

OCTOBER 2010

Advancing European Union and United States Cooperation in Science & Technology

“BILAT-USA” AND “LINK2US”

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BILAT-USA
LINK2US

IN THIS ISSUE



This issue of the E-newsletter highlights recent key European Research Area (ERA) and U.S. science and technology (S&T) news, including the new European Innovation Strategy, new 7th Framework Programme calls, and the National Academies revision to its Rising Above the Gathering Storm Report.

Don't miss this month's spotlight, featuring an interview with Dr. Corey Cohn, the U.S. Department of Energy. Dr. Cohn is a Fulbright and Marie Curie Fellowship Alumnus and discusses his experiences regarding both fellowships and their impact on his career.

In addition, look for updates regarding recent project events, such as the BILAT-USA Rome event and upcoming report, by the Link2US project.

ERA NEWS



European Innovation Strategy:

The “Innovation Union” – turning ideas into jobs, green growth, and social progress

The European Commission's “Innovation Union”, published 6 October 2010, sets out a strategic approach to innovation, driven by the highest political level. The Innovation Union will focus Europe's efforts – and co-operation with third countries - on challenges like climate change, energy and food security, health and an ageing population. It will use public sector intervention to stimulate the private sector and to remove bottlenecks which stop ideas from reaching the market. These include lack of finance, fragmented research systems and markets, under-use of public procurement for innovation, and slow standard setting. The Innovation Union is one of the **seven flagship initiatives** of the Europe 2020 Strategy.

[Details](#)

European Innovation Summit 2010

Organized by knowledge4Innovation, a non-profit, independent, multi-stakeholder platform, the Summit brought together different players from the innovation and information economy, in order to co-create and improve Europe's innovation strategy. The 2010 summit put the focus on the major social challenges in Europe and the role of innovation in the preparation of responses to these challenges.

[Details](#)

Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan Conference will be held in Brussels on 15-16 November, 2010

The SET Plan is the technology pillar of the EU Energy and Climate policy. It sets out a long-term energy research, demonstration and innovation agenda for the EU, including concrete strategic milestones to be achieved in the coming years. The main idea of the SET-Plan is to employ available resources in a smarter way through joint strategic planning and programming. The 2nd day of the Conference is dedicated to international cooperation.

[Details](#)

OCTOBER 2010

A Brokerage event in the field of Energy Technologies with a focus on the SET-Plan priorities will be organized back to back with **SET Plan Conference** in Brussels on 17 November 2010.

[Details](#)

ENERI 2010 Conference

Infrastructures for Energy Research Conference will provide information on the update 2010 of the ESFRI Roadmap in the energy field, and a forum to open a debate on the development of a comprehensive strategy for energy research infrastructures within the context of the Grand Challenges and of the European SET-Plan.

[Details](#)

U.S. S&T NEWS i

Senate Confirms Suresh as NSF Director

The U.S. Senate has confirmed Subra Suresh as the new Director of the National Science Foundation. Suresh was formally the Dean of the School of Engineering and the Vannevar Bush Professor of Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

[Details](#)

Nobel Laureates Issue Letter in Support of President's Space Strategy

On 31 August 2010 a letter signed by fourteen Nobel Laureates was sent to U.S. House of Representatives Science and Technology Committee Chairman Bart Gordon (D-TN), expressing support for President Obama's proposed budget for the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and concern that the House authorization bill would underfund key technology development, commercial launch vehicle and robotic mission programs. Chairman Gordon responded by expressing concern "that NASA has been given too many missions and too few dollars to fulfill them. The result has either been too much money wasted on ... unfocused, un-executable programs or funding shortages for critical missions."

[Details](#)

DOE Reinstates Energy Advisory Board

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has appointed the members of the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board (SEAB). Eliminated during the previous administration, the SEAB is being re-established under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The twelve-member Board will provide advice and

recommendations on the Department's basic and applied research, economic and national security policy, educational issues, operational issues, and other activities.

[Details](#)

NIH Advisory Board Recommends Merging Two Institutes

The National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Scientific Management Review Board, which is charged with examining NIH's organizational structure, has voted to advise Director Francis Collins to merge two institutes: the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. If Collins agrees to the merger, Congress would have 180 days to weigh in before the merger could go forward.

[Details](#)

U.S. Competitiveness: National Academies Revise Rising Above the Gathering Storm Report

The National Academies released a revised report as a follow-up to the original Rising Above the Gathering Storm study, entitled Rising Above the Gathering Storm, Revisited. The event included presentations from National Academy of Sciences President Ralph Cicerone and National Academy of Engineering President Charles Vest, as well as Norman Augustine, all of whom emphasized that in the last five years, the outlook for a globally competitive U.S. has worsened and one of the greatest causes for concern is the dismal state of K-12 education. Speakers urged passage of and funding for the America COMPETES Act.

[Details](#)



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**BILAT-USA NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2010****COORDINATOR'S MESSAGE**

Strategic orientation is high on the agenda, both in the U.S. as well as in the EU. Both sides are seeking to strengthen their exchange at the political and more operational level. This issue of the E-newsletter gives you the latest up-date information including the plans on the European Innovation Union published on 6 October 2010, the upcoming EU-U.S. Summit, and some of the recent activities of the BILAT-USA Project.

Together with the Link2US Project we look forward to a broad range of activities under preparation in order to contribute to fostering EU-U.S. Science & Technology Cooperation.

Enjoy reading!

For continuous updated information please visit our website at <http://www.EuUsScienceTechnology.eu/Bilat-USA>

Dr. Sabine Herlitschka

Coordinator of BILAT-USA Project

For questions and comments, please contact us at bilat-usa@ffg.at

**TRANSATLANTIC
NEWS****EU-U.S. Summit will be held on 20 November 2010
in Lisbon**

The President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy and the President of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso, will welcome U.S. President Barack Obama at the next European Union-United States Summit, which shall be held in Lisbon, Portugal, on 20 November 2010.

[Details](#)

EU-U.S. Atlantis Programme

The **final list** of selection results from the Atlantis Programme 2010 Call has been announced. The Atlantis Programme (2006-2013) aims to promote understanding between peoples on either side of the Atlantic and improve the quality of their human resource development. Managed jointly by the European Commission (through the **Executive Agency for Education Audiovisual and Culture**) and by the U.S. Department of Education, the Activities include:

- Transatlantic Degree
- Excellence in Mobility projects
- Policy-oriented Measures
- The Schuman-Fulbright scholarships

[Details](#)

**Open 7th Framework Programme Calls addressing
cooperation between the EU and the U.S.**

The 7th Framework Programme has currently 16 Calls open, which are addressing cooperation between the EU and the U.S.

[Details](#)

A new interactive platform on EU health research

A new online platform for EU health research has been launched. This platform will provide information on all life sciences and health projects funded by European Commission since 2004 including project deliverables, and facilitate new partnerships.

[Details](#)

**PROJECT
HIGHLIGHTS****Symposium on Transatlantic EU-U.S. Cooperation in
the Field of Large Scale Research Infrastructures**

The Symposium on transatlantic EU-U.S. cooperation in the field of Large Scale Research Infrastructures (LSRI), organized by the **BILAT-USA** Project together with the European Commission and the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) was held on 1 October 2010 at the premises of CNR in Rome.

The purpose of the EU-U.S. symposium on LSRI was to increase mutual understanding and raise awareness on planning and management processes of the LSRI in Europe and in the U.S.

The Symposium was successful in providing substantial inputs towards new transatlantic EU-U.S. cooperation in Research Infrastructures. Participants from NSF and EC expressed the need for the continued and systematic exchange of information and experience. A number of areas were identified that will provide opportunities for future collaboration.

Session Chairs, consisting of representatives from NSF and EU, prepared conclusions and recommendations for future actions. These conclusions are disseminated through the Symposium's web-page.

[Details](#)

PROJECT OF THIS ISSUE

Integrated Sustainable Pan-European Infrastructure for Researchers in Europe

Acronym:	EGI-InSPIRE
Website:	www.egi.eu
Coordinated by:	EGI.eu
Funded under:	co-funded by EC and partners



Objectives:

The ultimate goal of EGI-InSPIRE is to provide European scientists and their international partners with a sustainable, reliable e-Infrastructure that can support their needs for large-scale data analysis. This is essential in order to solve the big questions facing science today, and in the decades to come.

Applications of the grid include the analysis of LHC data, earthquake simulation research, and disease modeling (e.g. avian flu).

Major Activities:

EGI-InSPIRE will coordinate the transition from a project-based system (the EGEE series) to a sustainable pan-European e-Infrastructure. The four-year project will support grids of high-performance computing (HPC) and high-throughput computing (HTC) resources.

The project is ideally placed to integrate new Distributed Computing Infrastructures (DCIs) such as clouds, supercomputing networks and desktop grids, to benefit the user communities within the European Research Area.

EGI-InSPIRE will collect user requirements and provide support for the current and potential new user communities, for example the ESFRI projects. The project will also support the current heavy users of the infrastructure, such as high energy physics, computational chemistry and life sciences, as they move their critical services and tools from a centralised support model to one driven by their own individual communities.

EGI-InSPIRE collaborates with infrastructure providers around the world, including the Open Science Grid and the TERA grid, both based in the United States.

Details: <http://www.egi.eu/projects/egi-inspire/activity/>

Partners:

EGI-InSPIRE is a consortium of 50 partners, including 37 National Grid Initiatives (NGIs), CERN (the European Organisation for Nuclear Research), EMBL (the European Molecular Biology Laboratory) and eight partners from the Asia Pacific region.

Full list: https://www.egi.eu/projects/egi-inspire/EGI-InSPIRE_partners.html

**LINK2US NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2010**

COORDINATOR'S MESSAGE



On behalf of the Link2US project team, welcome to the third installment of our E-newsletter!

As Link2US marks its one year anniversary, we look forward to further facilitating access to U.S. collaborative opportunities for EU-based researchers and institutions. This month's e-newsletter highlights the project's first awareness raising activity held 28 September 2010, at ICT 2010 in Brussels and two new reports that will also be released by year-end regarding EU-based researcher/institution participation in U.S. federal programmes.

Link2US, together with BILAT-USA looks forward to the next year as it continues to seek to build upon the numerous reports, platforms such as the e-newsletter and website, and events, to further develop pathways to advance EU-U.S. collaborations.

Enjoy!

For continuous updated information please visit our website at <http://www.EuUsScienceTechnology.eu/Link2US>

Tom Wang

Coordinator of Link2US

For questions and comments, please contact us at Link2US@aaas.org

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



Virtual Helpdesk

A reminder that the Link2US Virtual Helpdesk is open and available Tuesdays and Thursdays from approximately 2:00pm – 4:30pm Central European time (+1 202 326 6663). The helpdesk seeks to assist EU researchers and institutions with information about U.S. funding.

Two Reports in Progress:

Link2US is completing two reports on EU-based researcher/institution in U.S. federal programmes that will be released by year-end.

- *EU-Based Participation Statistics in U.S. Programmes* summarizes the participation statistics of EU-based researchers/institutions in programmes from three U.S. federal entities, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH).

- *Challenges for EU-Based Researcher/Institution Participation in U.S. Funding Programmes* summarizes the survey results of EU-based researchers and grant administrators that previously received funding from the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

ICT 2010: Successful Networking Session Held, Introducing a New Platform for EU-US S&T Cooperation

On 28 September 2010 BILAT-USA and Link2US organised a networking session within the framework of ICT 2010. About 40 participants listened carefully as the motives and improvement measures for boosting EU-U.S. S&T cooperation were discussed by Dr. Tarik Meziani from the European Commission. David Stonner from the Europe Office of the National Science Foundation highlighted U.S. collaborative funding schemes and the hurdles European researchers face when seeking U.S. funding. The session also included two ICT research projects, which collaborate with U.S. research partners. Horst Karl Hahn introduced the EU-project HAMAM that works with leading scientists, clinicians, and IT experts in Europe and the U.S. in the field of image-based breast cancer diagnoses. Daniele Binosi presented the EU

project AQUITE, which performs international research in the area of atomic quantum technologies. The key message

from the session was that collaboration between Europe and the U.S. is essential for making considerable improvements in S&T.

[Details](#)



SPOTLIGHT

Transatlantic Experiences:



**Dr. Corey Cohn –
U.S. Fulbright Fellow
and EU Marie Curie
Incoming International
Mobility Fellow Alumni**

How have your fellowship experiences impacted your career?

My fellowship experiences abroad were very positive. I expanded my network of relationships with scientists, enjoyed the adventure of moving overseas, made many friends, and contributed to science. These experiences have reinforced my belief that international scientific collaborations help lead to scientific discoveries and provide mechanisms for diplomatic relations. In addition, I understand the challenges and roadblocks that scientists may face when trying to initiate an international collaboration and sustain its success.

At first, my motivation for applying to go abroad was mostly centered on experiencing something new. After that first experience in Stockholm, I realized that joining a research lab in a foreign country led to a greatly expanded network of colleagues and new insights into how science is performed in other countries. My career path has changed as a result of these experiences. I have gone from performing science to facilitating science, and I greatly enjoy what I do. My Fulbright and Marie Curie fellowship experiences have proven valuable in my current position and will certainly impact my future career goals.

Where there any key differences between the EU and US federal government application processes?

I found information on the application processes for the EU Mobility Fellowship and US Fulbright Fellowship online. The Fulbright application was simple, easy to navigate, and included an in-person interview. The EU Mobility Fellowship application process required considerable more time to locate background information as well as the application and information on the application process.

What advice would you give others applying to EU Fellowships?

As with applying for any research grant or fellowship, the objectives include persuading the reviewers that your proposal is a great idea, and that it leverages infrastructure and expertise, contributes something new, supports national and agency-level missions, and helps advance scientific communities. Specific to the EU Mobility Fellowships, I think it's useful to show all the above and additionally that the potential host institution is committed to the proposal, that the candidate can add lasting value to the host institute, and that the Fellowship experience is relevant to the candidate's future plans. And with any fellowship, it is best to start with an open mind, reasonable expectations, and the willingness to learn and contribute.

More About Corey

Corey graduated with a bachelor's degree in Geosciences from Stony Brook University and received his PhD from Stony Brook University. He studied in Stockholm, Sweden as a Fulbright Fellow, during his undergraduate career and completed a post doc in Copenhagen, Denmark, as a Marie Curie Incoming International Mobility Fellow. Corey is currently a second year AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow within the Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy.

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IMPRESSUM

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