

February, 2016

NEWSLETTER

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In this Newsletter, you will find many news from our members. Also, you can read about possible funding opportunities for our co-operation projects. The NSCF network was created for exchanging ideas and staff and there are lot of different ways to do it. Some of us have already started writing projects together. Why not give it a try, if you have not done it earlier?

NSCF Board met in the beginning of February in Nordnorsk Vitensenter, Tromsø. We made a tough decision

concerning the annual scholarship. Also the board decided to nominate two honorary members of NSCF: Per Edvin Persson and Asger Hoeg for their long and outstanding contribution for our network.

NSCF scholarship is a unique way to travel to science centres and museums and learn how our international colleagues are working. We were happy to receive a total of nine applications for the scholarship. Some of them were even for group-visits and the total number of applicants was more than 10 for the first time since the founding of the scholarship. The competition was tough. The final decision was to split the scholarship in two and the winners of 2016 were two persons from Umevatoriet and Ms Riina Nõupuu from Science Centre AHHA.

This year's annual conference will take place in Tietomaa, Finland 12-14.10.2016. The theme is games and game-industry - therefore I am certain that we will have a lot of fun. You will hear more about the conference soon from the following newsletters. Please book the dates!

With best greetings,
Pilvi Kolk
Chairman of NSCF,

Science Centre AHHA, Estonia

Nordnorsk Vitensenter



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Funding schemes for the Nordic and Baltic region

By Helin Haga, AHHA Science Centre Foundation

Many of us would like to travel and learn from each other. Here is an overview of possible funding schemes you can use:

1) For cross-border collaboration aimed at organizing joint events, training courses and developing joint study materials, look into Nordplus Horizontal.

Application deadline: 1 March 2016.

More information available at:

<http://www.nordplusonline.org/News2/CALLS/Call-for-applications-to-Nordplus-2016>



2) For large-scale projects aimed at changing the economic, environmental, transportation or tourism scene of the Baltic Sea region, look into the INTERREG Baltic Sea Region programme.

Application deadline: the 1st call for applications is closed but the 2nd call will be open from **1 March 2016 till 1 June 2016** and the 3rd call will be open from **September 2016 till January 2017**.

More information available at:

<http://www.interreg-baltic.eu/applying-for-funds/how-to-apply.html>



3) For central Baltic countries specifically (i.e. Finland (incl. Åland), Sweden and Latvia as well as all Estonia) and their largescale projects aimed at changing the economic, environmental, transportation or tourism scene, the INTERREG Central Baltic programme is open.

Application deadline: the 3rd call for applications will be open from 2 January 2017 till **27 February 2017**.

More information available at <http://centralbaltic.eu/>

NB! The next information day of the programme will be held in **Stockholm on 20 April 2016**:

<http://centralbaltic.eu/content/central-baltic-annual-event-2016>

4) To enable your staff members to take part in training courses/events, take a look at the Erasmus+ Key Actions 1 to 3.

Application deadlines: available here:

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:JOC_2015_347_R_0006&qid=1445328392130&from=EN

More information about Erasmus+ available at:

<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus>.

5) For journalists intending to take part of the ESOF 2016 conference in Manchester in July 2016, there is a grant available by Nature Publishing Group.

Application deadline: 29 February 2016.

More information available at <http://www.esof.eu/news/nature-travel-grant.html>

6) The EEA Grants and Norway Grants represent the contribution of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway to reducing economic and social disparities and to strengthening bilateral relations with 16 EU countries in Central and Southern Europe and the Baltics. The funding is targeted on areas where there are clear needs in the beneficiary countries and that are in line with national priorities and wider European goals.



Year 2015 in Latvia

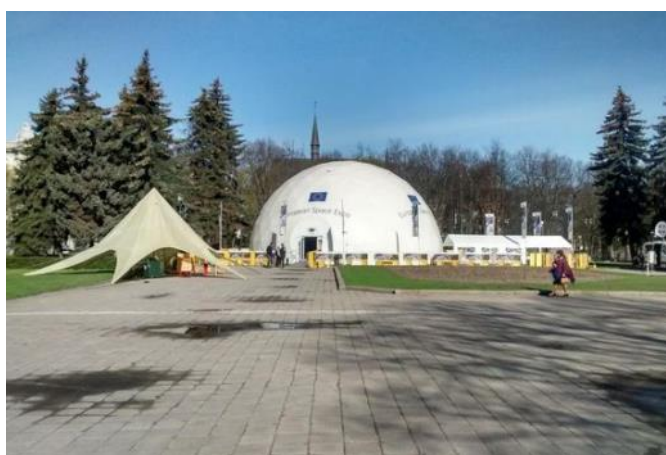
By Pauls Irbins, Zino Science Centre

For Latvian association of Science Centres (LASC), 2015 was another busy year. First of all, the fourth science centre in Latvia was opened in the city of Daugavpils, the second largest city in Latvia. It's a small science centre opened in a soviet-era cinema under the branding of "WONDERS". Its just like the science centre "WONDERS" that was opened in Riga in 2012. Municipality of Daugavpils invested approx. 40 000 € in the centre..



In September the first of science centres, Z(in)oo organized Latvian Space Festival with a first ever competition among companies on building launching space probes (stratospheric balloons).

LASC is among the very few NGOs of EU that are not getting any financial support from the government, so it takes a lot of creativity and entrepreneurship to keep the organization going. So far, so good!



European Space Expo

Secondly, LASC hosted the European Space Expo in Riga in July 2015. More than 50 000 people attended the exhibition, making Riga the second most visited city in EU.



LASC Daugavpils



News from members

Finland, Pilke

Science Centre Pilke promotes forest bioeconomy with a roadshow around Finland

By Ritva Vaarala

Science Centre Pilke promotes forest bioeconomy using innovative means. The Forest Arcade of Science Centre Pilke will be on its roadshow covering all Finland's regions in 2016 – 2017. The roadshow is part of the Pilke360° project that promotes the networking of forest sector, bioeconomy and future bioeconomy experts and the utilisation of forest-related learning environments. The project is funded by the Finnish Forest Foundation and Metsämiesten Säätiö Foundation. The project is implemented by Science Centre Pilke located in Rovaniemi and owned by Metsähallitus.



In February 2016, the Forest Arcade starts its roadshow showcasing games related to the use of the forest and renewable natural resources. These highly functional games and workshops are used to inform children and

young people about the sustainable use of forests in a pleasant and enjoyable way. The schoolchildren workshops use fun games to seek sustainable ways of life that are based on bioeconomy. According to age group, the workshop concentrates on the everyday life of the forest, forest innovations or forest bioeconomy.



Alongside the Forest Arcade, the roadshow destinations around Finland will see free-of-charge PilkeCafe360° lectures about bioeconomy and the diverse range of possibilities it holds for the future. These events are aimed at people working in the forest sector, those interested in the forest sector, teachers in the field, and groups that have forest pastimes. The lectures are recorded and the findings are utilised in bioeconomy communications.

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News from members

Finland, Heureka

The Secret World of Moths

By Heli Ainoa

The film production company Pohjankonna has produced the first-ever Finnish full-length planetarium film. The Secret World of Moths is an upbeat adventure into the world of moths and insects. The film traverses from the equator to the polar circle with different moth species. The two extreme life environments help us to comprehend life's diversity, fragility and capacity for renewal. The film makes use of 3D X-ray tomography to investigate insects at the microscopic level.

The film is based on an extensive body of Finnish and international research into the lifecycle of moths as well as their physiology, ecology and evolution. Kristjan Niitepõld, PhD, from the University of Helsinki Department of Biology says that the film shows really clearly how different species are interlinked with their environment, including both living and non-living elements. Technological development has enabled the imaging of microscopically small objects for the documentary in a way that allows us to see the structures in detail, literally deeper than the surface.

"The film includes some stunning cinematography of the complex breathing mechanism through spiracles, which is a great example of a biological question to which micro-tomography could help give answers. Efficient ventilation of breathing gasses is the key for the exceptionally high speed of metabolism that flying insects have," says Niitepõld.

The film production company Pohjankonna has produced the first-ever Finnish full-length (22 min) planetarium film for the whole family – The Secret World of Moths – in collaboration with Heureka, the Finnish Science Centre. Pohjankonna Oy is a film production company established by Hannes Vartiainen and Pekka Veikkolainen in 2008 whose short documentaries have been shown on all continents. The films have won several awards in Finland and abroad.

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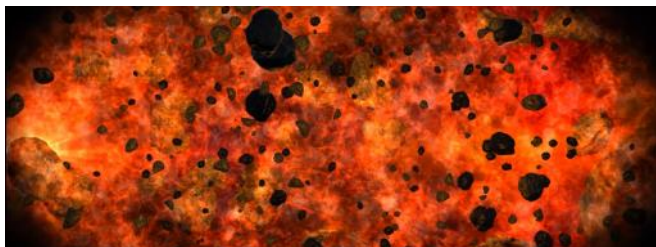
Experience Director Mikko Myllykoski, tel. 040 9015 244,
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Estonia, Energy Discovery Center:

New planetarium film

By Jana Paju



On the 16th of February, Energy Discovery Centre (EDC) opens a new exhibition „Treasures of the Layered Earth“. As a part of it, EDC has produced a new planetarium film, a namesake of the exhibition. The film takes the audience to a 20-minute journey inside the Earth itself.

„Treasures of the Layered Earth“ (2016) investigates geology by blending the topics of pre-historic life,

formation of jewels and how earthquakes and volcanoes influence the life on Earth. The film is suitable for a variety of audiences – either Estonian-, Russian- or Finnish-speaking children or grown-ups.

„Treasures of the Layered Earth“ is already a second production by Energy Discovery Centre. In 2014 a film “Star Dust and Sun’s Family” was produced and it has been very popular amongst our visitors .



News from members

Norway, Trondheim Science Centre:

Great opening of Trigger makerspace in Trondheim, Norway

By Rannvei Sæther

The grand opening of Trigger makerspace took place on January 20 at Trondheim Science Centre together with the 7th grade students from Byåsen primary school, politicians and partners. Enthusiastic students talked about and demonstrated small maker projects for those present. Soldering iron, laser cutter and 3D printers were put to good use by skillful direction of educators from Trondheim Science Centre.



Trigger makerspace is part of the national effort to get Maker Spaces in all the regional science centres. Trigger will be an important resource for both students in science, technology and design and an important means of continuing education for teachers in the region. "Through making future technological tools available to the schools, we hope to

contribute to lifting the practical subjects into the future and thus help to lay the foundation for future innovators who now go to primary school", says Arnfinn Stendhal Rokne, the director of Trondheim Science Centre.



Reusing and recycling, something that characterizes the maker movement, also became a part of the exhibition as it was furnished with old furniture from a second hand store for the occasion. This set a nice mood for the evening event. The event was well attended and people stayed for hours, which proves that the science centre can fill many roles and that visiting a science centre is at least as funny and thought-provoking for adults, as it is for children

Trigger Festival for makers and inventors

Trigger festival for makers and inventors and is looking forward to filling the centre with makers, ideas and activities that connect audiences and inventors in a fun and inspiring way.

Winter holiday program



During the winter holidays from 20 to 28 February there will be many different hands-on activities and workshops for the visitors to explore. In addition, there will be a science club for pupils at 5th -7th grade during this week, on the subject of electricity and electronics

Easter holiday program. "Nice to be in orbit!"

MetaMorf is Scandinavia's most extensive biennale for art & technology and will for the fourth time be arranged in Trondheim from March 10 to May 8 with the title "Nice to be in orbit!".

Meta.Morf 2016 will showcase artists, writers and scientists that in various ways take a closer look at man as an interstellar traveler, and how we, at the beginning of this millennium, are about to redefine our relationship with the stars and, consequently, ourselves.

Trondheim Science Centre is this year a part of the festival and will therefore in the Easter program have different space-related activities. People will have the opportunity to experience the sensation of weightlessness and try to be an astronaut in the Orbitron! Join a journey into the universe in the planetarium, experience a spectacular ScienceShow with a space-related twist and other space-related hands-on activities and workshops.

News from members

Sweden, Universeum:

Historical science theater started at Universeum

By Mikael Östblom

This autumn a science theater called "Historieforskarna" (The Historical Researchers) started at Universeum. In the theater, known scientists from the past explain their discoveries and break-throughs. The aim is to arouse curiosity about natural sciences through historical story telling with a humorous twist. The theater is a co-operation between Chalmers University of Technology, University of Gothenburg and Universeum. The screenwriting and acting is performed by members from Chalmers student theatre ("studentspexet").



A pilot project started this autumn with pop-up theatre scenes in between the exhibitions at Universeum. The visitors could suddenly end up in a vivid conversation between Isaac Newton and Galileo Galileo arguing who is the greatest mind in history. Or in the elevator, they could be accompanied by Marie Curie giving an elevator speak explaining her discoveries and Nobel prizes in 40 seconds.

Just before the real Nobel prize award ceremony a performance was set up called "Sen kväll med Nobel" – a David Letterman-like talk show where Alfred Nobel met his laureates to come. The guests were Alexander Fleming explaining the discovery of penicillin, and Lise Meitner who fled from Germany to Sweden during the second world war. However she did not receive the Nobel prize for her nuclear physics discoveries, but the prize was given to her male colleague Otto Hahn. The third guest was Gustaf Dalén from Chalmers who was laureated for his invention connected with illuminating lighthouses and



who tragically went blind in a laboratory accident.

This year the project got external funding and will develop further, with new characters and costumes. The theater performances will then connect to the new exhibitions and themes at Universeum. In February a new exhibition on the theme "Health", was opened and therefore we set up a play about medical health history. In an anachronistic time travel the Greek Hippocrates - The father of western medicine met the medieval German polymath Hildegard of Bingen. Their medical theories were questioned by Florence Nightingale, the mother of modern nursing and a pioneer in using visual statistics such as pie charts (rose diagram). And they were all three in turn questioned by Alexander Fleming, a real modernist in comparison, with his great discovery from 1928.

The historical science theater will later focus on researchers connected to the rainforest discoveries, since the Universeum South American rain forest is undergoing renovation and will be inaugurated the 8th of June 2016. Then a 25 meter high artificial rain forest tree will be ready to climb and this new opening will mark the Universeum 15 year anniversary. Welcome to join!

Mikael Östblom
project leader - research communication and university co-operation, Universeum (also working as communication strategist at Chalmers and University of Gothenburg)



Upcoming events

Euro Science Open Forum (ESOF) 2016

23-27 July,

Manchester, UK

ESOF – EuroScience Open Forum – is the biennial pan-European meeting dedicated to scientific research and innovation. Registration open.

More information : <http://www.esof.eu/about/introduction-to-esof.html>



#Museumweek

is a week-long global Twitter campaign mobilizing museums and their visitors around the globe. The 2016 edition will be taking place from 28 March to 3 April.

The principle is very simple: 7 days, one theme and hashtag per day. Follow [@MuseumWeek](https://twitter.com/MuseumWeek) on Twitter!



March 28 - April 3, 2016

Save the date !

ECSITE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

9-11. June 2016

Graz, Austria



The “Colours of cooperation” theme not only resonates with Ecsite’s network activities: we are sure that collaborations, co-creations and partnerships are at heart of your daily professional activities as well. You and your team will get inspiration, motivation, tips and tricks, do’s and don’ts. You’ll discover cutting-edge tools, gain new knowledge, and walk away with a refreshed look on your own practice. Use this conference as a springboard for personal development, for unexpected ideas, for future collaborations. The conference is being co-hosted by three organisations: the FRida & freD Children’s Museum, the Universalmuseum Joanneum and the association ScienceCentre-Network.

- 24 February 2016: online programme is released + online registration opens
- 23 March: last day of the early bird rate
- 7-8 June 2016: pre-conference workshops
- 9-11 June 2016: main conference

4th International Public Communication of Science and Technology Conference (PCST),

26-28 April 2016,

Istanbul, Turkey

The theme is “Science communication in a digital age”. PCST conferences are a forum for discussing a wide range of issues in science communication practice, training and research. Registration open until 1 December.

More information: <http://pcst-2016.org/>



EAC16 - EUSEA Annual Conference 2016

18-19. May 2016

The European Science Events Association Annual Conference 2016 takes place at the AHHA Science Centre in Tartu, Estonia. The theme is **Engagement and Empowerment** and program will be full of surprises! Registration is open in here:

<http://www.eusea.info/About/Annual-Conferences/EAC16-Eusea-Annual-Conference-2016>



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