

PRESS RELEASE**Symposium on Transatlantic EU - U.S. Cooperation in the Field of Large Scale Research Infrastructures: Sparking off sustainable dialogue and cooperation**

The Symposium on Transatlantic EU - U.S. Cooperation in the Field of Large Scale Research Infrastructures was held in Rome on October 1, 2010. Organized by the BILAT-USA Project in cooperation with the European Commission and the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF), the Symposium brought together high level experts and representatives from the European Commission and NSF as well as leading representatives of Research Infrastructure projects in Europe and the U.S. Participants from the EU and the U.S. have expressed the need to strengthen the systematic exchange of information and experience, and have identified a number of areas that provide opportunities for future collaboration.

At the end of the symposium, there was mutual agreement that the experiences and ideas discussed during the plenary and parallel sessions had seriously boosted awareness, knowledge and commitment on both sides to improve transatlantic cooperation on large scale research infrastructures. Based on the outcomes of the parallel sessions various follow up activities, such as thematic workshops, will be organized in 2011. Additionally, the Symposium Report will provide future perspectives not only in cross-cutting areas such as management of and access to research infrastructures , but also in various topics such as the cyber-infrastructure, e-infrastructure, cyber-security, environment, particle physics and astronomy, as well as biological and medical sciences, which were covered during the parallel sessions.

For further information and documentation, please visit the symposium's web-site:
<http://www.euussciencetechnology.eu/home/risymposium>

Purpose & Scope: The purpose of the EU-U.S. symposium on Large Scale Research Infrastructures (LSRI) was to increase mutual understanding and raise awareness on planning and management processes of the LSRI in Europe and in the USA. The symposium brought together major LSRI funding organizations, representatives from the European Commission and the U.S. National Science Foundation as well as related experts and scientists to discuss how LSRI are developed and managed, the priorities and strategic perspectives for development of LSRI, ongoing initiatives at the EU Level, national level in Europe and in the USA, as well as good practice examples on selected topics of mutual interest including recommendations for tackling challenges to trans-Atlantic cooperation.

The full-day event was organized in plenary sessions in the morning followed by 4 theme-specific parallel sessions in the afternoon (see attached Agenda).

The purpose of the plenary sessions was to highlight and discuss the opportunities and challenges faced in LSRI development and management by EU and U.S. The specific objectives include:

- The reflection on current trends in LSRI in Europe and in the U.S.
- The enhancement of dialogue and the knowledge exchange between major stakeholders in EU and U.S.

The objective of the parallel sessions was to promote good knowledge sharing practices in the selected thematic fields, to identify obstacles to collaboration, and to contribute towards developing new strategies and modalities in future collaboration that address these issues. Parallel sessions

provided overviews of the selected projects supported by EU and U.S. and presented the results of these projects as well as shared experiences and lessons on transatlantic cooperation. Based on the presentations and discussions, suggestions and recommendations for addressing issues to further strengthen the collaboration within these themes will be drafted.

Agenda: Please find it attached.

Date & Place: Rome, 1 October 2010

Organized by: BILAT-USA Project¹

For Questions & Further Information:

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¹ The BILAT-USA Project aims to improve the awareness towards EU-U.S. Science & Technology cooperation through setting up a sustainable, knowledge based, and bi-regional dialogue platform between S&T key players as well as stakeholders from the EU-Member States, Associated countries and the U.S. The Project is funded by the European Union's Capacities Programme on International Cooperation under the 7th Framework Programme. More information is available at the project web-site: <http://www.euussciencetechnology.eu/bilat-usa>

AGENDA

International Cooperation in Research Infrastructures

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

1st October 2010

CNR - Piazzale Aldo Moro, 7, 00185 Rome, Italy
Meeting Room (for the Plenary Sessions): Aula Marconi

09:30 – 10:30: Plenary Session - Opening

Moderator: Sabine Herlitschka

Welcome and Presentation of BILAT-USA Project

Sabine Herlitschka, BILAT-USA Coordinator, Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)

European Research Infrastructure Development

Hervé Pero, Head of Unit, Research Infrastructures, European Commission Research Directorate General (DG Research)

U.S. Research Infrastructure Development

Mark Coles, Deputy Director, Large Facilities Office, National Science Foundation (NSF)

Research Infrastructures and their International Dimension

Beatrix Vierkorn-Rudolph, ESFRI Chair

Break (15 min)

10:45 – 12:45: Plenary Session (continued)

Computing and Data Services for Global Science

Moderator: Beatrix Vierkorn-Rudolph

- *Overview of e-Infrastructures* – Kostas Glinos, Head of Unit, GEANT and e-infrastructures, EC Information Society and Media Directorate General (EC DG INFSO)
- *Overview of Cyberinfrastructure*: Edward Seidel, Directorate for Mathematical & Physical Sciences (MPS/OAD), NSF
- *Social Science and Data Infrastructure* – Myron Gutmann, Asst. Director, Directorate for Social, Behavioural & Economic Sciences, NSF

Management of and Access to Research Infrastructures

Moderator: Julie Morris

- The EC's Scheme of Transnational Access to Research Infrastructures: Elena Righi-Steele, Programme Officer, Research Infrastructures Unit, DG Research

- The NSF Experience of Access to Research Infrastructures: Edward Seidel, Director of the Office of Cyberinfrastructure, NSF
- Training and Mobility Of Managers and Technical Staff: Carlo Rizzuto, Former ESFRI Chair
- The NSF Experience of Management of Research Infrastructures: Mark Coles, Deputy Director, Large Facilities Office, NSF

12:45: Lunch

14:00-16:00: Parallel Sessions

Session 1: Cyber-infrastructure / e-Infrastructure / Cyber-security (incl. Data Infrastructure)

Chairs: EU: Kyriakos Baxenavidis (EC, DG INFSO)

- *Computing Infrastructures:*

| | Project/Initiative | Speakers |
|-----|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| EU | European Grid Infrastructure (EGI) | Steven Newhouse, EGI.eu |
| USA | FutureGrid Project | Geoffrey C. Fox, Indiana University |

- *Data Infrastructures:*

| | Project/Initiative | Speakers |
|-----|---|---|
| EU | High Level Group on Data Infrastructures | John Wood, Association of Commonwealth Universities |
| USA | Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences, NSF | Myron Gutmann, NSF |

Session 2: Environment

Chairs: EU: Eeva Ikonen (ESFRI ENV TWG); NSF: Tim Killeen (Directorate for Geosciences (GEO/OAD))

- *In-Situ Ocean Observing:*

| | Project/Initiative | Speakers |
|-----|--|---|
| EU | European Multidisciplinary Seafloor Observatory (EMSO) | Paolo Favali, Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia (INGV) |
| USA | OOI (Ocean Observatories Initiative) | Tim Cowles, Consortium for Ocean Leadership |

- *Atmospheric Sciences/Space Weather*

| | Project/Initiative | Speakers |
|-----|---------------------------------------|---|
| EU | EISCAT_3D | Esa Turunen, European Incoherent Scatter (EISCAT) Association |
| USA | Mobile/Fixed Incoherent Scatter Radar | Terrance Onsager, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Space Environment Center |

Session 3: Particle Physics and Astronomy

Chairs: EU: Joergen Kjems (ESFRI EPS TWG); NSF: Mark Coles (Large Facilities Office)

- *Deep Underground Facilities and Large Baseline Neutrino Experiments*

| | Project/Initiative | Speakers |
|-----|---------------------------|--|
| EU | EU Perspectives | André Rubbia, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH Zürich) |
| USA | NSF Perspectives | Edward Seidel, NSF |

- *Large Optical Telescopes/IR Telescopes: Common Challenges and Perspectives*

| | Project/Initiative | Speakers |
|-----|---------------------------|--|
| EU | EU Perspectives | Johannes Andersen, Nordic Optical Telescope Scientific Association |
| USA | NSF Perspectives | Edward Seidel, NSF |

Session 4: Biological and Medical Sciences

Chairs: EU: Murat Ozgoren (ESFRI) NSF: Graham Harrison (Office of International Science and Engineering (OISE))

- *Primate Centres*

| | Project/Initiative | Speakers |
|-----|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| EU | European Primate Network (EUPRIM-NET) | Robert Teepe, German Primate Center |
| USA | US National Primate Research Centre | Andrew Lackner, Tulane University |

- *Mouse Archives and Phenotyping Centres*

| | Project/Initiative | Speakers |
|-----|---|--|
| EU | INFRAFRONTIER | Martin Hrabé de Angelis, Institute of Experimental Genetics (IEG), Helmholtz Zentrum München |
| USA | Knock Out Mouse Project (KOMP) and Mutant Mouse Regional Research Centers (MMRRC) | Kent Lloyd, University of California, Davis |

Break (30 min)

16:30: Findings from Parallel Sessions & Discussions

Reports from the Chairs

- Results from Session 1: Cyber-infrastructure / e-Infrastructure / Cyber-security
- Results from Session 2: Environment
- Results from Session 3: Particle and Astroparticle Physics
- Results from Session 4: Biological and Medical Sciences

Concluding Remarks and Actions for Concrete Follow-up

- EU Representative: Hervé Pero and Beatrix Vierkorn-Rudolph
- U.S. Representative: Myron Gutmann
- BILAT-USA Project Coordinator: Sabine Herlitschka

17:15: Bilateral Meetings and Networking

18:00: End of Meeting