

Pressemitteilung

Internationaler Workshop „How to track Researchers’ Careers“

9.-10. Februar 2012

Chambre de Commerce, Luxembourg- Kirchberg (Raum C2)

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9. Februar 2012, 10:10 – 10:20: Grusswort von Forschungsminister François Biltgen

Medienvertreter koennen am 9. Februar von 9h00-10h00 bzw. von 13h00-14h00 folgende Redner interviewen:

- Dr Marc Schiltz, FNR Luxemburg (Sprachen: LU, DE, FR, EN)
- Dr Maresi Nerad, CIRGE, Universität Seattle, USA (Sprachen: DE, EN)
- Dr Toshiyuki Misu, OECD (Sprachen: EN)
- Dr Janet Metcalfe, VITAE UK (Sprachen: EN)
- Dr Clarisse Angelier, ANRT FR (Sprachen: FR, EN)
- Kalle Hauss, IFQ Germany (Sprachen: DE, EN)

Kurzbiographien der Redner des Workshops befinden sich im Anhang.

Interviews bitte im voraus vereinbaren.

Ansprechpartner: Mrs Elvire Geiben, T: +353 26 19 25-54, email: elvire.geiben@fnr.lu

Career Tracking – ein Instrument für Qualität in der Forschung

“Wie verlaufen Karrieren von Forschern?” Mit diesem Thema befasst sich eine internationale Fachtagung, die vom 9.-10. Februar 2012 in Luxemburg stattfindet und gemeinsam vom Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) und der Europäischen Forschungsgemeinschaft (ESF) in der Handelskammer auf Luxemburg-Kirchberg organisiert wird.

Die Tagung bringt 80 Redner und Teilnehmer aus 20 Ländern zusammen, aus Europa, den USA, Asien und Afrika, unter anderem Vertreter der OECD und der Europäischen Kommission, allesamt Experten, die im Bereich Forscherkarrieren arbeiten.

Die Verbesserung der Arbeitsbedingungen von Forschern und deren bestmoegliche Unterstuetzung stehen hoch auf der Prioritätenliste der Luxemburger Regierung. Forschungsminister Francois Biltgen eröffnet den Workshop und zeigt damit das Engagement seines Landes hinsichtlich der Prinzipien der sogenannten “Gago-Biltgen” Initiative von 2009 [“A European partnership to improve the attractiveness of RTD careers and the conditions for mobility of researchers in Europe”](#).

Studien zum Verlauf von Forscherkarrieren sind ein wirksames Instrument, um die Werdegänge von Forschern und spezifische Karrieremuster zu analysieren. Indem sogenannte Career Tracking Initiativen die Werdegänge von Forschern ueber einen definierten Zeitraum beobachten, bieten sie Erkenntnisse über den eigentlichen Beitrag, den Forscher für unsere Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft leisten.

Tracking the Quality of Doctoral Training and Researchers’ Skills

By following up doctoral graduates and surveying them after graduation, tracking studies assess the suitability of funding and the quality of training and working conditions offered during the doctoral phase and explore whether the quality of doctoral training was appropriate to researchers for the best career opportunities in or outside academia.

Tracking to Find out where Researchers Move in their Careers

A major reason for carrying out career tracking studies is to provide information on career movements and understand international and intersectoral mobility. While the movement of researchers from academia to industry has often been considered to be negative by researchers in the past, it is acknowledged today that movement between academia and industry provides a key channel for the transfer of knowledge and ideas and offers researchers a range of new opportunities.

Tracking for Accountability

Career tracking of doctorate-holders is motivated by the need for accountability vis-à-vis the funders of doctoral education, i.e. in most cases taxpayers. It is difficult to directly assess the impact of researchers on economy and society. Therefore, career tracking studies indirectly measure impact, for example by informing about occupational patterns of researchers, not only in academia. Through their occupations in key sectors outside academia, such as industry, education, health and public administration, researchers contribute to creating knowledge and ultimately economic and societal prosperity. Moreover, career tracking may be used as a strategic planning tool to monitor and improve the efficiency of grant schemes or doctoral education programmes as well as career development strategies.

Karriereverlaufsstudien liefern wichtige Erkenntnisse fuer eine wirksame Steuerung der Politik zur Unterstützung von Forschern und deren Laufbahn. Allerdings wird dieses Instrument bisher nur wenig genutzt. Grund hierfür ist, dass solche Studien ein langfristiges Engagement erfordern und daher kost- und zeitaufwendig sind.

Der internationale Workshop in Luxemburg bietet eine Plattform, Resultate von bestehenden Studien zu präsentieren und liefert Institutionen, die an der Entwicklung einer solchen Studie interessiert sind, praktische und methodische Unterstützung. Darüberhinaus zeigt er, wie Career Tracking als Instrument zur Optimierung der Wissenschaftsförderung und Forschungspolitik genutzt werden kann.

Pressemitteilung des Organisationskomitees des ESF-FNR Career Tracking Workshops 9-10 February 2012, Luxembourg

Ulrike Kohl
Senior Programme Manager

Fonds National de la Recherche
T +352 261 925-32
Ulrike.Kohl@fnr.lu

Anhang: Kurzbiographien ausgewählter Workshop-Redner (in englischer Sprache)

Annex: Short Biographies of Workshop Speakers available for Interviews

Dr Marc Schiltz, FNR Luxembourg (Interview in Luxembourgish, German, French or English)

“Researchers’ Career Tracks from a Funder’s Perspective”

Dr. Marc Schiltz is the Secretary General of the Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) since January 2011.

He holds a PhD in physics from University of Paris-Sud (XI) for which he was awarded the "Prix Pierre Fromageot" in 1997. After a post-doctorate in Cambridge, UK, at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology in 1997/1998, he held a position as research-lecturer at University of Paris-Sud from 1998 to 2003. Before joining the FNR, he was Professor and Director of the Laboratory of Crystallography at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland.

As a researcher in the fields of bio- and solid-state physics, he is the author of numerous scientific publications as well as a co-author of an application software for structural pharmacology.

marc.schiltz@fnr.lu

www.fnr.lu

Dr Maresi Nerad (Interview in German or English)

Center for Innovation & Research in Graduate Education (CIRGE), University of Washington, Seattle

“Lessons Learned from three U.S. PhD Career Paths’ Studies”

Dr. Maresi Nerad received her doctorate in higher education from the University of California-Berkeley in 1988. From 1988 until 2000, she directed research in the Graduate Division at the University of California-Berkeley and spent 2001 as Dean in Residence at the Council of Graduate Schools, in Washington, D.C./USA. In 2001 she joined the University of Washington in Seattle and opened CIRGE in 2002. She served as Associate Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Washington from 2003-2009. In 2005 she received the Miegunyah Fellowship and spent three months at the University of Melbourne, Australia. She was appointed Professor Extraordinary by the University of the Free State in 2011, and is a Fulbright Specialist during Fall 2011 in South Africa.

Having worked for over two decades in the field of doctoral education, she has undertaken national PhDs career path surveys, research on factors that influence time to doctoral degree and attrition. Since 2005 she convened biannually an international network of experts in doctoral education worldwide. This group studies the forces and forms that promote and impede improvement and change in doctoral education around the globe. Her current research interests cover the assessment of innovative doctoral programs, comparison of international doctoral programs, integrating international students and preparing domestic students with the skills needed for the globalized PhD labor market.

She has written and edited 4 books and published numerous articles on doctoral education. She has been an invited speaker at many national and international conferences on doctoral education and has served and serves on several US national advisory committees and consults with German and South African universities and their doctoral schools.

mnerad@u.washington.edu

www.cirge.washington.edu

Dr Toshiyuki Misu, OECD (Interview in English)

“Careers of Doctorate Holders Project: Challenges for the Future”

Dr Toshiyuki “Max” Misu received his PhD degree in Physics from the University of Tennessee in 1997. He has been a R&D professional with over 20 years of experience in a wide variety of R&D activities ranging from industrial telecommunication technology, academic theoretical / computational physics, applied physics for cancer therapy, and S&T human resource policy.

He is currently working as a senior analyst at OECD to carry out the comparative studies on careers of doctorate holders (CDH) using micro data.

Before joining OECD in October 2010, he worked at the National Institute of Science and Technology Policy, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, JAPAN,

and developed the survey methodology and implemented the full-scale surveys for the first time in Japan to fill out some of the missing fundamental HRST indicators, including employment conditions and career paths of postdoctoral fellows, career path diversity and international mobility of recent doctoral graduates.

Toshiyuki.MISU@oecd.org
www.oecd.org/sti

Dr. Janet Metcalfe, Vitae, United Kingdom (Interview in English)

“Revealing the Landscape and Impact of Researchers’ Careers”

Dr Janet Metcalfe is Chair and Head of Vitae, which is committed to enhancing the quality and output of the UK research base through supporting the training and development of world-class researchers. She leads on the implementation of the UK Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers, the UK equivalent to the European Charter and Code. Her publications include the ‘What Do PhDs Do?’ and ‘What do researchers do?’ series of publications exploring the landscape of researchers’ careers and impact, including ‘Doctoral graduate destinations and impact three years on’. She is co-author of the Universities UK research report ‘Promoting the UK doctorate: opportunities and challenges’, 2009 and the HE Impact and Evaluation Group report ‘Impact of researcher training and development: two years on’, 2010.

She is a member of the CROS/PIRLS Steering Group and responsible for developing and managing the ‘Careers in Research Online Survey’ (CROS) and the ‘Principal Investigator and Research Leaders Survey’ (PIRLS), which explore the experiences and views of researchers and principal investigators. She also sits on the Impact and Evaluation Group, exploring the impact of researchers and researcher development.

Janet.metcalfe@vitae.ac.uk
www.vitae.ac.uk

Dr Clarisse Angelier (Interview in French or English)

L’Association nationale de la recherche et de la technologie, Paris

“CIFRE Grants and Careers of former Grant Holders”

Dr Clarisse Angelier holds a PhD and graduated as engineer of material sciences. At the beginning of her career, she taught material sciences. Some years later, she was general secretary of lifelong learning centre for material sciences. In 2000, she worked towards setting up the first pooling of economic interests that gathers companies and university. Until 2007, she was the deputy manager of Research Management of CNAM University (25 research teams). Since 2007, Clarisse Angelier manages the CIFRE process, funded by the French research ministry, at the National Association for Research and Technology. This program funds 3700 PhD, 1300 each year.

angelier@anrt.asso.fr
www.anrt.asso.fr

Kalle Hauss (Interview in German or English)

Institute for Research Information and Quality Assurance (iFQ), Berlin

“Quality of Doctoral Training and Assessment Methods”

Kalle Hauss studied Social Sciences at the Humboldt University of Berlin, specialising in social justice research and empirical social research. Following his studies, among other things, he studied the impact on changing conditions of employment on labour market outcomes and worked as a lecturer in the field of methods in social research.

Since 2006 he is a member of the iFQ-team. His work focuses the research training conditions and the careers of young researchers.

hauss@forschungsinform.de
www.forschungsinform.de