

Dear colleagues,

With this first Newsletter we would like to share with you some information on the recent initiative of establishing **The UKRAINE Network**, inform about the **first Networking Event on German-Ukrainian Academic Cooperation** (28-29/01/ 2016), which brought to Berlin some 200 participants from all over Germany, and inform you on some recent news and relevant funding opportunities of potential interest to you.

With kind regards,

Dr. Oksana Seumenicht

International Relations Manager, Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine, Berlin

Professor Olga Garaschuk

Director of the Institute of Physiology II, Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen

Шановні колеги!

В рамках нашого першого Вісника дозвольте поділитися з Вами інформацією про створення **Міжнародної Української Академічної Мережі (The UKRAINE Network)** і враженнями про **Зустріч-Конференцію з Німецько-Українського Академічного Співробітництва** (28-29/01/ 2016), на яку до Берліна з'їхалося більше 200 учасників з усіх куточків Німеччини; а також привернути Вашу увагу до деяких цікавих новин та нових грантових інструментів.

З найкращими побажаннями,

Sehr geehrte Kollegen,

Mit diesem ersten Informationsblatt möchten wir Sie über die Etablierung des **Ukrainischen Akademischen Internationalen Netzwerks (Das UKRAINE Netzwerk/ The UKRAINE Network)** informieren, die ersten Eindrücke über die **Netzwerkveranstaltung zur deutsch-ukrainischen akademischen Zusammenarbeit** (28-29/01/2016), welche mehr als 200 Teilnehmer nach Berlin gebracht hatte, mitteilen, und Sie auf einige interessante/ nützliche Informationen und Fördermöglichkeiten aufmerksam machen.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,

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- The UKRAINE Network Regional Groups
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The UKRAINE Network

Oksana Seumenicht, Olga Garaschuk

Research diaspora communities exist in many countries, and can play an important role both as peer support framework for their members and to channel knowledge, expertise and valuable professional contacts back to the countries of origin. Examples include the GAIN-Network of German scientists in North America, <http://www.gain-network.org>, which to a certain degree inspired our initiative, the Society of Spanish Researchers in the UK, <http://www.sruk.org.uk>, or an impressive in its reputation, size and worldwide spread the German Korean Alumni Network (ADeKo), which is now a roof organisation for 48 Societies around the world (<http://www.adeko.or.kr/deu>).

The motivation to establish the UKRAINIAN Academic International Network (The UKRAINE Network) arose from two key considerations. First, it was the awareness that many of our countrymen are successfully integrated in the international scientific community, but at the same time the knowledge about them is patchy at best – both in Ukraine and abroad. And second, from the feeling that now is the right time to get together and support the nascent reforms in science and higher education system in Ukraine.

The UKRAINE Network is envisioned as a community of scientists and university professionals, who work both in academia and broader economy, in and outside of Ukraine, and who are interested in bi-lateral academic and scientific collaboration with Ukraine, as well as broader international cooperation. The main goals of the UKRAINE Network are:

- Fostering bilateral and international academic cooperation with Ukraine;
- Supporting the integration of Ukraine into the European Research Area;
- Supporting, the career development of early-career researchers through peer mentoring and targeted activities;
- Improving knowledge about Ukraine abroad, its university and research landscape, and vice versa;
- Establishing of a pool of international experts, who are interested to provide their knowledge and expertise (especially on peer reviewing and research funding) to support the reforms in science & higher education system in Ukraine.

This as yet non-formalised network already brought together dozens of interested scientists and science managers, both of Ukrainian origin and not, who are working in academia as well as in industrial R&D in Germany, but also in the UK, Israel, the Netherlands, etc. What do we plan to do? We anticipate that this network will be bottom-up-driven and structured through regional and thematic groups. Local **MeetUps/ Stammtische** can be useful for informal networking and peer support, whereas topic-focussed thematic groups (on various scientific topics, research funding, university administration, etc.) can coordinate and organise bi- and multi-lateral scientific events, summer schools, joint applications for research funding, etc. A dedicated **web-site**, regular **Newsletter** and an annual **Networking Forum** will provide ample opportunities for sharing information and best practice, coordination of activities, identification of partners and topics of mutual interest, as well as serve to increase the visibility of our community and contribute to improving knowledge about Ukraine, its academic landscape and innovation potential abroad, and vice versa. In order to support the UKRAINE Network's activities in Germany an initiative group is in the process of founding a Society (tent. name: **German-Ukrainian Academic Society**), more information to follow.

If you wish to get involved, contribute your ideas, expertise and/or time – do get in touch! Do spread the word and send this Newsletter to your current or former colleagues or friends, who might be interested!

As a first step a networking & information platform has been set up on LinkedIn – join us!

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8473594>

Contact: scientists4ukraine@gmail.com

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Contact: scientists4ukraine@gmail.com

The UKRAINE Network Regional Groups

Below you can find contact details of the first regional groups. If you are keen to start a group in your city/region – get in touch!

Berlin/ Potsdam

Dr. Olesia Lazarenko reads lectures in Ukrainian language at the Humboldt University of Berlin, and is employed by the O.O. Potebnia Institute for Language Studies, NANU, in Kyiv, graduated Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University, specialising in Polish and Ukrainian language and literature and gained her PhD on usage of Polish in XVII century Ukraine.

Dr. Dmytro Puchkov runs the electron microscopy unit at the Leibniz Institute for Molecular Pharmacology in Berlin Buch. He graduated Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University, and gained his PhD in Neuroscience from the Centre for Molecular Biology Hamburg, University of Hamburg.

Contacts: lazarenko.olesia@gmail.com; puchkov@fmp-berlin.de

Greifswald

Vira Makovska reads lectures in Ukrainian language at the Ernst Moritz Arndt University Greifswald. Vira graduated in Ukrainian language and literature from Lviv University, where she also carried doctoral research. Moreover, Vira obtained a Master's degree In German as foreign language from the University Heidelberg and Dalhousie University in Canada.

Dr. Roman Dubasevych heads the Chair for East- and West Slavonic Philology at Greifswald University. Roman did German studies in Lviv, Freiburg and Graz. He received M. A. degree in Theory of literature and Political philosophy from the East-West-Master programme of the University of Regensburg. Roman gained his PhD from University of Wien, Austria and worked as researcher at Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (Cambridge, MA).

Contacts: vira.makovska@uni-greifswald.de; tyrolko@yahoo.com

Hannover

Nataliya Butych is an experienced university manager and Program Coordinator for Central and Eastern Europe at the International Office, Leibniz Universität Hannover.

Contact: nataliya.butych@zuv.uni-hannover.de

Stuttgart/Tübingen

Prof. Olga Garaschuk holds the Chair for Physiology at the Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen and is Co-Head of the Research Section C at the Werner Reichardt Centre for Integrative Neuroscience (Cluster of Excellence). Her research focuses on functional analysis of neuronal networks in vivo, especially in context of perception of sensor stimuli, as well aging and neurodegeneration (in particular, Alzheimer disease). Olga graduated in physico-chemical biology from the Moscow Institute for Physics & Technology (MFTI), and gained her PhD at the Bogomoletz Institute of Physiology in Kyiv.

Contact: olga.garaschuk@uni-tuebingen.de

UK CHAPTER

In the UK **Dr. Dmitri Finkelshtein** has volunteered to coordinate the British Chapter of the Network. Dmitri is Lecturer in Mathematics at Swansea University. He graduated in Mathematics from the Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University, and gained his PhD (and later also a Doctor of Science degree) from the Institute of Mathematics, Kyiv, NASU. His research interests concern different topics of functional analysis, probability theory, applications in physics, biology, and economics; in particular models inspired by sciences, stochastic dynamics of interacting particle systems in continuum, multiscale descriptions of complex systems, and analysis on spaces of configurations.

Contact: d.i.finkelshtein@swansea.ac.uk

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Contact: scientists4ukraine@gmail.com

**First Networking Event on GERMAN-UKRAINIAN ACADEMIC COOPERATION
 28-29/01/2016, Berlin**



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This meeting was initiated by a group of Ukrainian-born German scientists and organised by the **DAAD, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation** and the **DFG**, with generous support from the Federal Ministries for Foreign Affairs and Education and Research. More than 200 participants – current DAAD and Humboldt fellowship-holders and alumni, scientists from Germany and Ukraine, who work on joint DFG-supported scientific projects and high-level officials both from German and Ukrainian ministries and research organisations, gathered in Berlin on 28-29 of January, 2016. This meeting for the first time offered an opportunity for current Ukrainian fellowship-holders to meet and network with already established researchers in Germany, as well as learn about funding schemes supporting bilateral scientific collaboration. At the panel discussion, workshops and throughout the meeting the participants have discussed some of the main challenges faced at the moment by the Ukrainian scientific community, the undergoing reforms, and elaborated on some potential solutions. The event was loaded with positive energy and genuine enthusiasm and now we aim to translate it into specific joint activities, which will make a difference!

For more detailed reports check web sites of our partners:

<https://www.daad.de/der-daad/daad-aktuell/de/41310-partnerland-ukraine-ein-neues-netzwerk-fuer-den-akademischen-austausch/>

http://www.dfg.de/dfg_magazin/internationales/160128_netzwerk_ukraine/index.jsp

NEWS FROM UKRAINE

There is still open call for nominations to the **Identification committee** for the new **Ukrainian National Research Council**.

Official announcement (in English) is available here:

<http://mon.gov.ua/usi-novivni/povidomlennya/2016/01/19/on-competition-for-selection-of-candidates-to-the-identification/>

and here it is in Ukrainian:

<http://mon.gov.ua/activity/nauka/konkurs-z-formuvannya-identifikacijnogo-komitetu-z-pitan-nauki/povidomlennya-ua.html>

COOPERATION HIGHLIGHTS

Longstanding cooperation between the National University of Chernivtsi and University of Applied Sciences Lübeck on restorations of historic city centres

Die **Nationale Universität Chernivtsi (CHNU)** und die **Fachhochschule Lübeck (FHL)** kooperieren seit 2011. Beide Hochschulen verbinden die Fragen der Altstadtanierung in der Ausbildung von Architekten und Bauingenieuren. Das Deutsch-Ukrainische **Hochschul-Praxis-Partnerschaftsprojekt „Planen und Bauen für die historische Stadt“** ergänzt die Ausbildung an beiden Standorten um eine praxisnahe und internationale Komponente. Das Projekt wird gemeinsam mit Partnerorganisationen aus der Bauwirtschaft durchgeführt und vom DAAD aus Mitteln des Bundesministeriums für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung gefördert (2013-2016). Jährlich finden zwei studentische Fachexkursionen statt. Die gegenseitigen Besuche in der westlichen Ukraine und in Norddeutschland umfassen ein breites Programm, Symposien, Workshops u.v.m. Auch der Ausbau eines mehrsprachigen Online-Fachglossars für das Bauwesen (<http://baumedial.oncampus.de>) gehört zum Partnerschaftsprojekt.

Mit dem Ziel, die Zusammenarbeit mit der Ukraine weiter auszubauen, hat die FHL im Februar 2016 einen ERASMUS⁺ Projektantrag in "Capacity Building" eingereicht. Insgesamt 10 Hochschulen aus Deutschland, Litauen, Polen, Rumänien und der Ukraine haben sich zusammen gefunden, um die Lehrplanentwicklung an insgesamt sechs ukrainischen Hochschulen zu unterstützen. Das Projektvorhaben soll zur Europäisierung der ukrainischen Hochschulausbildung beitragen.

Weitere Informationen: <http://www.ukraine-bauen.de/>

Kontakten: **Serhij Lukanjuk**, Leiter des International Office CHNU: interof@chnu.edu.ua

Silke Hüper, Projektkoordination FH Lübeck: silke.hueper@fh-luebeck.de

AWARDS & PRIZES

Young European of the Year 2015 Award goes to a Ukrainian

Evgenija Lopata won the Young European of the Year 2015 Award (Schwarzkopf Foundation) for the "Poetry Tour Meridian Czernowitz 2014: Austria, Ukraine, Poland and Germany".

<http://schwarzkopf-stiftung.de/en/awards/junger-europaer-des-jahres/>

Historian Andrii Portnov will direct the Berlin-Brandenburg Ukraine Initiative



Andrii Portnov, historian of modern Ukraine, became a long-term Fellow of the Forum Transregionale Studien in order to direct the **Berlin-Brandenburg Ukraine Initiative**. This new initiative of the Forum will contribute to a better understanding of the situation in Ukraine and neighbouring countries. It invites scholars, journalists, and civil society activists from Ukraine and Eastern Europe to spend several months in

Berlin as Visiting Fellows to participate in and organize workshops, podium discussions, as well as public and university lectures to exchange expertise and experience. The Initiative is supported by scholars from Eastern Europe at universities and research institutes in the Berlin-Brandenburg area. **A series of lectures "Constructing Eastern Europe: Geographies of Power in the 20th and the 21st centuries"** will be held during the **2016 summer semester in Berlin**, for more information keep an eye on the Initiative's web-site.

<http://www.forum-transregionale-studien.de/nc/en/forum/homepage.html>

Honorary Doctorate for Prof. Walter Koschmal

Prof. Dr. Walter Koschmal from the Institute for Slavonic Studies (Institut für Slavistik) at the Regensburg University was awarded an **honorary Doctorate** by the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv (2015).

<http://www.kooperation-international.de/detail/info/auszeichnung-fuer-regensburger-slavisten-ukrainische-ehrendoktorwuerde-fuer-prof-koschmal.html>

RELEVANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

DFG Grant to Support the Initiation of International Collaboration, no deadline

Applications are made by a German scientist employed by a German university. Applicants interested in establishing collaborative scientific relationships with partners abroad may apply for up to 1-year funding for trips and research stays abroad or for bilateral workshops. Application at any time is possible (no deadlines), min. 3 months before the intended start of activities.

www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/programmes/international_cooperation/initiation_international_collaboration/in_brief/index.html

Stipendienprogramm "Metropolen in Osteuropa", Antragsfrist: 15 März 2016

Förderung eines in der Regel einjährigen Auslandsaufenthalts (Minstdauer 7 Monate – Höchstdauer 4 Semester) mit Intensivsprachkurs im Zielland und/oder studienbegleitendem Sprachunterricht. Studienerfahrung in einem Land Ost-, Mittelost- oder Südosteuropas bzw. des postsowjetischen Raums inklusive Erwerb gründlicher Sprach- und Landeskenntnisse durch Sprachkurse, Studien- oder Forschungsvorhaben und Praktika.

[www.studienstiftung.de/osteuropa/?view\[detail\]=1&cHash=dc5048e0d8d22c35874e4b9b7b6ffb4d](http://www.studienstiftung.de/osteuropa/?view[detail]=1&cHash=dc5048e0d8d22c35874e4b9b7b6ffb4d)

MEET UP! Deutsch-Ukrainische Jugendbegegnungen, Antragsfrist: 15 März 2016

Die Stiftung "Erinnerung, Verantwortung und Zukunft" fördert 2016 mit Unterstützung des Auswärtigen Amtes und der Robert Bosch Stiftung deutsch-ukrainische Jugendbegegnungen. Ziel des Programms ist es, die Beziehungen zur Ukraine zu intensivieren und das Engagement junger Menschen aus Deutschland und aus der Ukraine für demokratische Grundwerte und Völkerverständigung zu stärken. Es werden bestehende deutsch-ukrainische Jugendpartnerschaften und neue Initiativen gefördert. Eine Einbindung von russischen Teilnehmenden ist möglich. Anträge auf Förderung sind spätestens bis zum 15.03.2016 bei der Stiftung EVZ einzureichen. Die Projekte müssen bis zum 31.12.2016 abgeschlossen sein.

<http://www.stiftung-evz.de/handlungsfelder/handeln-fuer-menschenrechte/meet-up.html>

IncoNet EaP Twinning Grants supporting 'Clustering of Scientific Projects and Institutions' ***Deadline: 31 March 2016***

This action aims to enhance mutual learning, to strengthen cooperation between the EU member states and the Eastern Partnership countries and to plant the seed for sustainable scientific, technological and innovation EU-EaP projects. Topics: Climate change, Health, Energy. Budget: up to 10.000 EUR per application. The grant can cover the following expenses: Travel expenses; Daily allowance/accommodation; Technical and/or logistical support for event preparation (e.g. organisation of workshops, catering); Temporary staff (e.g. students, junior scientists for the event preparation, data analysis etc.).

<http://www.inco-eap.net/en/401.php>

Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds PhD Fellowships in Biomedical Research: Next deadline: 1 June 2016

These 2-year (1 year extension possible) PhD fellowships are awarded to outstanding junior scientists (max. age: 27 years) who wish to pursue an ambitious PhD project in basic biomedical research in an internationally leading laboratory.

<http://www.bifonds.de/fellowships-grants/phd-fellowships.html>

Useful fellowship resource: subscribe for their regular newsletter: <http://scholarship-positions.com/>

A SELECTION OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

9 March 2016, Berlin

16:00

MDC Alumni Talk Series

“Reassessing neurocentrism: Principles of astroglipathology”

Dendrit, MDC.C

Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine, Berlin Buch Campus
 Berlin

www.mdc-berlin.de

The UKRAINE Network member visiting lecture

Prof. Alexej Verkhratsky

University of Manchester, UK

Prof. Verkhratsky’s major scientific interests are in neurophysiology with particular emphasis on neuroglia and glial neuronal interactions in health and disease.

Alexej Verkhratsky gained his PhD from Bogomoletz Institute of Physiology, Kyiv. Prior to moving to the UK, he held senior academic positions in Ukraine and Germany. Prof. Verkhratsky is a member of the Leopoldina.

<http://www.ls.manchester.ac.uk/people/profile/?personid=1660>

Ukrainian Language and Culture School

“Ukrainian Spring in Lviv”

14 – 25 March 2016

4 – 15 April 2016

16 – 27 May 2016

Ukrainian Language and Culture School offers an opportunity to find out about traditional and present-day life in Ukraine. A 2-week intensive course of Ukrainian language and culture will be offered, as well as diverse cultural activities.

<http://learn-ukrainian.org.ua/#sthash.NLwOWNQn.dpuf>

Konferenz: Ukrainische Wissenschaft im europäischen Kontext. Deutsch-Ukrainische Beziehungen.

8 – 10 April 2016

Munich

E-mail: d.blochyn@alice-dsl.net

Diese Konferenz wurde durch die **Deutsch-ukrainische wissenschaftliche Gesellschaft Namens von Prof. Dr. J. Bojko-Blochyn** organisiert. Auf dem Programm stehen folgende Themen: Deutsche und Ukrainische Literatur: Komparatistik und Typologie; Philosophisches Wissen der Welt in der ukrainischen und deutschen Literatur; Beziehungen zwischen deutscher und ukrainischer Sprache: Vergangenheit und Gegenwart; Deutsch-Ukrainische Beziehungen: Kultureller und künstlerischer Kontext; Die Rolle der ukrainischen Wissenschaftler in der Diaspora bei der Verbreitung der Ukrainistik in Deutschland und anderen Ländern; Historische Beziehungen zwischen Bayern und dem Kiewer Staat;

Übersetzungen als Weg für wissenschaftliche und kulturelle Kommunikation; Die geistige Kultur der Ukrainer im europäischen Kontext; Juristische Kultur der Ukraine als Weg zur europäischen Integration; Gegenwärtige deutsch-ukrainische Beziehungen im Rahmen der Massenkommunikation

3 – 9 July 2016

Kharkiv

Deadline for application is **15 April 2016**

Eighth International Social Science Summer School in Ukraine “War and Violent Conflict in Socialist and Post-Socialist Societies”

<http://ukrainesummerschool.com/2016/02/23/call-kharkiv-2016/>

A joint project of the Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa (Canada), the Center for Russian, East European and Caucasian Studies (France), the LabEx EHNE “Writing a new History in Europe”, The Center for Slavic History at the University of Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne (France), the V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University (Ukraine), the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy (Ukraine).

8 – 20 August 2016

Greifswalder Ukrainicum –
 Greifswald Ukrainian Summer School
 Greifswald

"Closing Pandora's Box: Ukraine's Path to Peace"

More information coming soon:

www.phil.uni-greifswald.de/studium/angebot/ukrainicum-krupp-kolleg.html

22 August – 04 September 2016

European University Viadrina
 Frankfurt (Oder)

**Viadrinicum
 Ukrainian Summer School 2016**

<https://www.europa-uni.de/de/struktur/unileitung/projekte/viadrinicum/index.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/viadrinicum>

The **Viadrinicum** is an **International Ukrainian Summer School** that provides students and young scholars with the opportunity to deepen their knowledge about Ukraine, its language, history, politics and culture. With the help of an interdisciplinary approach of cultural, social and economic sciences we try to combine diverse perspectives with a focus on the current situation in Ukraine as well as its historical development. Therefore students and young scholars from all disciplines are invited.

You might also be interested to check the news from our partners:

Newsletter of the DAAD Information Centre in Kyiv:

In Ukrainian: <http://daad.org.ua/Newsletter/Newsletter30-ukr.pdf>

In German: <http://daad.org.ua/Newsletter/Newsletter30-de.pdf>

If you have news you wish to share or interested to join the Newsletter team – just get in touch!