women's Europe

The place of women in society is evolving towards ever greater integration into positions that have been almost exclusively occupied by men in terms of hierarchy and the question of their representation is the focus of debate at present. However women who comprise more than half of the world's population still face opposition as far as reaching the top is concerned. An analysis of their occupation of the posts of responsibility in the 27 EU Member States, likewise their situation in the rest of the world reveals the challenges women still face in both economic and political spheres. Having now conquered all professional sectors and in spite of many studies showing the advantages of having a greater share of women in business which seem to illustrate a change in the situation they are still often less well placed and notably less well paid than men. Their situation in the political world is also a sign of the progress they still have to make.

Dora Groo

Finland /EU

Sad news reported in 'Science' January issue on ERC Advanced grants

Notes sent in by Liisa Husu, member of the EPWS Board of Administration:

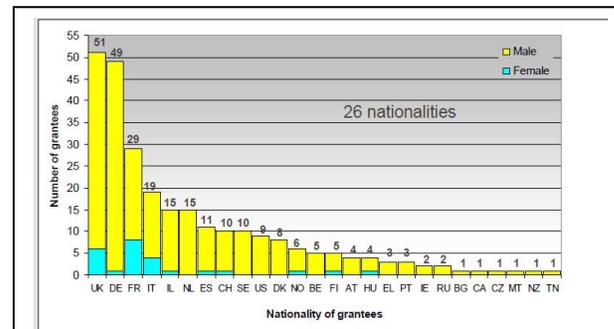
ERC Advanced grants - less than 10% women:

Science 28 January 2011:
Vol. 331 no. 6016 p. 383
DOI: 10.1126/science.331.6016.383-b

ERC Still Looking for Women

The European Research Council (ERC) announced that 266 'advanced scientists' won its latest round of funding, with British and German researchers grabbing the most grants. But just 9.4% of the winners are women, an imbalance seen in previous ERC funding rounds that is a source of continuing frustration to the organization.

ERC grants – please go to the website http://erc.europa.eu/pdf/Statistics_AdG2010.pdf and see the graph below to find out how many panels did not find a single excellent woman to be given the grant!



*ERC Advanced grant: 2010 call Grantees by nationality and gender. (Turquoise = female)
Source ERC*

European definition of Science

In Europe 'Science covers Social Science and Humanities as well as Physical and Life Sciences. Therefore 9.4% women are from a much wider range of subjects than Physical Sciences.

**Article in Research Europe
10 March 2011 by Claudine Hermann**

***View from the top -
More women in EU science
would benefit everyone***

Claudine Hermann has had an article published in Research Europe. She explained that the conference on Women in Science, Innovation and Technology in the Digital Age highlighted the poor representation of women in science and technology and their poor career prospects. More than half of the students in the 27 EU member states are women but they represent only 30 per cent of the scientists and hold on average only 18 per cent of the senior positions, according to the European Commission's She Figures 2009 report.

She considered that it is illogical to put women at a disadvantage when there is a shortage of scientists in the Europe. If more women are able to follow science careers it would benefit both men and women in science as well as European economies.

*Draft presented by the Bureau of the UN
Commission on the Status of Women
11 February 2011*

**Commission on the Status of
Women 55th session
22 February to 4 March 2011
Access and participation of women
and girls to education, training,
science and technology, including
for the promotion of women's equal
access to full employment and
decent work**

Draft agreed conclusions

1. The Commission on the Status of Women reaffirms the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, and the declarations adopted by

the Commission on the occasion of the tenth and fifteenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women. (Based on CSW52 agreed conclusions, paragraphs 1 and 2; CSW53 agreed conclusions, paragraph 1)

2. The Commission recalls the Budapest Science Agenda - Framework for Action adopted at the World Conference on Science, the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum, and the United Nations Millennium Declaration.

3. The Commission reiterates that the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and its Optional Protocol, as well as relevant conventions of the International Labour Organization, provide a legal framework for the promotion of gender equality in education and employment. (Based on CSW53 agreed conclusions, paras. 3 and 5)

4. The Commission stresses that education and training is a human right and an essential tool for the empowerment of women, including their economic empowerment. It welcomes the progress made in increasing women's and girls' access to and participation in education and training, including science and technology education. The Commission recognizes the potential of education and training, and of science and technology, to contribute to economic growth and accelerate progress towards achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

5. The Commission expresses concern that low quality of education reduces the benefits of education and training for women and girls, and that women's educational gains are yet to translate into equal access to full employment and decent work. It remains deeply concerned by the persistence of gender stereotypes, and the underrepresentation of girls and women in some sub-fields of science and technology education and employment, and of boys and men in care-related sectors. The Commission recognizes that science and technology research, development and deployment have insufficiently responded to women's needs.



European Platform of Women Scientists

The participation of women in science and research and in the research policy debate is a fundamental human right of women scientists, and therefore a matter of justice. In view of the acknowledged discussion on the value of diversity, it has also to be seen as essential to achieve excellence and innovation in research and to ensure a sustainable scientific quality of research. Furthermore, failing to make full use of the available qualified human potential of women scientists is detrimental to economies and societies at the macro level as well as to individual research institutions on the micro level.

EPWS Mission and Activities 2008

Background

- November 2005: EPWS legally established in Brussels as an international non-profit association (AISBL) with an international Board of Administration
- April 2007: 1st General Assembly (GA) in Brussels
- June 2008: 1st Annual Conference and 2nd GA in Vilnius
- June 2009: 2nd Annual Conference and 3rd GA in Brussels
- June 2010: 3rd Annual Conference and 4th GA in Brussels
- June 2011: 5th GA in Budapest

Aims of EPWS

- Network existing networks of women scientists and networks engaged in promoting equal opportunities in science in all disciplines,
- Promote networking among women scientists, particularly in Central and Eastern Europe and the private sector,
- Enhance the understanding and the inclusion of the gender issue in science and research policy in all scientific fields
- Ensure that women scientists' interests are taken into consideration when setting the political research agenda,
- Encourage girls into science.

EPWS Mission and Activities

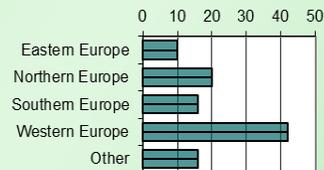
Represent, with democratic legitimacy and transparent decision-making structures, the concerns, needs, aspirations and interests of European women scientists, in all stages of their career path, in dialogue with national, European and international institutions.

- **Networking the Networks**
 - ↳ Membership campaign
 - ↳ Exchange of good practices
 - ↳ Updated database of networks
- **Participation in the Policy Debate**
 - ↳ Policy statements
 - ↳ Contacts and visibility among stakeholders
- **Structural Link between women scientists and policy makers**



- **Management of Information from and towards members**
 - ↳ Regular Newsletter and update of website
 - ↳ Interactive Electronic Platform
- **Public & Private Partnerships**
 - ↳ Conferences and workshops with members and other interested institutions
 - ↳ Expertise in gender issues at European level

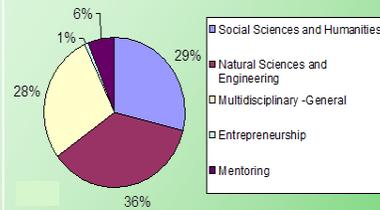
EPWS Membership



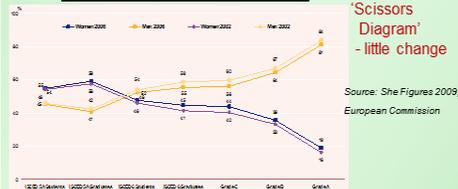
EPWS has a membership base of 182 networks/associations/individuals from more than 40 different countries

- 50 Full/Conditional Full Members
- 25 Associate Members
- 29 Supporting Organisations
- 80 individual members
- On-going outreach for new members

Disciplines among members (except individual members)



Gender Gap in Science EU-27



'Scissors Diagram' - little change

Proportion of Women on Boards 2007



glass ceilings still exist!



Contact us!

- Please inform us of any science-related conference, event, calls, funding possibility, news or other interesting aspects for women in science in your field: communications@epws.org
- For membership applications and membership issues: membership@epws.org
- For general enquiries, requests for speakers: info@epws.org
- For offers of in-kind and/or financial support: support@epws.org

Keep the Voice of Women Scientists in Europe alive!

European Platform of Women Scientists
Rue d'Arlon,
38 B-1000 Brussels
E-mail: info@epws.org

Website:
<http://www.epws.org>
<http://www.epws.net>

Bank account holder: European Platform of Women Scientists EPWS
Bank name: BNP PARIBAS FORTIS,
Agence Quartier Léopold 83710,
Place du Luxembourg 14 B-1000 Bruxelles
Account Number: 0014756256-34
IBAN: BE 68 0014756256-34
SWIFT (BIC): GEBABEBB

For online donations please use button at: <http://support.epws.org/2008/05/donations.html>

Forthcoming Events

Please send news of your forthcoming events to membership@epws.org for inclusion in the next EPWS newsletter.

European Gender Summit Scientific Quality through Equality 8-9 Nov 2011

The first European Gender Summit provides a forum for stakeholders from research, industry and policy to jointly explore how gendered methodologies can stimulate innovation and advance scientific excellence.

The summit will map the current state of knowledge, provide a forum for interdisciplinary debate and draw up concrete action plans for research and innovation policy.

Who should attend the Summit? The European Gender Summit invites stakeholders from all sectors and disciplines active in the European innovation system to participate in this dialogue.

Further information on how to participate can be found at:

http://www.gender-summit.eu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=54&Itemid=58

To register go to:

http://www.gender-summit.eu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=60&Itemid=65

Join the EPWS and be heard at European level!

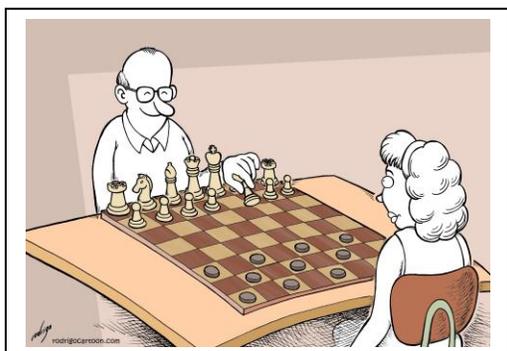
**EPWS offers a vibrant forum for sharing experiences and knowledge,
new tools and directions for change towards
gender equality in science and research policy.**

For more information and formal application forms please see

Membership section of the **EPWS website:** www.epws.org

or please contact membership@epws.org

A Membership Application Form is on page 14 of this newsletter



Portugal: AMONET - cartoon

We are grateful to the Associação Portuguesa de Mulheres Cientistas, AMONET, (Portuguese Association of Women iScience) for permission to print this cartoon. www.amonet.org/

Membership Application Form

*Please READ all necessary documents on www.epws.org
Then send the details required on this form to membership@epws.org*

Name of Association:
Name(s) and position(s) of the person(s) authorised to represent:
1.
2.
Address:
Telephone Number/ Fax Number:
E-mail:
Website:
Research Area(s) Covered:
Membership Type Requested (fee for 2008)
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Member (120 €)
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member (100 €)
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Supporting Member
Professor (30 €)
Researcher (30 €) (please specify)
Student (no fee) (please specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Organisation
Choice of Standing Committee
<input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring the Policy Debate
<input type="checkbox"/> Gender Dimension in Science
<input type="checkbox"/> Promotion of Women Scientists
<input type="checkbox"/> Information and Public Relations
<input type="checkbox"/> Structural Reinforcement
Is your organisation/are you a member of any other network(s)?
I accept EPWS' Terms and Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> (online at www.epws.org)
Date, Place, Signature :

Your personal data are for EPWS internal use only and will not be transmitted to third parties.

Subscriptions

More than ever, EPWS depends on membership fees to continue to exist.

Annual fees:

The annual membership fees still are:

1. Full Members (120 €)
2. Associate Members (100 €)
3. Individual Supporting Members: Professor (30 €), Researcher (30 €), Student (no fee)

As in previous years, EPWS will send out letters in early 2011 to all members to collect the annual membership fees. These should preferably be paid by bank transfer using the IBAN bank system.

(see website

http://www.epws.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=165&Itemid=4676)

If this is not possible, the PAYPAL on the EPWS website should be used, adding an extra fee for the transfer of money (see EPWS website https://www.paypal.com/be/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_flow&SESSION=0afF7EFHoQFbAQzDMipekZLNxSereckakztjUvMyHPn4v0gvPFFd9w_wHuS&dispatch=5885d80a13c0db1ffc45dc241d84e953d0e88f8d71535079b246201019c8adab).

Thank you

If you have any problems in paying your subscription, then please contact me at membership@epws.org.

**Isa Schön
EPWS Treasurer**

Email Contacts:

General enquiries: info@epws.org (e.g. requests for speakers and general information)

Membership applications and membership issues: membership@epws.org

For financial support and/or offers of in-kind: membership@epws.org or use the donation button on the EPWS website at: <http://support.epws.org/2000/05/donations.html>

Thank you for your interest and support, and are looking forward to hearing from you in the near future!

Notes from the Editor

Dear EPWS members,

This is the fourth issue of the new form of the Newsletter. There are about 1700 registered readers of the EPWS newsletter. In addition the newsletter is forwarded to members of the many networks, which are members of the Platform, making a huge total readership.

Please do forward this newsletter to all others who are interested in women in science issues and those who might be like to join the EPWS as either networks or individuals.

I hope you have found the newsletter interesting reading. Our thanks are due to all those who have contributed material for this issue. Thanks are also due to Dora Groo for her work towards the EPWS 2011 General Assembly.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that all members of the EPWS are invited to submit newsletter articles for future issues about the activities of their networks and about events in their countries. Please let us know of any science-related conference, event, calls, funding possibility, news etc for women in science! We would particularly welcome information about forthcoming events, which EPWS members could attend and we would like to include news about activities in as many EU countries as possible. Contributions marked 'for the attention of the EPWS newsletter editor' should be sent to membership@epws.org and may be submitted at any time, ready for the next issue. Please do keep sending!

Do visit the website at www.epws.org and the news pages at www.epws.net, they are up-dated frequently. Also the list of member organisations is on the website – go to 'membership' then select 'members'.

Very best regards,

Ann Marks

Member of the EPWS Board of Administration

Published by: EPWS
Rue d'Arlon 38, B-1000 Brussels
www.epws.org

References

Articles published in the EPWS Newsletter are based on articles featured in different EU publications and information portals, booklets, advertising, seminars, conferences, etc.

Articles in this issue have been submitted by the Board of Administration and the Executive Committee.

Articles are invited from members of the EPWS for future issues.

The EPWS is not responsible for the accuracy of the content.