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Women in Control Luncheon

Advancement for Women is Still Slower than for Men

*How Can we Speed Up the Process? Do International
Funding/Exchange Programmes Help with Women
Advancement?*

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Motivation and Outline

- Research activity performed *abroad* or in collaboration with *foreign* Institutions is a real asset in the curricula of academics and professionals.
- Many programmes supported by a variety of Institutions, ranging from Universities, to Foreign and/or Research Ministries, to Foundations, etc. provide funding and protocols for international scientific exchange and cooperation.
- The following slides are aimed to provide an overview of **International Networks and EU-Promoted Programmes** (although without any claim of completeness).

International Networks Including EU



International Networks Including EU

- Coimbra Group
- CUM - Communities of Mediterranean Universities
- EUA - European University Association
- IAU - International Association of Universities
- Utrecht Network

All the abovementioned networks support mobility of students and researchers within, towards and from European areas

Coimbra Group

<http://www.coimbra-group.be/>

Founded in 1985 and formally constituted by Charter in 1987, the Coimbra Group is an association of long-established European multidisciplinary universities of high international standard committed to creating special academic and cultural ties in order to promote, for the benefit of its members, internationalisation, academic collaboration, excellence in learning and research, and service to society. It is also the purpose of the Group to influence European educational policy and to develop best practice through the mutual exchange of experience.

Community Mediterranean Universities

<http://www.geocities.com/CollegePark/Union/1554/cum.html>

The Community of Mediterranean University (CMU) was set up in 1983. Inspired by a profound desire for cultural co-operation, the Rector of the University of Bari and a group of University professors combined to lay the foundations for a stable union of University Cultural Institutions. This collaborative undertaking aimed to promote the civil and social development of people who, despite their wide geographical divergence, have always been united by slender but enduring threads, not only due to geographical links but also of an ethical and religious nature.

EUA - European University Association

<http://www.eua.be/eua/index.jsp>

The European University Association, as the representative organisation of both the European universities and the national rectors' conferences, is the main voice of the higher education community in Europe. EUA's mission is to promote the development of a coherent system of European higher education and research. EUA aims to achieve this through active support and guidance to its members as autonomous institutions in enhancing the quality of their teaching, learning and research as well as their contributions to society.

International Association of Universities

<http://www.unesco.org/iau>



IAU, founded in 1950, is the UNESCO-based worldwide association of higher education institutions. It brings together institutions and organisations from some 150 countries for reflection and action on common concerns and collaborates with various international, regional and national bodies active in higher education.

Utrecht Network

<http://www.utrecht-network.org/>



Utrecht Network

The Utrecht group contains member countries of the EU and of EFTA and a number of countries coming from central Europe. Activated in 1980, the Utrecht Network carries out its activities in the field of internationalisation of higher education by encouraging the mobility of students, instructor exchanges and the realisation of PhDs and Summer Schools.

EU-Copromoted Programmes

- Asia Link
- Alban
- Alfa
- Erasmus Mundus
- Tempus
- Socrates
- EU/Canada
- EU/US

Asia Link

- http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/projects/asia-link/index_en.htm

The Asia-Link Programme is an initiative by the European Commission to promote regional and multilateral networking between higher education institutions in EU Member States and South and South East Asia and China. The programme aims to promote the creation of new partnerships and new sustainable links between European and Asian higher education institutions, and to reinforce existing partnerships.

Alban

http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/projects/alban/-index_en.htm

The Programme Alban aims at the reinforcement of the European Union - Latin America co-operation in the area of Higher Education and covers studies for postgraduates as well as higher training for Latin America professionals in institutions or centres in the European Union. Periods of education/training may range from 6 months to 3 years. Participant countries are the Member States of the European Union and the following 18 countries of Latin America: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

ALFA

http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/projects/alfa/index_en.htm

ALFA (América Latina - Formación Académica) is a programme of co-operation between higher education institutions of the European Union and Latin America. Participant countries are the Member States of the European Union and the following 18 countries of Latin America: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Erasmus Mundus

http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/-index_en.html

The Erasmus Mundus programme is a co-operation and mobility programme in the field of higher education which promotes the European Union as a centre of excellence in learning around the world. It supports European top-quality Masters Courses and enhances the visibility and attractiveness of European higher education in third countries. It also provides EU-funded scholarships for third country nationals participating in these Masters Courses, as well as scholarships for EU-nationals studying in third countries.

Tempus

http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/tempus/index_en.htm

The Trans-European mobility scheme for university studies enables universities from EU Member States to cooperate with those in Western Balkans, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and the Mediterranean partner countries in higher education modernisation projects. Established in 1990 following the fall of the Berlin Wall, Tempus has been renewed three times. Today, more than ever, there is need to enhance understanding between cultures, and for the European Union to work together with its partner countries in the field of higher education.

Socrates Erasmus

http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/socrates/-erasmus/erasmus_en.html

ERASMUS is the higher education Action of SOCRATES II programme. It seeks to enhance the quality and reinforce the European dimension of higher education by encouraging transnational cooperation between universities, boosting European mobility and improving the transparency and full academic recognition of studies and qualifications throughout the Union. ERASMUS consists of many different activities; student and teacher exchanges, joint development of study programmes (Curriculum Development), international intensive programmes, thematic networks between departments and faculties across Europe, language courses (EILC), European credit transfer system (ECTS).

EU/Canada

- http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/eu-canada/index_en.html

On the 1st of March 2001, an agreement renewing the 1995-2000 cooperation programme on higher education and training between the European Community and Canada entered into force. While continuing the support towards cooperation in higher education, the renewed Programme puts greater emphasis on vocational education and training. Joint consortia will remain the main action of the Programme but the new agreement also offers some new possibilities for cooperation.

EU/US

http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/eu-usa/index_en.html

The European Union and the United States of America are in the process of renewing the agreement on higher education and vocational training for another eight-year period (2006-2013). The new agreement, expected to be signed in the Summer of 2006, will renew and reinforce the long standing EU-US cooperation programme that was established in 1995. The programme is funded and managed jointly by the European Commission and by the US Department of Education. It aims primarily at promoting understanding between the peoples of the European Union and the United States of America and improving the quality of their human resource development.

Conclusions

The previous list is intended to provide a possible starting point for those researchers, post-graduates or students who are willing to find their own way to be involved in new scientific cooperation or to improve their competence and skills by performing their activities or being trained in different countries.

Many other programmes for training, mobility and scientific cooperation in higher education are active in the world, and the authors are grateful to those researchers who will provide information on those programmes which have not been mentioned.