Dear colleagues,

With this second Newsletter we are pleased to inform you about the award of the Leibniz Prize to the Kyiv-born biochemist Prof. Marina Rodnina (Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry in Göttingen); the long-awaited outcomes of the call for trilateral partnerships of the Volkswagen Foundation for collaborative projects between Ukrainian, Russian and German scientists; as well as inform you on other news and relevant funding opportunities.

With kind regards,

Dr. Oksana Seumenicht
International Relations Manager, Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine, Berlin

Professor Olga Garaschuk
Chair of the Institute of Physiology II, Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen

CONTENTS:
- News from the Network
- Awards & Prizes
- News from Ukraine
- Cooperation Highlights
- Funding Opportunities
- Forthcoming Events
- Quick & Useful
**News from the UKRAINE Network**

**Berlin**

**Next meeting/event:** 7 April, 2016, 18:30, Albrechtstraße 26, 10117 Berlin

**Dr. Natalka Proskura** will give a talk (in Ukrainian): The life of the physicist Alexander Proskura and presentation of his book “Illuminated by the light of science” (2010, Lviv).

**UK**

**Past event:** The Royal Society (UK) supported a scientific meeting “Evolution brings Ca²⁺ and ATP together to control life and death” (16-17 March, 2016, UK), initiated and co-organised by the Network member Prof. Alexej Verkhratsky (University of Manchester) and dedicated to the 70th jubilee of the renowned Ukrainian biophysicist Prof. Oleg Kryshtal (Bomoletz Institute of Physiology, Kyiv, Ukraine).

[https://royalsociety.org/events/2016/03/evolution-calcium-atp/](https://royalsociety.org/events/2016/03/evolution-calcium-atp/)

**Thematic Group: FUNDING**

This working group aims to monitor and share the information on relevant funding opportunities, offer the expertise on grant writing and review process, organise thematic workshops, as well as support applications for funding to support the Network and individual projects.

**Contact:** Oksana Seumenicht, scientists4ukraine@gmail.com

**“Building bridges: new German-Ukrainian Academic Network established”**

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation article about our Networking meeting in January:

[https://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/28328688.html](https://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/28328688.html)

**Regional contacts:**

**Berlin:** Olesia Lazarenko, lazarenko.olesia@gmail.com; Dmytro Puchkov, puchkov@fmp-berlin.de

**Greifswald:** Vira Makovska, vira.makovska@uni-greifswald.de; Roman Dubasevych, tyrolko@yahoo.com

**Hannover:** Nataliya Butych, nataliya.butych@zuv.uni-hannover.de

**Stuttgart/ Tübingen:** Olga Garaschuk, olga.garaschuk@uni-tuebingen.de

**UK Chapter:** Dmitri Finkelshtein, d.l.finkelshtein@swansea.ac.uk

If you are keen to start a group in your city/region or devoted to a specific topic, or initiate some Network activities – do get in touch!

Join our [LinkedIn group “The UKRAINE Network”](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8473594)

**Contact:** scientists4ukraine@gmail.com
AWARDS & PRIZES

Biochemist Marina Rodnina receives the Leibniz Prize 2015

Marina Rodnina, Director at the Max Planck Institute (MPI) for Biophysical Chemistry in Göttingen, was distinguished by the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize 2016 as one of ten awardees at the festive ceremony in Berlin on March 1, 2016. This most important German science award is endowed with 2.5 million Euros. The German Research Foundation (DFG) honours Prof. Rodnina for her pioneering contribution to the understanding of the functioning of ribosomes.

Marina Rodnina was born in Kyiv, where she studied biology at the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. She then obtained her doctorate in molecular biology and genetics at the Institute of Molecular Biology and Genetics of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in Kyiv. Marina Rodnina moved to the University of Witten-Herdecke in Germany in 1990 supported by a postdoctoral research fellowship from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. It was there that she completed her habilitation and was appointed Professor of Physical Biochemistry. Since 2008 she has been director of the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry in Göttingen.


There is a report from the event (in Ukrainian and Russian, and an interview with Prof. Rodnina):

NEWS FROM UKRAINE

Science Day – 2016, Kyiv, 19 May

A Discussion Event "Science. Society. Personality." will be held at the Science Day 2016, organised by the State Fund for Fundamental Research of Ukraine in Kyiv on May 19th. During this event finalists of the “Call for proposals of science and technology projects by young scientists” (Конкурс науково-технічних розробок молодих науковців у рамках міжнародного дискусійного заходу “Science. Society. Personality”, присвяченого “Дню Науки – 2016”) will present their projects that should address problems of social importance on regional or national level. The winner of this competition will receive a prize. Young researchers (under 35 y.o.) from Ukraine as well as those working abroad can apply with their project proposal by 20 April 2016. For more information in English and in Ukrainian follow the links:


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

The UKRAINian Academic International Network – The UKRAINE Network
NEWSLETTER, Issue No2, March 2016
Contact: scientists4ukraine@gmail.com
Cooperation partner search:
Department of Biochemistry & Biotechnology
Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University
Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine

It is a well-known fact that the established system of Biology training in Ukraine still largely relies on traditional standard curricula with an extensive presentation of scholastic/descriptive disciplines. In order to meet the needs of modern science and international standards, we – at the Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology – have embarked on developing a curriculum, providing our students with a solid background in modern experimental biology. Starting from the winter semester 2016 we will directly accept the first year students for specialization “Biochemistry” (as a basis for the Modern Experimental Biology). This means, our students will be taught some specialised courses already at the beginning of their study. In addition to a comprehensive training in diverse areas of Experimental Biology, the programme will have mandatory in-depth courses in Mathematics, Informatics, Physics, and Chemistry, since fluency in these disciplines is of paramount importance in the modern day life sciences.

We also aim to increase the internationalization of our program with intensive English language training, extended through subject courses taught in English, as well as opportunities for short-term research stays of students and staff in foreign laboratories as part of international exchange programs. Practically all faculty members of our department have spent some time abroad studying and/ or carrying out research at international scientific and educational institutions.

We now look for interested and motivated partners for best practice exchange in the curricula development, for teaching of the selected disciplines, some technical assistance (esp. with establishing practical classes), and for the development of structured student and staff exchange programs. As a first step we will be interested to collaborate in organisation of our annual Summer School in Modern Experimental Biology, taking place this year for the fourth time. In the future we aspire to advance such potential partnership to a joint or double degree program/s. We strongly believe that Ukraine’s future prosperity depends on well-trained professionals, and training in Life Sciences and related fields has a paramount importance both for the Ukrainian agri-food sector, pharma and biotech, as well as to address significant environmental challenges. Currently, whilst the Ukrainian university and science system undergoes structural reform process, we consider it is a suitable moment to reorganize, or rather – redefine – Biology training in Ukraine, and at our university we have both the motivated team with international experience, as well as support of the university leadership.

Contact: Prof. Dr. Volodymyr Lushchak, lushchak@pu.if.ua
http://biochem.if.ua/en/history-and-today11

Note: Potential German partners might also be interested to apply for support for curricular reforms to the Stifterverband & Carl Zeiss Stiftung call Curriculum 4.0 (see below in the Funding section).
Science reforms

List of the nominated candidates for the Identification committee for the new Ukrainian National Research Council (in Ukrainian):


COOPERATION HIGHLIGHTS

Results of the tri-lateral call of the Volkswagen Foundation have been announced

A total of 39 three-lateral collaborative projects between scientists from Ukraine, Russia and Germany will be supported with a total of more than EUR 8.5 million. For more information and to see a list of funded projects follow this link:


EnergyWare - Energy Efficiency in Warehousing in Maritime Supply Chains

The central EnergyWare objective is the advancement of the bi-regional Science, Technology, and Innovation dialogue between the involved institutions on German and Ukrainian side: The Chair in Maritime Business and Logistics (University of Bremen), and the Institute of Energy Saving and Energy Management (National Technical University of Ukraine “Kyiv Polytechnic Institute”) together with the Odessa National Maritime University. The selected institutions intend to focus on the societal challenge of mutual national interest for the two regions, namely energy efficiency in warehousing in maritime supply chains. With regard to the thematic focus, the project encompasses arranging of capacity building activities to support the information exchange among partners (1), revealing and selection of other European partners into project consortia based on bi-lateral research networks (2), and elaboration of thematic proposal for the Horizon 2020 Energy-Call “Actual implementation of sustainable energy measures in industry and services” (3). This project is supported by a Twinning-Grant (01.2016 – 10.2016) from the International Cooperation Network for Countries from the Eastern Partnership (IncoNet EaP) and coordinated by the German Aerospace Center (DLR). In February 2016 the kick-off meeting and the first networking workshop took place in Bremen with fruitful results in regards to the objectives of the project.

Contact: Prof. Irina Dovbischuk, University of Bremen
http://www.mlog.uni-bremen.de/de/mitarbeiter_detail/289-irina-dovbischuk

Academic cooperation

Donetsk and Lviv National Universities signed an agreement on academic cooperation. More information (in Ukrainian) can be found here:

http://www.lnu.edu.ua/donetskyj-i-lvivskyj-natsionalni-universytety-pidpysali-uhodu-pro-akademichnu-svippratsyu/

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation supports an institutional partnership between Augsburg University and National University of "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy" aimed at study of the Association Agreement between the EU and Ukraine. More information (in German) can be found here:

http://www.kooperation-international.de/detail/info/europaeisierung-de-ukraine.html

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The UKRianian Academic International Network – The UKRAINE Network
NEWSLETTER, Issue No2, March 2016
Contact: scientists4ukraine@gmail.com
SOME RELEVANT FUNDING & SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

Project and Institutional Funding

DAAD Fact Finding Mission: apply at least 6 weeks before the planned visit
Grants to support delegation visits from German universities to countries (incl. Ukraine, check the “DAC”-List) with the aim of initiating broader/longer term academic cooperation at the departmental/university level.

https://www.daad.de/hochschulen/außschreibungen/projekte/de/11342-foerderprogramme-finden/?s=1&projektid=57274838

Grants for the participation of researchers from Eastern Partnership countries in Brokerage Events, deadline: 1 May
This grant scheme financially supports (up to EUR 3000) the participation of researchers from Eastern Partnership countries in brokerage events related to Horizon2020 (the thematic priorities: Health, Energy and Climate Change) in the EU Member States or Associated Countries.


DAAD: Visits of groups of foreign students, three deadlines pa, next deadline: 1 May for visits to a German University after 1 September
A university teacher of a foreign university is eligible to apply. Visits are for groups of up to 15 undergraduate and graduate students (PhD students only after approval by the DAAD), for 12 days for (a) an intensive course/practical classes/workshops or (b) information visits.

https://www.daad.de/hochschulen/außschreibungen/projekte/de/11342-foerderprogramme-finden/?s=1&projektid=57200188

https://www.daad.de/hochschulen/außschreibungen/projekte/de/11342-foerderprogramme-finden/?s=1&projektid=57200187

New EU programme: 90 postdocs to be hired by SMEs, deadline: 30 June
The H2020 SME Innovation Associate is a new pilot action under the EU Research and Innovation Framework Programme ‘Horizon 2020’ supporting European SMEs and Start-ups to recruit post-doctoral research associates from other countries to explore an innovation business idea. Companies are eligible to apply to receive the funding, open positions will be advertised after March 2017.


CURRICULUM 4.0 „Konsequenzen der Digitalisierung für Studiengangsreformen an deutschen Hochschulen“, deadline: 15 July
Mit dem Förderprogramm "Curriculum 4.0" möchten die Carl-Zeiss-Stiftung und der Stifterverband die Neuaustrichung und Weiterentwicklung der Studiengänge vorantreiben und curriculare Reformprojekte auszeichnen, welche die skizzierten Herausforderungen adressieren und neue Lösungsansätze aufzeigen. Dieses Förderprogramm soll einen Beitrag dazu leisten, die Curricula bestehender Studiengänge weiterzuentwickeln, neue Studieninhalte aufzugreifen sowie Studien- und Lernformen an eine zunehmend durch Digitalisierung geprägte Lebens- und Arbeitswelt anzupassen.

https://www.stifterverband.org/curriculum-4-0

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The UKRaiNian Academic International Network – The UKRAINE Network
NEWSLETTER, Issue No2, March 2016
Contact: scientists4ukraine@gmail.com
Funding for Individuals/ Fellowships

Potential support available for researchers who had to flee the occupied territories

Scholars at Risk (SAR) is an international network of higher education institutions dedicated to protecting threatened scholars, preventing attacks on higher education communities and promoting academic freedom worldwide. Check the directory of member universities offering support:

http://scholarsatrisk.nyu.edu/The-Network/Member-Directory.php

Helmholtz Young Investigator Groups, deadline: 11 April (to apply to the selected centre)

Early-career researchers (2-6 years after a PhD) can apply jointly with one of 18 Helmholtz centres (www.helmholtz.de) for 5-year funding of > EUR 300T pa to establish a Helmholtz Young Investigators’ Group in six main areas: Energy; Earth & Environment; Health; Aeronautics, Space & Transport; Matter; Key Technologies.

http://www.helmholtz.de/fileadmin/user_upload/05_aktuelles/helmholtz-ausschreibungen/03_Nachwuchsgruppen/Call-YIG-2016.pdf

Robert Bosch Foundation Grants: Border Crossers Europe and its Neighbors, next deadline: 30 April

Research grants are provided to authors preparing publications in German that focus on making Central and Eastern as well as Southern European or North African issues accessible to a wide audience. The purpose of the publications is to inspire discussion and promote dialog and mutual understanding. The publications may deal with a wide range of topics and focus on different countries and historical periods. The genres may range from literary prose, children's and youth literature and essays through documentary and motion picture scripts to radio shows. Application deadlines: April 30 and October 31 of each year.

http://www.bosch-stiftung.de/content/language2/html/1100.asp

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

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

Georg Forster Research Fellowship for researchers from developing countries, no deadline

Support for individual researchers for research stays at a research institution in Germany, of between 6 to 24 months (could be split into three periods for senior researchers). Research proposal should be relevant to for the continued development of the country or region of origin.

https://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/georg-forster-fellowship.html

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

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The UKRainian Academic International Network – The UKRAINE Network
NEWSLETTER, Issue No2, March 2016
Contact: scientists4ukraine@gmail.com
### A SELECTION OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ukrainian Language and Culture School “Ukrainian Spring in Lviv”</th>
<th>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.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 – 15/04/2016</td>
<td>16 – 27/05/2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lviv, Ukraine</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Forthcoming talks:</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Berlin-Brandenburg Ukraine Initiative</strong> will hold five different lectures from March to June 2016 that are part of the Lecture Series “Constructing Eastern Europe: Geographies of Power in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries”</td>
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<td>14/04/2016: Ilya Kalinin, Russkij Mir (Russian World): A Chronotope of the Lost Imperia</td>
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<td>28/04/2016: Olesia Khromeychuk, Negotiating Protest Spaces on the Maidan: A Gender Perspective</td>
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<td>Berlin, Germany</td>
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<td><strong>Konferenz</strong></td>
<td>Diese Konferenz wurde durch die Deutsch-ukrainische wissenschaftliche Gesellschaft Namens von Prof. Dr. J. Bojko-Blochyn organisiert.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ukrainische Wissenschaft im europäischen Kontext. Deutsch-Ukrainische Beziehungen</strong></td>
<td>Contact Prof. Dr. Dariana Blochyn: <a href="mailto:d.blochyn@alice-dsl.net">d.blochyn@alice-dsl.net</a></td>
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<td>8 – 10/04/2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Munich, Germany</td>
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<td><strong>DAAD Alumni-Meeting</strong></td>
<td><strong>BIGSSS Summer School</strong></td>
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<td>&quot;Distance Learning - Blended Learning - E-Learning: eine Chance für ukrainische Hochschulen?“</td>
<td>This summer school focuses on the conflict in Ukraine and is targeted at PhD and advanced master students in political science, psychology, sociology, and history with research projects that focus on democratization &amp; civil society, peace &amp; conflict, or intergroup relations. The projects should focus on - but are not limited to - Ukraine, with a comparative perspective being a particular asset. Members of academic institutions from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Poland, &amp; Ukraine are eligible to apply.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 – 16/04/2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charkiw, Ukraine</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BIGSSS Summer School</strong></td>
<td><strong><a href="http://summerschool.bigsss-bremen.de/summer-school-2016/">http://summerschool.bigsss-bremen.de/summer-school-2016/</a></strong></td>
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<td>&quot;Intergroup conflict and its resolution - the case of Ukraine&quot;</td>
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<td>27/06 – 2/07/2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bremen, Germany</td>
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<td>Event</td>
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<td><strong>Eighth International Social Science Summer School in Ukraine</strong></td>
<td>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), and the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy (Ukraine).</td>
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<tr>
<td>“War and Violent Conflict in Socialist and Post-Socialist Societies”</td>
<td>3 – 9/07/2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline for application: 15/04/2016</td>
<td>Kharkiv, Ukraine</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="http://ukrainesummerschool.com/2016/02/23/call-kharkiv-2016/">http://ukrainesummerschool.com/2016/02/23/call-kharkiv-2016/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (NaUKMA) Summer School for International and Ukrainian Students</strong></td>
<td>The aim of the school is to inform participants about reforms in contemporary Ukraine in different spheres, mainly in politics, and economy, and provide them with expert analytical review of the current changes.</td>
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<td>“Democratization in post-Maidan Ukraine: (de)centralization, (de)sovietization, (de)oligarchization”</td>
<td>15 – 31/07/2016</td>
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<td>Deadline for international applicants: 01/05/2016</td>
<td>Kyiv, incl. research trips to Dnipropetrovsk, Odesa and Lviv, Ukraine</td>
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<td><a href="https://goeast.daad.de/de/25457/index.html">https://goeast.daad.de/de/25457/index.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Greifswalder Ukrainicum – Greifswald Ukrainian Summer School</strong></td>
<td>More information is coming soon on <a href="http://www.phil.uni-greifswald.de/studium/angebot/ukrainicum-krupp-kolleg.html">www.phil.uni-greifswald.de/studium/angebot/ukrainicum-krupp-kolleg.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Closing Pandora's Box: Ukraine's Path to Peace&quot;</td>
<td>8 – 20/08/2016</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Greifswald, Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Viadrinicum Ukrainian Summer School 2016</strong></td>
<td>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. Students and young scholars from all disciplines are invited.</td>
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<tr>
<td>22/08 – 4/09/2016</td>
<td>European University Viadrina</td>
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<td>Frankfurt (Oder), Germany</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
If you have news you wish to share or interested to join the Newsletter team – just get in touch!

The UKRAINIAN Academic International Network – The UKRAINE Network

NEWSLETTER, Issue No2, March 2016

Contact: scientists4ukraine@gmail.com

Sommerschule Czernowitz und die Bukowina

„Geschichte und Gegenwart einer europäischen Grenzregion und Kulturlandschaft“

15/08 – 4/09/ 2016

Tscherniwzi, Ukraine

Bewerbungsfrist: 31/05/2016

Die Jurij Fedkowytsch Universität und das Zentrum Gedankendach laden herzlich ein, während der dreiwöchigen Sommerschule die vielfältige, transkulturelle Geschichte und Gegenwart der Bukowina, ihrer Hauptstadt Czernowitz sowie angrenzender Regionen kennen zu lernen und neue Impulse für das Studium bzw. Arbeits- und Interessensfelder zu gewinnen.

http://gedankendach.org/index.php?id=119

7th EMBO annual meeting

10 – 13/09/2016

Mannheim, Germany

Deadline: 8 June 2016

The EMBO Meeting is an annual event held in Europe to promote the life sciences and the exchange of scientific results. Participants experience new perspectives on topics that cover the entire range of the life sciences – from studies of molecules and the cell all the way up to investigation of larger, complex biological systems.

Travel grants are available.

http://2016.the-embo-meeting.org/about

QUICK & USEFUL

New event portal Eastern Europe in Berlin

The event Portal Eastern Europe in Berlin of the East European Institute of Freie Universität Berlin aims to serve as a focal point on the subject of Eastern European culture and politics in Berlin and Brandenburg. The focus of the site is on the political and cultural events, such as discussions, lectures, theatre performances, concerts, exhibitions, film screenings, etc.

http://www.oei.fu-berlin.de/osteuropa-in-berlin

Articles & Reports

The ESFRI (European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures) Roadmap 2016 is published by the European Commission.


“Is international academic migration stimulating scientific research and innovation?”, by Dirk Van Damme, a blog on the OECD Report on “The internationalisation of doctoral and master’s studies”

http://oecdeducationtoday.blogspot.de/2016/03/is-international-academic-migration_9.html#sthash.yeF5G1K9.dpuf

http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/education/the-internationalisation-of-doctoral-and-master-s-studies_5jm2f77d5wkg-en

“Conflicting laws threaten Ukrainian science Country’s austerity budget stands in way of law to modernize Soviet-era academy”, by Quirin Schiermeier, Nature


“Ukraine has become Europe’s #1 IT outsourcing and software development powerhouse”

http://itonews.eu/report-ukraine-powerhouse/
“Academic Entrepreneurship in Ukraine”, by Dr A. Knuth & Dr O. Krasovska (2015), financed by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (kiew@fnst.org):


Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Yana Liashko (GWZO/ University of Leipzig) for her initiative, time and effort with preparation of this issue of the Newsletter.

MAIN GOALS of the UKRainian Academic International Network (The UKRAINE Network):

- **FOSTERING**
  academic cooperation with Ukraine and its integration into the European Research Area

- **IMPROVING**
  knowledge about Ukraine abroad, its university and research landscape, and *vice versa*

- **SUPPORTING**
  career development of the Network’s members and young academics in Ukraine

- **ESTABLISHING**
  an international expert pool to support the reforms in science & HE system in Ukraine

If you support our goals and interested to join the UKRAINE Network or wish to subscribe to this newsletter – contact us (email: scientists4ukraine@gmail.com). You can also join our LinkedIn group: https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8473594. The Network web-site is currently under construction – if you are interested to support its development – do get in touch!