Dear colleagues,

With this 11th issue of our Newsletter we are pleased to invite you to our Annual meeting to be held on October 6 in Augsburg, introduce the 2017 PhD Presentation Contest finalists, inform on the new call for participants in the German-Ukrainian Forum of Young Researchers, congratulate Dr Lesya Shchutska (ETH Zürich) on her winning the ERC Starting grant and, as always, provide you with a digest of the latest news and selected funding opportunities related to academic cooperation with Ukraine.

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

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Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Ouliana Djaman and Volodomyr Lushchak, Oksana Huss, Nika Gurianova, Yana Liashko, Oleksandr Skorohod and Josef Wilhelm for their valuable contributions to our LinkedIn group discussions and news items included in this issue.
COMMUNITY CORNER

Annual Meeting: 6 October 2017, Augsburg

The first Annual Meeting of the German-Ukrainian Academic Society will take place on Friday 6 October 2017 at the University of Augsburg. It will consist of two parts: Part I (12:30 - 16:00), the annual meeting of our Society open for members only and Part II (16:00 - 21:00), which will be open also to the interested public. Do join us for the 2017 Final of our PhD Thesis Presentation Contest (see below), the Keynote lecture delivered by Prof. Oleh Havrylyshyn (Ottawa, Canada) on "The Political Economy of Independent Ukraine: Late Starts, False Starts, and Last Chance?", and a networking Reception to expand your professional network! Tentative program can be downloaded from our web-site.

Registration: https://ukrainet-annual-meeting2017.eventbrite.de

Introducing the finalists of the 2017 PhD Thesis Presentation Contest

Natalia Korniy: “Shedding light onto the black box of protein synthesis”.

Natalia Korniy was born in L’viv, Ukraine. She gained her Bachelor’s degree in Biology and a subsequent Master’s degree in Biochemistry from the Ivan Franko National University of L’viv in Ukraine. During her studies Natalia was distinguished with a Stipend of the President of Ukraine (2009), Honored Student Stipend of the Ivan Franko National University of L’viv (2009 – 2013) and the Victor Pinchuk Fund Scholarship (2012 – 2014). In 2013, she joined the International MSc/PhD Max Planck Research School for Molecular Biology at the Georg August University of Göttingen, Germany. A year later she obtained the Masters of Science degree, supported by the Max Planck Research School Master Fellowship. She then continued as a graduate student in the Department of Physical Biochemistry at the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry in Göttingen. Throughout her PhD she has been supported by a PhD fellowship from the Max Planck Society (2015-2016), followed by a PhD Fellowship from the Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds. Natalia is interested in learning languages and keen on poetry, classical theatre and philosophy.

Maryna Rabinovych, I.I.Mechnikov Odessa National University/ University of Hamburg: “The EU Free Trade Agreements as an Instrument of Promoting the Rule of Law in Eastern Neighbourhood”.

Maryna graduated with LL.B. Degree with Honors from the I.I. Mechnikov National University of Odessa in 2014. She then completed the LL.M. Program “European and European Legal Studies” in 2015 at the University of Hamburg and Europa Kolleg Hamburg, supported by a one-year DAAD Scholarship (2014-2015). Her master thesis, dedicated to the conceptualization of rule of law in the EU legal technical assistance to third countries, was recognized as the best scientific work among the Program’s participants. She started her PhD research in October 2015 and
it is conducted within the inter-university cooperation based on the respective joint supervision agreement, concluded between the Odessa National I.I. Mechnikov University and the University of Hamburg. Maryna also held a 6-month Erasmus International Scholarship at the University of Thessaloniki, Greece (2016-2017). In her free time Maryna likes learning languages, traveling, swimming, reading fiction and writing poetry.

**Martin Rohde, Leopold-Franzens-Universität, Innsbruck:** “Shevchenko Scientific Society and the outline of Ukrainian national territory”.

Martin was born in Wolfsburg, Germany. He gained his BA degree in History and Slavic Studies from Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, followed by MA studies in East European History from the same university. Martin started his PhD research in October 2016, and was admitted as a PhD student/ research assistant by Innsbruck University in March 2017. He won a three-month research grant from the Deutsch-Ukrainische Historikerkommission (DUHK; German-Ukrainian Historians Commission), which he used to carry out his archive studies in L’viv, Ternopil, Kyiv and Chernivtsi over the summer 2017. Martin also holds an associate fellowship at the Graduate School of the Herder Institute in Marburg, Germany (since August 2016).

**Bohdan Tokarskyj, University of Cambridge:** “The Poetry of Becoming: The Exploration of Self in Vasyl Stus's Palimpsests”.

Bohdan Tokarskyj was born in Kyiv, Ukraine. He obtained his Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in International Law at the Kyiv Institute of International Relations. He then went to study at the University of Cambridge, where he gained Master’s degree in European Literature and Culture (2014-2015). His Master Thesis was supported by a Cambridge-Ukrainian Studentship and distinguished with the Santander Academic Excellence Award. Since October 2015 Bohdan carries out his PhD research at the St John’s College/ University of Cambridge, under the supervision of Rory Finnin, the Director of Cambridge Ukrainian Studies. His PhD research is supported by the Gates Cambridge Scholarship and St. John’s Benefactors’ Scholarship. In the summer 2015, Bohdan with a colleague embarked on a three-month trip around Ukraine and spoke to people from all walks of life (soldiers, volunteers, journalists, IDPs, etc.) to get an understanding of how the country has changed since the war started. Having recorded more than a hundred hours of interviews, they composed the verbatim play “The Summer Before Everything” that featured as part of the Hotbed Festival in Cambridge. Bohdan also is a Ukrainian Language Teaching Fellow since two years now and he has also taught a number of lectures on Ukrainian literature and culture at Cambridge.
Ivan Vorotiahin, TU Darmstadt: “Flexoelectric Influence on Static and Dynamic Properties of Ferroelectric Films”.

Ivan Vorotiahin was born in Kyiv. He gained his MSc degree in Microelectronics with honors from the National Technical University of Ukraine "Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute". In January 2016 Ivan joined the Materials Modelling research group at the Technical University of Darmstadt for his PhD research in collaboration with the Institute of Physics of NAS of Ukraine. He has published his research in *Acta Materialia*, *Physical Review B*, *Ukrainian Journal of Physics*, among other journals, and presented his research at a number of international conferences, such as the 2016 IEEE International Symposium on the Applications of Ferroelectrics (ISAF) and the 14th International Meeting on Ferroelectrics 2017 (IMF-2017).

Oleksandr Yagensky, International Max Planck Research School for Molecular Biology, Georg August University of Göttingen/ Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry, Göttingen: “Unraveling the Secrets of Alzheimer’s Disease”

Oleksandr Yagensky was born in Lutsk, Ukraine. His interest in life sciences early on brought him in his final high-school year the bronze medal at the International Biology Olympiad in Mumbai, India (2008). He completed his Bachelor’s studies in Biotechnology at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow (Poland), supported by a scholarship of the President of Ukraine (2008-2009) and a Rector scholarship of the Jagiellonian University (2009-2010). Oleksandr joined the International Max Planck Research School for Molecular Biology in October 2012 as a Master student, supported by a stipend of the Excellence Foundation for the Promotion of the Max Planck Society (2012-2013). Oleksandr has been carrying his PhD research at the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry in Göttingen since May 2014. Using social media, he organized the community of Ukrainians in Göttingen with the goal of promoting a positive image of Ukraine in local community through various cultural and social events. Oleksandr is passionate about music (he formed a rock band with the fellow students from the PhD program) and entrepreneurship.

**FORTHCOMING TALK (in Ukrainian)**

**Topic:** Українська мова в Німеччині: від суботніх шкіл до університетських студій. Історія, розвиток, сучасний стан / Ukrainian Language in Germany: from Saturday schools to university studies. History, development and current state.

**Speaker:** Dr Olesia Lazarenko, Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder)

**Date & Time:** 9 October 2017, 17:30-18:30 (reception), 18:30 – 20:00 (lecture)

**Venue:** Embassy of Ukraine in Germany, Albrechtstraße 26, 10117 Berlin

*Registration is mandatory at berlin@ukrainet.eu. Person identification documents are required.*
!!! ANNOUNCEMENT !!!

Applications are invited to take part in the German-Ukrainian Forum of Young Researchers

University of Tübingen in cooperation with the German-Ukrainian Academic Society is organizing the German-Ukrainian Forum of Young Researchers, supported by the DAAD from the means of the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF). This event will consist of two parts: an exploratory and networking visit to Ukraine (Kyiv and Lviv or Kharkiv, 7-12 December 2017) and an intensive grant writing and coaching workshop in Berlin, Germany (9-10 February 2018) for those participants of the first part, who could demonstrate high potential in developing bilateral collaborative projects with researchers from the partner country. PhD-level researchers (postdoctoral scholars and junior research group leaders/associate professors) from Germany and Ukraine, who either already have or are interested to develop collaborative links to researchers in the partner country, are invited to apply.

IMPORTANT DATES:
Deadline for applications: 18 October 2017
Visit and networking event in Ukraine: 7-12 December 2017
Grant writing workshop in Berlin: 9-10 February 2018

Please visit the web-page to learn more and to see the tentative program of the event:


To apply, please send your CV with names of two referees, list of publications (highlighting up to 5 most important ones), and a motivation letter (1-page max), including a brief description of your existing collaborative links to the partner country (Germany or Ukraine) or why are you interested in participating in the Forum. Please send a single pdf-file per e-mail to the project coordinator Dr Nataliia Sinkevych (University of Tübingen) at admin@ukrainet.eu.

AWARDS & PRIZES

Particle physicist Lesya Shchutska (ETH Zürich) wins the ERC Starting grant in 2017 competition

With her ERC funding Lesya Shchutska will exploit the capabilities of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN to search for new particles, so-called Majorana neutrinos. This research is important in the quest to understand the nature of dark matter, it can potentially explain the matter-antimatter asymmetry of the universe and hopefully answer questions about the origin of neutrino masses. With this support Lesya will establish and lead a new multisignature research programme at the CMS (stands for the Compact Muon Solenoid, which is a general-purpose detector at the LHC).

Lesya’s interest in physics led her to pursue high-school education in Vinnytsia Physics and Mathematics Gymnasium No. 17. In 2002 she won the Bronze Medal at the International Olympiad in Physics. She graduated the Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology with an MSc degree in Elementary Particle Physics and gained her PhD in the same subject from the EPFL (Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne). She carried out her postdoctoral research at...
USA: 2017 Stanford Bright Award goes to green energy innovators Andrij and Roman Zinchenko

This $100,000 prize is given annually to recognize otherwise unheralded contributions to global sustainability. Andrij and Roman Zinchenko were distinguished for their work supporting and promoting sustainable energy innovation. “The Zinchenko brothers have galvanized energetic and entrepreneurial people from many different sectors, and their work has helped to create both well-known start-ups and a broad network of like-minded people. They have also had an influence on government policy,” said Law School Dean M. Elizabeth Magill. The 2017 Bright Award for Environmental Sustainability will be presented to Andrij and Roman Zinchenko on November 9, 2017 at Stanford’s Paul Brest Hall. As part of the presentation, the Zinchenkos will give a public lecture and there will be a panel discussion on “Democratizing Energy: Building Sustainability From the Ground Up,” followed by a reception. This event is open to the public.

[Links to Stanford and BBC news articles]

IMPORTANT NEWS: EU & BEYOND

Ukrainian universities benefit from the ERASMUS+ Program

In the latest 2017 ERASMUS+ mobility call 268 projects submitted by Ukrainian universities have been funded with over EUR 8 million. Through these collaborative projects 2 657 exchange students and university staff will be supported to visit partner universities for study and internship periods, teaching, advancing their professional skills and exchange of best practices.

The 2017 call results for the EU ERASMUS+ Program for Capacity Building in the Field of Higher Education/ Action 2 (Cooperation projects to reform higher education) were announced by the EACEA (Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency). Eight new projects, with partners from 41 Ukrainian organizations, including 30 higher education institutions, will be funded by the EU with approximately EUR 7.5 million. Precarpatian National University named after Vasyl Stefanyk in cooperation with other Ukrainian organizations and universities from Cyprus, Spain and Poland will make a history by becoming a project coordinator-grant holder in Tempus and Erasmus+ program with the project “Modernization of Pedagogical Higher Education by Innovative Teaching Instruments” (586098-EPP-1-2017-1-UA-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP), with a total of EUR 861.445,00. Other projects will focus on smart cities and logistics, integrated PhD in environmental policy, management and technology, artificial implants for bio-engineering, regional studies on Baltic-black sea connections and agro-food among other topics.
**CANADA: New agreement to strengthen Ukraine-Canada research networks**

The Ukrainian-Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko (Shevchenko Foundation) and Mitacs, a national not-for-profit research and training organization, announced a new partnership that will allow Ukrainian undergraduate students to participate in research internships at Canadian universities for the first time. From June to September each year, top-ranked Ukraine students will participate in a 12-week research internship under the supervision of Canadian university faculty. Students will be provided with research experience and professional skills training. Interns interested in returning to Canada for graduate studies will be eligible for a Mitacs Globalink Graduate Fellowship.


**The Ukrainian-German year of languages has been launched in Berlin and Kyiv**

(DE) „Lern Ukrainisch! Begreif die Ukraine!“ Das ukrainisch-deutsche Sprachenjahr in Berlin eröffnet


Veranstaltungen in der Ukraine:
https://www.goethe.de/ins/ua/de/ver.cfm?fuseaction=events.detail&event_id=21047176
EU Report "Modernisation of Higher Education in Europe: Academic Staff – 2017"

The report focuses on the qualification requirements for academic staff, the recruitment process, employment and working conditions in academia, the impact of external quality assurance, and top level strategies for internationalization.


COOPERATION HIGHLIGHTS

New collaborative project in Public Law between National Taras Shevchenko University of Kyiv and Göttingen University started

By Jana Liashko

On September 21, 2017 the German Law Center of National Taras Shevchenko University of Kyiv in cooperation with the Institute of Public Law of the Göttingen University (Germany) organised a German-speaking workshop within the framework of the first part of the joint project "Conditions of operation of the third branch of government" supported by the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation. The project will be implemented with the participation of Ukrainian and German lawyers over the next three years. Prof. Dr. Thomas Mann, German Coordinator of the project, director of the Institute of Public Law at the University of Göttingen, delivered a keynote talk. The Dean of the Law Faculty Prof. Ivan Hrytsenko congratulated Professor Dr. Thomas Mann and Prof. Dr. Roman Melnyk, director of German Law Center in the field of Administrative Law on the occasion of the 14-year anniversary of this fruitful cooperation and wished them success in the future.

https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/prof-dr-thomas-mann/493270.html

Ukrainian language research at the HU Berlin: DAAD-scholarship holder Lilia Moskalenko explores historical recordings in Ukrainian

Dr Lilia Moskalenko from the Institute of Ukrainian Language of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine came last summer for two months as a DAAD scholarship to the sound archive (Lautarchiv) of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, which contains recordings in about 250 languages. She has studied unique archived 45 Ukrainian recordings and the corresponding documents. These recordings originate from war prison camps of the First World War, where Berlin scientists recorded the various mother tongue languages of the war prisoners (the ethics of this research is a separate issue, which needs to be addressed by experts). It requires special linguistic knowledge to classify the different dialects, which might no longer exist, and Lilia Moskalenko brought her profound experience in the exploration of Ukrainian dialects. The value of these recordings is difficult to overestimate, since there are apparently no voice recordings of spoken Ukrainian from the early 20th century in Ukraine.

(DE) https://www.hu-berlin.de/de/pr/nachrichten/pm1707/nr_170704_02

Cooperation between the Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg and Universities of Lviv

By Josef Wilhelm, Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg

The foundations for the close relationship between universities in Lviv and the Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg were laid down within the context of joint meetings of the University presidents involved, organised during a visit of the JMU Würzburg delegation led by the president Prof. Dr. Alfred Forchel to Lviv in early 2014. These early talks led to the signing
of four university partnership contracts between the Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg and the Lviv Polytechnic National University (LPNU), the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (IFNUL), the Danylo Halytsky Lviv Medical National University and the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU).

Lviv, 26.6.2014: Delegation of JMU in front of the main building of LPNU. Front row, from left to right: Prof. Dr. Christoph Reiners (University Hospital Würzburg), Prof. Dr. Volodymyr Melnyk (Rector IFNUL), Prof. Dr. Alfred Forchel (President JMU), Prof. Yuriy Bobalo, Sc.D. (Rector LPNU). Photo: courtesy of the JMU Würzburg.

The cooperation pursues two main goals: on the one hand, it fosters the establishment of academic cooperation in a broad range of teaching and research subjects, particularly emphasizing the exchange of students and lecturers. On the other hand, it aims to support Lviv Universities with the equipment of scientific laboratories, libraries and seminar rooms, as the financial means of Ukrainian universities are currently rather limited. Since 2014, the JMU jointly with a few supporting business companies have been able to organize six transports with high quality used technical equipment; another transport is currently being prepared. Within the framework of the DAAD scholarship program “Eastern Partnerships”, more than ten joint workshops and joint seminars have been carried out in various subject areas during recent years, among them workshops in Mathematics and Informatics, Physics focusing on Nanotechnologies, Chemistry, Medicine, Economy and Theology.

In addition, research stays were organized for more than 50 Lviv master and doctoral students, which offered them an excellent opportunity to work in research labs and institutions of the JMU and thus gain valuable experiences.

Special attention of the cooperation is put on a Joint Certificate Program (JCP) in various topic areas, which has been established by lecturers from both sides and which is offered regularly. Participants who have successfully passed the program obtain a joint certificate of their home university and the JMU with up to 20 ECTS credits. The Institute of Computer Science of the JMU Würzburg, for example, offers JCP-courses in Computational Geometry, Algorithmic Graph Theory, Processing 3D Point Clouds and Stability of Large Scale Nonlinear Systems. Besides, the Faculty of Economy has established a JCP in Computational Economics & Econometrics. In addition, there are various summer school offers. Within the context of these courses, the participants are also provided with information on possible scholarships and grants of DAAD and BAYHOST (BAYHOST is the Bavarian Academic Center for Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe, which promotes academic exchange between Bavaria and countries in the those regions, including Russia). As a result, several students have now succeeded in obtaining DAAD PhD grants and scholarships to support their study stays in Würzburg. In the field of Church History, the Institute of Eastern Church at the JMU and the Faculty of Theology are closely cooperating with the UCU, with subject consultations taking place regularly on both sides. In addition, the UCU researchers have an opportunity to access Würzburg libraries and carry out
research stays in Würzburg. Currently, an exchange program for students via Erasmus+ is being launched.

Lviv, IFNUL, 13.-23.07.2015 Participants and lecturers of the “Joint Certificate Program – Computational Economics & Econometrics”. Front row, from left to right: Assoc. Prof. Vasyl Bunyak (IFNUL), Assoc. Prof. Oksana Osidach (IFNUL), Prof. Dr. Johann Fehr (JMU), Prof. Dr. Hansrudi Lenz (JMU), Prof. Dr. Martin Kukuk (JMU), Assoc. Prof. Iryna Dutchak (IFNUL). Photo: courtesy of the JMU Würzburg.

Thus, the cooperation between Würzburg and Lviv universities is very lively and the interest in scientific interaction between the involved chairs/departments has proved to be very strong. Students and lecturers on both sides enjoy and benefit from a high-quality and personally enriching collaborative activities. It is anticipated that this fruitful cooperation will be further advanced in the future.

NEWS FROM UKRAINE

Ivano-Frankivsk Researchers are the Winners of the Instrumental Access Program

By Dr Ouliana Djaman and Prof. Volodomyr Lushchak, Precarpathian National University in Ivano-Frankivsk

HPLC, CO₂ incubators, microplate readers, inverted microscopes, PCR machine, Hamilton syringes, metabolic cages for mice, and numerous other big and small items - all this equipment will soon become reality at the department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology of the Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University (PNU) in Ivano-Frankivsk. This windfall resulted from the department’s successful participation in the Equipment Access program of the Seeding Labs (Boston, USA). The goal of this NGO is to support the research laboratories in the countries, where scientists as a rule could not afford modern research equipment. It collects the donated new and used functional instruments and then redistributes it through a competition among the laboratories worldwide that require it most and prepare a convincing research program. The participating lab has to bid for US$100 thousand worth of scientific equipment, with US$ 25,500 required to be contributed by the receiving lab. Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology of the PNU became one of the 15 winners out of 65 applicants in 2017 selection round, the first ever Ukrainian institution to win such a grant. To make their participation possible, a successful crowd-funding campaign to secure the needed US$ 25,500 thousand was carried out.
"Within last few years substantial changes happened at our department: we have already started new collaborations and adding new projects to the existing ones," – says the head of the PNU Biochemistry and Biotechnology Department, Dr Volodymyr Lushchak. “We work together with Prof. Olga Garaschuk from Tubingen University on aging of mouse brain within a Volkswagen Foundation supported project, just started a new collaboration with Dr Tetyana Yevsa from Hannover Medial Center, - to study biochemical and immunological processes in mice during aging and under the influence of high fat and restricted diets, supported by the DAAD. We are currently mastering hybridoma technique and have just received a new proposal for collaboration on tissue regeneration experiments. Another line of inquiry is working with plant tissues micropropagation.” The final selection of the Seeding Labs equipment items would partially depend on the needs of current and future collaborations at the department.

The Ivano-Frankivsk team is at the moment in the process of selecting the individual items on their equipment wish-list. "We hope to get the equipment shipped to us by mid-November. We should be able to get it into Ukraine, custom-clear it and unpack it at the University before year 2018 starts. We really hope so!" – says Ouliana Djaman, the initiator of the collaboration with the Seeding Labs. This organisation is more than just a donor. The company staff is helping with everything, even hunt for the pieces of equipment the recipient lab needs the most, if such an instrument is absent in the Seeding Labs inventory. It would be a partner of the Ukrainian lab for the next three years. "We at the department are enthusiastic about the collaboration with the Seeding Labs. I would highly recommend other under-equipped Ukrainian universities to apply for the program. We would keep updated everyone interested in it and answer any questions", – stresses Ouliana. The idea to take part in the Seeding lab competition “Instrumental Access” arose at the First German-Ukrainian Summer School in July 2016 „Perspectives for young scientists in life sciences: Mastering global challenges of the modern society” (see this Newsletter No 5, July-August 2016, p. 5). In particular, Dr Tetyana Yevsa’s (Hannover Medical School/ the UKRAINE Network) support provided the much needed impetus, which resulted in this success. Halyna Semchyshyn and Dmytro Gospodaryov, members of the department, worked tirelessly to make the participation in the Instrumental Access Program possible. Congratulations to the whole team!

UCU Center for Entrepreneurship has been launched

This autumn, the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) in Lviv launches its Center for Entrepreneurship in the newly-built Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Center of the UCU. Its ambition is to become a ground-breaking project for Ukrainian education by accelerating and developing the business projects of its participants in three main areas:

Educational technology (EdTech)  I  Social entrepreneurship  I  Creative industries

The key idea is that UCU students will be able, in partnership with graduates and participants of the programs of the UCU Lviv Business School (LvBS), to establish their own business and implement successful projects and start-ups. The Center will be financed by the LvBS and by crowdfunding.

To support the Center: http://ucucfe.lvbs.com.ua
Exploring the Ukrainian Troy

Archaeological treasure trove points to Mykolaiv’s ancient origins and can potentially lead to rewriting of history books, but underfunding prevents full analysis of exciting site.


EVENT REPORTS

First German-Ukrainian Summer School for Academic Entrepreneurship in Life Sciences (Berlin, 28 August – 1 September 2017)

Participants of the Summer School and Dr Ulrich Scheller, Managing Director of the BBB Management GmbH (first sitting on the right) at the Berlin Buch Campus, Photo: courtesy of Kateryna Ruzhelnyk

This very intensive and interactive four-day event was initiated by the Council of Young Scientists of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) of Ukraine (https://www.facebook.com/groups/YSC.NASU/) and organised by them from August 29 to September 1, 2017 jointly with the BBB Management GmbH Campus Berlin Buch (https://www.bbb-berlin.de/). Campus Berlin Buch is an innovative science, health and biotechnology park where companies and institutions conduct basic and clinical research. This summer school was supported by the NAS of Ukraine, the NGO “Unia Scientifica” (Ukraine, https://www.facebook.com/UniaScientifica/), the Kyiv Academic University (https://kau.org.ua/en/) and the German-Ukrainian Academic Society/ THE UKRAINE Network.
Travel grants for Ukrainian young scientists were generously provided by Svitla Systems, Inc. (https://svitla.com).

The goal of this summer school was to offer an opportunity to the talented young researchers from Ukraine to learn more about the fundamentals of technology transfer and commercialization of research, further develop their own innovative ideas and explore the business potential of their projects, as well as to provide hands-on training and practical skills through elevator pitch-style presentations in front of business representatives. 13 participants, selected based on the presentations of their innovation project ideas in Kyiv in May and June 2017, had an excellent opportunity to learn from the experts (technology transfer professionals, start-up company founders, managers and investors) about the basics of the business plan development and received helpful tips on protecting intellectual property rights and business development strategies. In addition, the participants had a chance to visit the office of the young company Labfolder in Berlin. "Both the participants and lecturers have evaluated this event very positively," says Dr Ulrich Scheller, Managing Director of BBB Management GmbH and an alumnus of the V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, Ukraine, "so now we have decided to include this Summer School as a regular offer into the training and further education program of our Gläsernes Labor Akademie/Glass Laboratory, http://www.glaesernes-labor-akademie.de." Cooperation partners such as Investitionsbank Berlin have already secured their future support, so the next German-Ukrainian Summer School is already in the planning for 2018.

(DE) https://www.bbb-berlin.de/de/news/423
(UA) http://www.nas.gov.ua/UA/Messages/News/Pages/View.aspx?MessageID=3440
(UA) https://www.facebook.com/NASofUkraine/posts/1759558581010264


By Dr Olesia Lazarenko, Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder)

Viadrinicum is an annual summer school devoted to the countries of the Eastern Partnership region with a special focus on Ukraine. This year its aim was to tackle the issues of borders and borderland regions from multiple theoretical and methodological perspectives. The school seminars and workshops were devoted to theoretical and empirical analysis of the role of borders and identity construction in conflict areas of the Eastern Partnership region. 30 participants of the school from 14 countries (Germany, Ukraine, Armenia, Poland, Turkey, Italy, USA, Spain, Georgia, Canada, Aserbaidschan, Russia, UK and Switzerland) had a chance to follow the exciting program, which featured the opening talk by Karl Schlögel (Berlin, Frankfurt/Oder), seminars and workshops, including “Trespassing Europe: Wars and Walls in the Borderlands” by Vasyl Cherepanyn (Kyiv), “Construction of Identities in Conflict Zones. Case Study of Abkhazia”, by Ketevan Khutsishvili (Tbilisi), Workshop on Conflict Management and Peace Mediation by Lars Kirchhoff (Frankfurt/Oder), Tatiana Kyselova (Kyiv) and Julia von Dobeneck (Frankfurt/Oder), Workshop on Civic Journalism in Areas of Conflict by Jutta Sommerbauer (Vienna) and Elena Jerzdeva (Berlin), among others. Besides the academic part, the participants were also able to develop their own small projects in the framework of three workshops (Border.Doc, Border.Art, Border.Media) under the guidance of professional experts from the field of documentary filmmaking, art and journalism. During the two weeks, non-Ukrainian participants had the opportunity to improve their Ukrainian language skills in classes.
of various levels while Ukrainian participants could attend a German language class. Furthermore, the program was accompanied by film screenings and public discussions. A dedicated Open Space offered the participants an excellent opportunity to discuss their own scientific or cultural projects with other participants and scholars. Thanks to the support of the German Federal Foreign Office, European University Viadrina was able to fund some 20 travel scholarships for students, PhD candidates and young NGO activists.

Міжнародна літня школа “Viadrinicum”

By Dr Olesia Lazarenko, Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder)


Учасниками Школи стали понад 30 молодих дослідників із 14 країн світу (Німеччина, Україна, Вірменія, Італія, США, Іспанія, Грузія, Канада, Азербайджан, Росія, Англія, Швейцарія), які протягом двох тижнів дискутували про нові і старі кордони в Європі, обговорювали шляхи подолання політичних конфліктів на прикладах Абхазії, Придністров’я і Донбасу, створювали власні проекти, направлені на розуміння соціокультурної передусім природи і специфіки поняття пограниччя. Наприкінці “Viadrinicum” кожний з учасників (індивідуально чи у групі) у вигляді мистецьких акцій (наприклад, «пошуки духовних скарбів» на острові поміж двох країнами), есеїв-роздумів чи короткометражних фільмів представив своє бачення концепції пограниччя у сучасних реаліях. Гостями і лекторами Viadrinicum стали знані європейські науковці-історики, філософи, політологи, соціологи, етнографи і культурологи. У рамках Школи проводилися також курси української та німецької мов.


Videos and presentations: https://www.facebook.com/pg/viadrinicum/videos/?ref=page_internal

Past Conference: Friends or Foes of Transformation? Economic Elites in Ukraine from Historical and Comparative Perspective (Essen, 7-8 July 2017)

Based on conference contributions, the organizers will prepare a special issue in one of the leading journals for social sciences and humanities in Ukraine “Ukraina Moderna”. If you didn’t attend the conference, but your research is on economic elites in Ukraine, please reply to the call for papers until 20. October 2017. Contributions in English or in Ukrainian from different disciplines are welcome.

http://uamoderna.com/nastupnitiomy
http://www.kwi-nrw.de/home/veranstaltung-823.html
QUICK & USEFUL

Important publications

E-Journal Summer Edition 2017 of the RI-LINKS2UA project (EU-funded project entitled ‘Strengthening Research and Innovation Links towards Ukraine’ aims to support and enhance the integration of Ukraine to the European Research Area)

https://ri-links2ua.eu/object/news/396


Довідник класифікує чинні на даний момент в Німеччині, Австрії та Швейцарії наукові центри – університетські та позауніверситетські, – в яких розвивається українознавство. Довідник накреслює своєрідну карту-путівник по сучасному науковому українознавству в німецькомовному світі.

www.historians.in.ua/images/sampleddata/hist-images/rizne/2017/08/Shevchenko_Tetyana_Dovidnyk.docx

ACS Reviewer Lab: a free, 4-hour online course on the principles of quality peer-review

ACS Reviewer Lab is a free, 4-hour online course developed to educate researchers on the principles of quality peer-review. The course features interactive modules covering the basics of peer review and ethics, as well as real-life guidance on how to write a first-rate review.

https://www.acsreviewerlab.org/?lipi=urn%3Ali%3Apage%3Ad_flagship3_feed%3BDYGF03qmS821cB6mKK7GQ%3D%3D

REUTERS: Israeli IT start-ups look to Ukraine to solve tech shortage


JOB OFFERS

Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine invites applications for 7 heads of new departments to lead reforms/ МОН запрошує фахівців для реалізації реформ освіти і науки – відкрито вакансії на посади керівників 7 директоратів

Deadline: 9 October 2017

A SELECTION OF RELEVANT FUNDING & SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

For the up-to-date announcements visit our LinkedIn group: https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8473594

EaP PLUS cluster grants, apply by 30 September
EaP PLUS offers 6 grants in total of up to 10.000€ to EaP clusters or cluster-like legal entities or organisations to support the cooperative activities between the EaP and EU clusters. 
https://www.eap-plus.eu/object/call/89

EU ERC: The Synergy grants will be re-launched by the ERC, deadline: 14 November
The ERC Synergy Grant scheme, which ran under two pilot calls in 2012 and 2013, has been re-launched in the ERC Work Programme 2018. The perspective is to fund 25 to 30 projects in 2018, with grants of maximum 10 M€ for up to 6 years.
https://erc.europa.eu/funding/synergy-grants

EU: WIDESPREAD-05-2017, Twinning grants, apply by 15 November
Twinning aims at significantly strengthening a defined field of research in a university or research organisation from a Widening country by linking it with at least 2 internationally-leading research institutions in other Member States or Associated Countries. In general, costs (up to 1 Mio per 3-year project) relating to administration, networking, coordination, training, management, travel costs are acceptable under a Twinning project.

EU: WIDESPREAD-03-2017, ERA Chairs, apply by 15 November
The ERA Chairs actions will support universities or research organizations with the objective of attracting and maintaining high quality human resources under the direction of an outstanding researcher and research manager (the "ERA Chair holder") and in parallel implementing the structural changes necessary to achieve excellence on a sustainable basis. The grant (up to EUR 2.5 million for 5 years) will cover the appointment of the ERA Chair holder and a number of team members (e.g. their salaries, recruitment costs, administrative costs, travel and subsistence costs). The grant will also provide a contribution towards measures aimed at facilitating structural changes in the institution (e.g. costs for trainings, meetings, publications and managing IPR. A minor part of the grant can be spent on equipment. The following cost categories will be ineligible costs: infrastructure costs; research costs (including consumables). 

Joint German-Ukrainian call for research projects in Mathematics and Physics
To facilitate the support of collaborative work between German and Ukrainian research groups, the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) and the State Fund for Fundamental Research of Ukraine (SFFRU) have opened the possibility for joint German-Ukrainian project proposals in the fields of physics and mathematics (themes falling in the responsibility of the elected grand committees (Fachkollegien) 307–312).
For German partners using the DFG proposal submission system elan for the first time, the registration via http://elan.dfg.de by 4 December 2017 is required. In accordance with the full proposal target date of the SFFRU, proposals to the DFG should be submitted not later than 11 December 2017.
www.dfg.de/foerderung/info_wissenschaft/2017/info_wissenschaft_17_62/
A list of currently opened EU calls maintained by the project ‘Strengthening Research and Innovation Links towards Ukraine (RI-LINKS2UA):’ [link]

Funding for Individuals/ Fellowships

EMBL International PhD Programme, apply by 16th of October [link]

ITALY: Jean Monnet Postdoctoral Fellowships at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, apply by 25 October
The Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (RSCAS) offers 1-year Jean Monnet Fellowships to scholars who have obtained their doctorate more than 5 years prior to the start of the fellowship. Up to 20 Fellowships a year are offered to post-docs, tenure track academics and those wishing to spend their sabbatical at the Robert Schuman Centre. The three main research themes of the RSCAS are:
- Integration, Governance and Democracy;
- Regulating Markets and Governing Money; and
- 21st Century World Politics and Europe.
[link]

GERMANY: Alexander von Humboldt Foundation’s Georg Forster Research Award, nominations are invited till 31 October
The Georg Forster Research Award is granted in recognition of a researcher’s entire achievements to date to academics of all disciplines whose fundamental discoveries, new theories, or insights have had a significant impact on their own discipline and beyond and who are expected to continue developing research-based solutions to the specific challenges facing transition and developing countries. Nominees can be nationals of Ukraine. The award amount totals €60,000. In addition, award winners are invited to conduct a research project of their own choosing in Germany in close collaboration with a specialist colleague. To support the collaboration, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation may grant additional funding of up to €25,000, particularly for participating in scientific conferences, additional material resources, e.g., specialist literature and scientific equipment for the nominee’s own institute, as well as for involving junior researchers. An established academic employed by a university or research institution in Germany must take the initiative to nominate a candidate for this award. [link]

GERMANY: Alexander von Humboldt Foundation’s Georg Forster Research Fellowship for researchers from developing countries, no deadline
Support for individual researchers for research stays in Germany (6 - 24 months, could be split into 3 periods for senior researchers), for proposals relevant for the continued development of the country or region of origin. [link]
SWITZERLAND: University of Basel: 2 URIS fellowships, apply by 17 November

The initiative Ukrainian Research in Switzerland (URIS) is calling for applications for 2 URIS fellowships, one for the 2018 autumn semester and one for the 2019 spring semester, at the University of Basel (Switzerland). The internationally oriented fellowship programme is open to postdoctoral and senior scholars in the humanities, cultural studies and social sciences whose research has the potential to make a substantial contribution to a better understanding of the history, society, politics and culture of Ukraine. The URIS fellowship enables the recipient to spend 6 months researching at the University of Basel. Excellent English or German language skills (in addition to knowledge of Ukrainian and Russian) are required.

https://uris.ch/uris-fellowship/

GERMANY/ Bavaria: 1-year scholarships for graduates of Central, Eastern and Southeastern European states, apply by 1 December

The scholarships are meant to finance postgraduate studies (i.e. master's programs), PhDs or one-year research sojourns at Bavarian universities. The one-year scholarship can be extended twice for up to 3 years.

http://www.uni-r.de/bayhost/english/scholarships/study-in-bavaria/index.html

GERMANY/ Berlin: Stipends of the Senate of Berlin, apply by 15 December

www.parlament-berlin.de/de/Das-Parlament/Studienstiftung

CANADA: Kule Doctoral Scholarships on Ukraine: University of Ottawa, apply by 1 February 2018 (International & Canadian Students)

The Chair of Ukrainian Studies is a research unit associated with the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Ottawa. It is the only chair in Canada and outside of Ukraine dedicated specifically to the study of contemporary Ukraine or related topics dealing with politics, economy and sociology of Eastern European states and the Post-Soviet space. Students interested in applying for the Drs. Peter and Doris Kule Doctoral Scholarships on Contemporary Ukraine, which consist of an annual award of $20,000, plus all tuition, for a maximum of 4 years, beginning in the academic year 2017-2018 are invited to contact Dominique Arel (darel@uottawa.ca), Chairholder, Chair of Ukrainian Studies, and visit their web site:

http://socialsciences.uottawa.ca/ukraine/

EUROPE: FEBS Collaborative Experimental Scholarships for Central & Eastern Europe, no deadline

These 2-3-month scholarships are for the exclusive benefit of PhD students from Central & Eastern Europe who need to visit a well-funded laboratory in Western Europe for the purpose of carrying out experimental procedures that would be impossible in their home country because of a lack of resources. Applications may be made throughout the year, but should reach the Chairperson of the FEBS Fellowships Committee at least 2 months before the proposed starting date.

www.febs.org/our-activities/fellowships/collaborative-experimental-scholarships-for-central-eastern-europe/

EMBO Long-Term Fellowships: New – no deadline!

European Molecular Biology Organisation’s Long-Term Fellowships are awarded for a period of up to 2 years and support post-doctoral research visits to laboratories throughout Europe and the world. For applicants with less than 2 years after a PhD and at least 1 accepted first-author publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

www.embo.org/funding-awards/fellowships/long-term-fellowships - about
### A SELECTION OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-7/10/2017</td>
<td>Kyiv, Ukraine</td>
<td>Integrative Biology &amp; Medicine: The first conference in Ukraine focused on computational biology, systems biology and bioinformatics. <a href="https://integrativebio.com.ua/">https://integrativebio.com.ua/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>4-6/10/2017</td>
<td>9/10/2017 (test)</td>
<td>Intensive course in Ukrainian language with a possibility to undertake a certified test (B1). Registration: by 29/9/2017. <a href="https://www.slawistik.hu-berlin.de/de/member/abergmann/ukrainisch-lernen#workshop">https://www.slawistik.hu-berlin.de/de/member/abergmann/ukrainisch-lernen#workshop</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>6/10/2017</td>
<td>Augsburg, Germany</td>
<td>Annual meeting of the German-Ukrainian Academic Society. Event web-site and Registration: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.de/e/jahrestagung-der-deutsch-ukrainischen-akademischen-gesellschaft-ev-registration-35588278499">https://www.eventbrite.de/e/jahrestagung-der-deutsch-ukrainischen-akademischen-gesellschaft-ev-registration-35588278499</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>10/10/2017</td>
<td>Berlin, Germany</td>
<td>Workshop for teachers of Ukrainian at German Universities. Registration: by 29/9/2017. Programme: <a href="https://www.slawistik.hu-berlin.de/de/member/abergmann/ukrainisch-lernen/workshop-programm">https://www.slawistik.hu-berlin.de/de/member/abergmann/ukrainisch-lernen/workshop-programm</a> <a href="https://www.slawistik.hu-berlin.de/de/member/abergmann/ukrainisch-lernen#workshop">https://www.slawistik.hu-berlin.de/de/member/abergmann/ukrainisch-lernen#workshop</a></td>
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<td>13/10/2017</td>
<td>Kyiv, Ukraine</td>
<td>Fach- und sprachintegriertes Lernen auf Deutsch: Möglichkeiten, Vorteile und Herausforderungen. „CLILiG in der Ukraine – Fach- und sprachintegriertes Lernen auf Deutsch: Möglichkeiten, Vorteile und Herausforderungen“ ist eine Fachtagung, die über die neusten Ansätze zur Integration von Fach- und Sprachunterricht in der Fremdsprachenlehrerausbildung und im Schulunterricht informiert. <a href="https://www.goethe.de/ins/ua/de/ver.cfm?fuseaction=events.detail&amp;event_id=21049303">https://www.goethe.de/ins/ua/de/ver.cfm?fuseaction=events.detail&amp;event_id=21049303</a></td>
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6-10/11/2017  
Kyiv, Ukraine  

**Erasmus+ Information Week:** Six events addressing different programme calls within Erasmus+, new developments and experience exchange  

[http://eramusplus.org.ua/novyny.html](http://eramusplus.org.ua/novyny.html)

17-18/11/2017  
Berlin, Germany  

**Round-table and workshop “Ukrainian language in Germany”**  

In the framework of the German-Ukrainian Year of Languages 2017/18  

*More information will be published on the web-page shortly*

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### Part I:  

8-13/12/2017  
Kyiv, Ukraine  

**German-Ukrainian Forum of Young Researchers**  


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26/02-07/03/2018  
Bucharest, Romania  

**Prisma Ukraїna Winter Academy “Revisiting the Nation: Transcultural Contact Zones in Eastern Europe”**  

It will be concerned with the conditions and implications of nation building in Eastern Europe.  