**Editorial**

Welcome to the March 2010 edition of the Lancashire Brussels Office EU Policy and Funding University Newsletter. This is the second edition of the new format of the newsletter, in which the policy and funding sections are included in one document.We would appreciate any feedback concerning the newsletter, so please feel free to forward any comments or suggestions to us.

In this month’s Policy section you will find details of the role of education in the European Commission’s new EU2020 economic strategy and several recent reports on EU education and training targets. Upcoming events include a conference on the internationalisation of research and development, taking place in Ankara, Turkey. In the Funding section you will find partner searches and the calendar of open and forthcoming calls for proposals.

For any further details, comments or suggestions, on the content of the newsletter please do not hesitate to contact the Lancashire Brussels Office.

Best Regards,

Grete Smith

Assistant European Liaison Officer

***Policy Section***

**Education and Culture**

## *EU strategy for 2020: Education, training and research*

The European Commission has recently presented the ‘EU2020’ jobs and growth strategy, setting out the Commission’s economic approach for the next ten years. The strategy is based on the three pillars:

* smart growth: developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation
* sustainable growth: promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy
* inclusive growth: fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion

The strategy foresees an important role for education, training and research in achieving these goals and helping Europe emerge from the economic crisis. According to the strategy, the EU should spend 3% of its gross domestic product on research by the end of the next decade. Other targets include reducing the number of early school leavers to less than 10% and increasing the share of young people with a tertiary degree or diploma to 40%.

The strategy sets out seven ‘flagship initiatives’. These include ‘Youth on the Move’, aiming to enhance the quality and international attractiveness of Europe's higher education system by promoting mobility of students and trainees. Another is titled ‘Innovation Union’, aiming to complete the ‘European Research Area’ and increase the links between research and businesses and between research at the European and national levels.

The strategy now awaits approval by national governments in the European Council taking place 25-26 March.

The proposed strategy is online at: <http://ec.europa.eu/eu2020/pdf/COMPLET%20EN%20BARROSO%20%20%20007%20-%20Europe%202020%20-%20EN%20version.pdf>

Source: European Commission

*Jobs in Europe becoming more skills- and knowledge-intensive*

A forecast of the supply and demand of skills up to 2020 predicts a continuous rise in knowledge- and skill-intensive occupations in Europe. The report, released by the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP), states that 80 million job openings are expected by 2020, with increased levels of managerial, professional and technical occupations. At the same time, Europe will need a wide range of skills at intermediate level, particularly skills acquired in vocational education or training.

Source: European Commission

*Skills and jobs experts call for urgent action*

An independent expert report has called for immediate action to solve Europe’s skills deficiencies and give people a better chance of labour market success in the future. The report - ‘New Skills for New Jobs: Action Now’ - is addressed at decision-makers at the EU, national and local level, businesses, trade unions, education and training providers and employment services and provides recommendations on how to solve Europe’s skills deficiencies.

The report calls for action in the following four areas:

* better incentives for employers and individuals to up-skill
* opening-up the worlds of education and training to make them more responsive to the needs of both learners and employers
* offering a better skills mix that is more suited to labour market needs
* improving assessment and anticipation of future skills needs

The report can be found at:

 <http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=4505&langId=en>

*Declaration on the role of science*

At the recent informal Council meeting, European research ministers have adopted the Donostia Declaration, a document described as launching ‘a concept of responsible science, which will provide solutions in the short-term’. The declaration outlines the role of research in many of the challenges facing our society today, such as energy and climate change, healthcare and ageing populations, problems ‘of global scope and socioeconomic significance’. The ministers pledge that the whole spectrum of sciences, from humanities to technological development can contribute to providing solutions. As well as developing new products and services, research relies on advanced materials, equipment and infrastructures, much of which is supplied by European companies. With the declaration, European research ministers made commitments to invest more in research and development.

Other issues discussed by the Ministers included researchers’ careers and mobility, the role of research in tackling poverty and integrating research into major policy areas.

Source: European Commission

*Education and Training 2010 joint report*

The European Council and the Commission have released a joint report on the implementation of the EU’s ‘Education and Training 2010’ work programme. Education and Training 2010 is the EU’s framework of cooperation in education from 2002-2010. It sets out targets in five areas: early school leavers; low-achievers in reading; upper secondary attainment; maths, science and technology (MST) graduates; and lifelong-learning participation.

Findings of the report include:

* an overall improvement in education, however, the benchmarks set for 2010 will not be reached;
* many member states have introduced reforms using the Key Competences framework as a reference point. However, ensuring that all learners, including the disadvantaged, attendees of vocational education and training (VET) and adult learners benefit from innovative methodologies remains a challenge;
* more partnerships should be established between the worlds of education and training and of work;

Other aspects highlighted in the include:

* progress in curricular reforms
* the need to improve the education of teachers and school leaders
* the need to develop assessment and evaluation methods
* inadequate literacy skills for disadvantaged groups
* poor implementation and further development of lifelong learning strategies

The full report can be viewed at:

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/10/st05/st05394.en10.pdf>

Source: European Commission

*Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs scheme marks first year*

The Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs scheme was launched in February last year and will run until June 2011. The scheme provides an opportunity for new entrepreneurs to acquire relevant skills for managing a small or medium-sized enterprise (SME). New entrepreneurs learn how to manage an SME as well as getting familiar with the business environment in another country by working with an experienced host entrepreneur.

The new entrepreneurs can choose to stay for 1 to 6 months and during that period they are expected to acquire relevant start-up and SME management knowledge in areas like:

* financial and operational management,
* development of products and services,
* successful sales and marketing practices,
* European commercial law and the single market.

The host entrepreneurs are experienced entrepreneurs who own or manage an SME in the EU. The expected benefits for them include:

* enhancing their market access,
* identifying potential partners in other EU countries,
* mentoring experience,
* networking between entrepreneurs.

By June 2010 over 500 exchanges will be completed and the experience of these new and host entrepreneurs will inform the European Commission’s assessment of the scheme and plans to create a permanent Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs scheme in the future.

**Research and Innovation**

*Report on assessment of university-based research*

The European Commission’s Expert Group on the Assessment of University-based Research has published its final report, examining current research assessment systems, including the indicators used, and proposing a new framework for research assessment. The Expert Group was established by the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Research in July 2008, in recognition of both the need for performance assessment of university-based research and the lack of systems to adequately address the diversity of research disciplines, research outputs, university profiles, and users and their needs and interests.

The recommendations of the report suggest that assessment of university-based research should be based on articulated objectives, should combine quantitative, indicator-based, data with qualitative information, and should be undertaken at the level of ‘research clusters’ appropriate to the purpose of the assessment exercise.

The report concludes with specific recommendations for the European Commission, suggesting, for example, that it should establish a European Observatory for the Assessment of University-based Research and invest in a shared information infrastructure for relevant data to be collected, maintained, analysed and disseminated across the EU.

The report can be found at:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/document_library/pdf_06/assessing-europe-university-based-research_en.pdf>

*New President appointed for the European Research Council*

Professor Helga Nowotny has been elected as the new President of the European Research Council (ERC). The ERC was established in 2007 and is the newest component of the EU’s Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Development (FP7). Through the FP7 ‘Ideas’ strand, it supports researcher-led research projects taking place across Europe, with a budget of €7.5 billion for the period 2007-13.

Professor Nowotny previously served as the vice-president of the ERC Scientific Council and her background includes the posts of Professor emeritus of the Social Studies of Science at ETH Zurich and Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board at Vienna University.

*Developments in trusted security networks*

European researchers are proposing an innovative alternative solution to trusted computing, which will offer better security and authentication. RE-TRUST - Remote EnTrusting by RUn-time Software authentication - provides a new methodology for both software-only and hardware-assisted remote entrusting (RE).

According to the findings, applications and solutions running over a network, such as the internet, can benefit from the RE-TRUST system. RE-TRUST is expected to have a major impact on all IT applications and solutions where security or trust is a concern.

The RE-TRUST project received funding from the EU’s Sixth Framework Programme for research and development.

Source: European Commission

*New European Patients website*

The European Patients’ Forum (EPF) has recently launched its website. The EPF covers pan-patient organisations active in the field of public health and health advocacy. Founded in 2003, the EPF represents 40 patients’ organisations ranging from EU-level chronic disease patient organisations to national coalitions of patients and aims to provide unity to the EU patients’ movement. In addition, EPF facilitates exchange of good practice and challenging of bad practices on patients’ rights, equitable access to treatment and care, and health-related quality of life between patient organisations at European level and at national level.

For more information please visit <http://www.eu-patient.eu/>

*Online Centre for Transport Research Knowledge launched*

A new website financed by the EU has been launched to provide information on transport research projects and funding programmes throughout Europe. The Transport Research Knowledge Centre contains the findings of 6,000 transport research projects from across the EU and its member states, giving an overview of current and recent developments in transport research and its results. The website is aimed at, among others, universities and local authorities and, as well as research findings, contains key policy documents.

It regularly publishes thematic summaries of transport research: new Thematic Research Summaries (TRS) are now available on ‘Regional and Rural Transport ' and on ‘User Aspects’.

For the full list of TRSs see:

<http://www.transport-research.info/web/publications/thematic.cfm>

The website is online at: <http://www.transport-research.info/web/>

**Consultations**

*Radio Spectrum Policy Programme*

The European Commission has recently launched a public consultation the possible content of a forthcoming legislative proposal on EU radio spectrum policy. The radio spectrum is an essential resource for wireless communication and the recent EU telecoms package set out the need for a new policy programme in this area. The Commission is planning to bring forward a proposal for a ‘Radio Spectrum Policy Programme’ (RSPP) by mid-2010, which this consultation will feed into.

The Commission invites all interested parties to provide input. Issues raised in the consultation document include: social inclusion and services for citizens; environmental and health protection; space exploration; and transport safety.

For further details on this consultation please visit:

<http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/policy/ecomm/radio_spectrum/_document_storage/consultations/2010_rspp/rspp_consultation.pdf>

The deadline for contributions is **9 April 2010.**

*Green paper on forest protection*

The Environment Directorate General of the European Commission has recently launched a consultation on ‘Forest Protection and Information in the EU: Preparing forests for climate change’. The Green Paper invites the general public, public authorities and other interested organisations, including universities, to submit their views on the need for action at EU level in the area of forest protection. Responses will feed into discussions concerning a possible updating of the EU Forest Strategy on climate related aspects.

To view the consultation document, please visit

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2010:0066:FIN:EN:PDF>

To respond to this consultation please visit

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/consultations/forests_en.htm>

The deadline for responses is **31 July 2010**

**Events**

*Upcoming Research and Development Workshop*

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) is organising on 25 and 26 May 2010 a workshop on the internationalisation of research and development (R&D). The workshop will take place in Ankara, Turkey. Partners will include universities and research centres from Turkey.

The aim of the ‘Workshop on the Internationalisation of R&D and Policy Outcomes at Governmental and Institutional Level’ is to identify the challenges faced by the internationalization of R&D and the role of increased collaboration both at public and private level. Aside from looking at the governmental and institutional aspects of internationalisation, the conference will address the challenges and opportunities in the internationalisation of business research and development. The organisers of the workshop welcome offers of papers on these areas and on related topics.

The workshop will include plenary presentations by invited speakers and poster sessions, where participants will have the opportunity to present relevant research activities. JRC Enlargement and Integration funding will assure participation of representatives from the EU’s neighboring countries, including those who are candidates for EU membership. The event will have a strong policy orientation and is targeted both at policymakers and at the research community.

For further information on this workshop and submitting papers for this event please visit

<http://www.stps.metu.edu.tr/workshop/>

### *Financially Sustainable Universities: Diversifying Income Streams*

### On 22-23 April 2010 the University of Bologna, Italy, will host an event aimed at exploring income diversification as an element of financial sustainability for European universities. This event will be attended by experts from across Europe, with the aim of identifying the key elements necessary for financial survival in the future. University leaders, policy makers, researchers and partners from the private sector will explore the key features and conditions for implementing successful income diversification strategies.

### The conference will seek to:

### raise awareness to crucial aspects of diversification of funding that contribute to financial sustainability

* investigate the challenges that diversified funding brings for leading, managing and governing institutions
* show institutional and external success factors for broadening the funding base
* analyse the impact of the economic downturn on universities and their ability to diversify their funding structures

The event is aimed at institutional leaders (rectors, vice rectors, heads of administration and heads of finance departments), higher education researchers and analysts as well as representatives of other bodies involved in educational policy, such as social partners, employers and senior officials from regional, national and European authorities.

For further information on this event and registration details please visit

<http://www.eua.be/events/eudis-experts-conference/home/>

**Calls for papers**

*Conference: Nationalism and Legitimacy, 10-11 September 2010, Nancy-Université, France*

Papers are sought for the above conference, taking place in Nancy, France, which will examine the evolution of legitimacy of the nation-state in the contemporary world. Focus will be placed on areas including:

* ways in which nation-states re-define themselves in order to maintain legitimacy
* ways in which nations and nation-states reinforce one another’s legitimacy
* the extent to which legitimacy can be strengthened or undermined by supranational bodies

Suggested themes include, but are not limited to:

* the impact of globalisation, immigration and ethnic relations on the legitimacy of nation states
* socio-economic aspects of national legitimacy
* the perceived legitimacy of supranational bodies

Both theoretical and empirical approaches are welcome.

Proposals of no more than 500 words should be sent to colloque-cresab@univ-nancy2.fr before the deadline of **15 May 2010**. Submissions to the conference will be considered for publication.

**Calls for experts**

# *Call for experts in consumer psychology*

# The European Commission’s Directorate-General for Health and Consumers has issued a call for experts in behavioural psychology in relation to potential health risks posed by chemical consumer products that appeal to children or resemble foodstuffs.

Common chemical consumer products such as toiletries and cleaning products are sometimes presented in a ways that resembles foodstuffs or is appealing to children. The resulting confusion may lead vulnerable consumer sub-groups (e.g. children, elderly, visually impaired, etc) to ingest them, which may pose a risk to the health of consumers.

Experts with relevant professional experience in the area of consumer awareness of risk related to consumer products are invited to register to the European Commission’s database of experts by submitting an application form. Deadline for submission of applications is: **9 April 2010**.

Registration to the European Commission’s database of experts is permanently open for experts who would like to participate in the general work of the Commission’s Scientific Committees.

For more information and applications please visit:

<http://ec.europa.eu/health/scientific_committees/consultations/calls_experts/sccs_exp_01_en.htm>

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**Partner Searches**

*Value management and consumer research*

The International Marketing Management (IMM) department at the Upper Austria University of Applied Sciences is seeking partners for a project for submission under the 7th Framework Programme (FP7) in the areas of:

* Value management (customer centricity, work satisfaction, social responsibility)
* Developing decision models in consumer research (data mining)
* Analysing decision-making procedures with medical engineering methods

The areas of expertise of the IMM include:

* consumer research: customer behaviour analysis through various multivariate statistical procedures
* behavioural psychology: study of a decision models showing the interaction of emotion, cognition and consequent behaviour (neuroeconomics)
* developing consumer culture: the IMM research group helps enterprises to adjust to a customer-oriented approach, considering enterprises’ responsibility towards customers and also employees and society.

If you would like to participate in a project on the above themes please contact Ms. Tanja Peherstorfer, **telephone:**  +43 7252 884 3650, website: <http://www.fh-ooe.at/en/upper-austria/>

Alternatively, please contact the Lancashire Brussels Office.

*Heat recuperation from waste water*

PPHU Merkury, a small-to-medium-sized enterprise (SME) from Poland, is seeking collaborators for a project under the 7th Framework Programme (FP7) entitled ‘Technology of heat recuperation from hot waste water’. The company is looking for a similar enterprise, research institute or university interested a project to develop existing technology in this area.

Heat recuperation technology, which is based on a heat pump, allows for the re-introduction of heat from waste water into the heating system. The system has applicability in sectors using large quantities of hot water or in sectors where hot water is a by-product in the production process.

For further information on this project, please contact Mr. **Pawel Andrzejczak, telephone 00**48 6276 56061. Alternatively, please contact the Lancashire Brussels Office.

*Educational systems development*

The Centre for Educational Technology (CET) in Tel Aviv, Israel, is seeking partners for cooperation under various strands of the Seventh Framework Programme, specifically the ICT, Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities and Capacities strands. It is seeking to collaborate on projects that involve developing innovative educational technology and ICT tools.

The CET is a non-governmental organisation (NGO) dedicated to the development and promotion of the education. Its core competencies are ICT content development and teacher training. The Centre establishes state-of-the-art websites, databases and tools for assessment and evaluation for a wide range of users including students, teachers, museums and government departments. Past projects include virtual libraries and civic education.

If you are interested in collaborating or entering into a partnership with CET, please contact Ms. Ronit Shamay, telephone 00972 5267 09839, or visit: <http://www3.cet.ac.il/English/pages/Home.aspx>

Alternatively, please contact the Lancashire Brussels Office.

**U official langugeowledge of English, French or German and a second nguage Funding Calendar**

*Currently open calls (non-FP7)*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Theme | Programme | Date of publication | Deadline date |
| Culture     | Media 2007 - support for production companies to access loans from financial institutions. | 11 November 2009 | 5 February 2010 and 7 July 2010 |
| Media 2007 - Support for the development of production projects - Animation, creative documentaries and drama | 26 September 2009 | 12 April 2010 |
| Media 2007 - For support for the development of on- and off-line interactive works | 26 September 2009 | 12 April 2010 |
| **NEW** Media 2007 – support for transnational distribution of European films | 16 February 2010 | 30 April 2010 |
| Media 2007 – Support for the Promotion/Access to the Market | 7 October 2009 | 30 June 2010 |
| Culture Programme – Cooperation with Third Countries | 7 December 2009 | 1 May 2010 |
| Education    | Lifelong Learning Programme - General call 2010 | 15 October 2009 | 15 January 2010 to 15 October 2010 |
| Transatlantic Exchange Partnerships – Transatlantic Degree Partnerships (EU-Canada) | 18 December 2009 | 24 March 2010 |
|  Erasmus Mundus Joint Programmes, Partnerships and Higher Education | 3 December 2009 | 30 April 2010 |
|  EU-US Cooperation in Higher Education and Vocational Training | 31 December 2009 | 8 August 2010 |
| E-Europe and Information Society | ICT Policy Support Programme | 21 January 2010 | 1 June 2010 |
| **NEW** Community Programme – Safer Internet | 26 February 2010 | 27 May 2010 |
| Enterprise |  Female entrepreneurship network | 19 December 2009 | 12 March 2010 |
| Health | Programme of Community Action in the Field of Health (2008-2013) | 22 December 2009 | 19 March 2010 |
| Justice and Home Affairs | European Refugee Fund (UK Component) | 1 February 2010 | 25 March 2010 |
| **NEW** Fundamental Rights and Citizenship – Action Grants | 25 February 2010 | 29 April 2010 |
| **NEW** Drugs Prevention and Information Programme | 3 March 2010 | 28 April 2010 |
| **NEW** Daphne (Preventing and combating violence against children, young people and women) | 3 March 2010 | 30 April 2010 |
| Research | Marie Curie International Research Staff Exchange Scheme | 25 November 2009 | 25 March 2010 |
| European Cooperation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research | 28 January 2010 | 26 March 2010 |
| **NEW** European Metrology Research Programme | 12 February 2010 | 28 March 2010 |
| Social affairs     |  Youth in Action - General call | 23 December 2008 | Various from 1 February - 1 November 2010 |
| Europe for Citizens - General call | Rolling calls | Various from 1 February 2010 - 1 September 2010 |
| Transport | **NEW** Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) | 16 February 2010 | 30 April 2010 |
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*FP7 calls for proposalsApril 201009on d Radiation Protection calude:*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Theme | Programme | Date of publication | Deadline date |
| Euratom | Nuclear Fission and Radiation Protection calls P7-Fission-2010 | 25 November 2009 | 8 April 2010 |
| People | Marie Curie Reintegration Grants | 9 October 2009 | 7 September 2010 |
| Marie Curie International Research Staff ExchangeFP7-PEOPLE-2010-IRSES | 25 November 2009 | 25 March 2010 |
| Capacities | Science in Society FP7-SCIENCE-IN-SOCIETY-2010-NCP | 30 July 2009 | 29 April 2010 |
| Cooperation ICT | Information and Communication Technologies FP7-ICT-2009-6 | 24 November 2009 | 13 April 2010 |

*Forthcoming calls*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Theme | Programme | Expected date of publication |
| Environment | Life + | Expected May 2010 with the deadline in September 2010 |
| Intelligent Energy Europe | Expected early Spring 2010 |
| Justice and Home Affairs | Prevention, Preparedness and Consequence Management of Terrorism | A targeted call expected February 2010.  |
| Prevention of and fight against crime fund | A targeted call expected February 2010.  A general call expected in July 2010 |
| Regional Policy | INTERREG IVB NWE | Will open on 12 March 2010 and close on 9 April 2010 |
| INTERREG IVB Atlantic Area | Expected early 2010, however it is possible that it will be postponed until 2011 |
| INTERREG IVC | A third call date to be confirmed. |
| Social  | Progress  | Varies with calls and work programme |

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LANCASHIRE BRUSSELS OFFICE

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**The LBO is the partnership office representing:**

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