

Call for Careers Programme Session Proposals

EuroScience Open Forum 2020 Trieste (IT), 5-9 July 2020

Freedom for Science, Science for Freedom

The EuroScience Open Forum (ESOF) is a biennial, interdisciplinary, pan-European, general science meeting and debate involving researchers, politicians, innovators, industry, science journalists and the media. ESOF 2020 will take place in Trieste, a port since Roman times and a free port since the 18th century. The free port, located at the crossroads between Europe and Asia, is the symbol and embodiment of our motto “Freedom for science, science for freedom”, which encourages the cross-border exchange of ideas, people and new inventions: just like trade in a harbour, science can only flourish in openness and diversity.

ESOF 2020 will comprise several distinct programme tracks:

- A **Science Programme** of seminars, workshops and debates on the latest research and related policy issues, structured around a programme of keynote speakers and the hot topics.
- A **Science-to-Business Programme** to explore the major issues for research within business and industry and the role of universities for business.
- A **Career** programme showcasing career opportunities across Europe and beyond for researchers at all stages of their careers.
- An **Exhibition** that showcases the best of European academic, public and private research and business excellence.
- A public engagement programme, the **Science in the City Festival**.
- A **Forum** to host other meetings, satellite events and networking opportunities (e.g. science policy advisers and science media).

The event will build upon the historical role of Trieste as a gateway between east and west, north and south, as well as on its present position as one of the European cities with the highest density of research institutions. In this unique context, ESOF will unite delegates to share and discuss issues, ideas and opportunities that emerge when science works in tandem with society and the business world; this unique setting will provide a

fertile ground on which to devise common strategies and frameworks to put into practice visions such as those of former UN secretary general Ban Ki-Moon: “Science is vital to advance sustainable development, reduce inequality and eradicate extreme poverty”.

The Careers Programme is an integral part of ESOF 2020 and will provide opportunities for everyone involved in scientific disciplines, from researchers to representatives from industry, training and educational institutes, science journalists to policy makers to engage with one another to discuss issues and ideas related to researchers either at their early stage or at stage of transition later on in their career.

With economic, social and environmental challenges facing Europe and the new mission-oriented Horizon Europe framework around the corner, providing a strong sense of direction to guide younger generations is a priority, in order to make it easier to develop relevant skillsets which can promote personal and professional growth. To reach this objective, a concerted effort by policy makers, business actors and educational institutions is of paramount importance.

To achieve this, the ESOF 2020 Science and Science to Business Programme Committees are launching a call for session proposals that will explore how career opportunities are evolving, as well as the effect that this evolution will have on both the education system and the job market. Contributions are welcome that address five main issues:

- Researcher Careers: From Academia to Industry and Back
- Portfolio careers: coping with insecurity and sequences of jobs in research
- Horizontal Career Mobility in the 4th Industrial Revolution
- Entrepreneurship Education
- Active Collaboration

Researcher Careers: From Academia to Industry and Back

Proposals are welcome that examine and outline the success factors for career researchers moving from academia into (primarily R&D) functions in industry. Of special interest are the differences and commonalities between the two domains concerning, e.g., the role of team work, organizational objectives, success metrics for project work, or leadership practices. Also of interest are proposals that present best practices or new paradigms in university-industry collaboration that may include the exchange of personnel or the

formation of joint research teams. These are not only beneficial from a career-development standpoint but can also foster a more effective transfer of technologies and application know-how between the parties. The role of the education system in facilitating the academia-industry transition is another topic of interest, as is the role of university entrepreneurship centres helping undergraduate and graduate students see a path to creating their own companies. Further examples of possible focus points are:

- Mobility in emerging fields such as the blue economy and space economy;
- Tools developed for researchers by the European Commission;
- Policies for intersectoral mobility;
- The role of the education system in facilitating the academia-industry transition; and
- How a life-long learning approach could be integrated into the career development of researchers at all levels.

Portfolio Careers: Coping with Insecurity and Sequences of Jobs in Research

It is the normal case that following completion of doctoral education, those who are successful in their ambitions to remain in research face over a decade of movement from one position to another, for example through post-doctoral fellowships, before finally obtaining a 'permanent' position.

We invite sessions that could focus on:

- What skills and training are needed to manage a career in these stages;
- What alternatives might exist to managing the trade-off between ensuring that the best researchers are recruited and minimizing any adverse effects on those working in this system;
- Career-tracking of researchers.

Horizontal Career Mobility in the 4th Industrial Revolution

The 4th Industrial Revolution has been characterised by Klaus Schwab as a fusion of new technologies in the physical, digital and biological worlds including artificial intelligence and digitisation with unprecedented levels of connectivity. New skills will be needed to navigate this disruptive environment.

We invite sessions that focus on:

- New career opportunities that will emerge in the mid- to long term as a result of the fourth industrial revolution, as well as how the education and advanced training systems need to evolve to accommodate them.
- How the horizontal transition between disappearing professions and new careers can be facilitated in order to avoid obsolescence of workers' skillsets.
- How a geographically homogeneous implementation of the fourth industrial revolution can be put into place, in order to avoid diasporas and socio-economical destabilization, particularly considering the RIS3 and Horizon Europe frameworks.

Entrepreneurship Education

There is a strong need to widen the base of entrepreneurs in Europe and to bring forward people who have the necessary combination of scientific, technological and business skills to create and/or grow science-based businesses. Entrepreneurial education plays an important role in giving researchers, particularly but not exclusively at the early stage of their careers, the capability and motivation to turn ideas into viable businesses. Acquisition of similar skills is needed to undertake innovation in an existing business, particularly if this involves a transition from being a traditional firm. Proposals are welcome both for sessions which analyse and evaluate approaches to entrepreneurship education and for those which engage delegates with science-based entrepreneurship directly.

- Approaches to entrepreneurship education in Schools and as part of degree or doctoral studies.
- Understanding the competences needed for successful entrepreneurship in science-based business.
- The value of competitions and prizes for motivating and giving visibility to new entrepreneurs.
- Educating entrepreneurs within companies (including for the purposes of spinning out);
- International comparisons and the role of cultural factors.

Active Collaboration

There will be opportunities to host networking events and interactive workshops within the ESOF 2020 programme. We welcome proposals from individuals, groups and organisations to coordinate:

- A careers fair to bring early career researchers and innovators together with industrial partners, public and private organizations and financial institutions.
- Sessions that provide practical career guidance on issues such as managing mobility and pensions.
- Thematic workshops that actively engage researchers, students, aspiring entrepreneurs on topics relevant to the science and science to business programmes.
- Sessions that support networking and collaboration between research organisations or different research communities.
- Session to support the development and interconnection of regional ecosystems that bring together academia, business and policy.

Guidelines

Please read the following information about the scientific themes and guidelines carefully.

The submission is open from April 5th, 2019 at 00:00 CET and the deadline for session proposals is June 15th, 2019 at 23:59 CET.

All submitted proposals will be reviewed and assessed by the ESOF 2020 Trieste Programme Committee. **Please note that the Programme Committee reserves the right to request modifications to proposals prior to acceptance and to make minor modifications to titles and abstracts when compiling the final programme.**

When assessing proposals, the ESOF 2020 Trieste Programme Committee will take the following criteria into account:

1. Content

- Relevance to Careers Programme Call. *
- Relevance to conference themes.
- Quality, originality and topicality in order to attract delegates and ensure they benefit from insights and discussion. *

2. Participants

- International perspective (the proposed speakers/participants within sessions should come from multiple countries. Overall geographical balance will be sought in the programme). *
- Diversity (panels will be expected to aim for an appropriate balance of age and gender and maximize inclusivity).

3. Format

- Interactive sessions are required to maximize opportunities for discussion and dialogue. Innovative formats will be particularly welcome.

** Essential criteria: where possible proposers should address each of these criteria. At its discretion, the Programme Committee may accept sessions which vary from the criteria.*

Prior to submitting a proposal, applicants are advised to consider the duration and format of their session. Each session will last for 1 hour and 30 minutes.

You are encouraged to make your session as interactive as possible. There are several presentation formats available, and you are encouraged to develop your own innovative and creative formats. Examples of formats are:

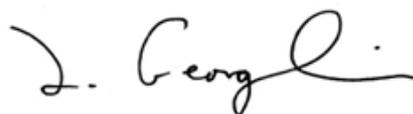
- Traditional panel discussion: maximum 3-4 speakers (maximum 15 minutes each) followed by extended discussion with the audience.
- Interactive round table: a flexible format with brief presentation and space for questions, answers and reactions.
- Workshop: a flexible format, led by a speaker experienced in stimulating exchanges of views and using practical exercises.
- Pro and con debate on a controversial topic. Innovative formats (hackathons, Ted-type talks, 3-minute Thesis style sessions) will also be welcome.

Proponents are responsible for the organization of their sessions. To facilitate interactivity, proposed sessions are expected to balance the number of speakers per session and the time available for discussion. The full range of conference facilities will be available.

Thank you for submitting a proposal to ESOF 2020 Trieste.



Prof. Stefano Fantoni
Champion ESOF 2020



Prof. Luke Georghiou
Chair of the Programme Committee