

**National Organisation of Research Development Professionals
(NORDP)**

Fourth Annual Research Development Conference

National Organisation of Research Development Professionals (NORDP)

Fourth Annual Research Development Conference



4TH ANNUAL RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE



A FORUM FOR RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS TO SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, ENHANCE INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH COMPETITIVENESS, AND CATALYZE NEW RESEARCH AND INSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATIONS.

MAY 21-23, 2012
Hilton Alexandria Mark Center
Alexandria, VA

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About the project

The BILAT-USA project aims to increase awareness towards EU-U.S. Science and 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 from the U.S. The project is funded by the European Union's Capacities Programme on International Cooperation under the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Cooperation.

More detailed information can be found on the project website:

<http://www.eusscienceandtechnology.eu/bilat-usa>

Executive Summary

Work package 3 'Increase Collaboration and Support for Participation in the FP' is dedicated to increase the participation of researchers and research institutions from the U.S. through targeted actions addressing main activities of FP7. Its main objectives are to raise trans-Atlantic collaboration on cross-cutting multidisciplinary issues by better identifying mutual interests and sharing good practices. BILAT-USA therefore participated in the Fourth Annual Research Development Conference of NORDP, the National Organisation of Research Development Professionals, between 21 and 23 May 2012 in Alexandria, Virginia.

Round 300 research practitioners and administrators from all over the U.S. participated in the conference and showed very big interest in the BILAT-USA session 'Transatlantic Mobility without Borders', especially the FP7 mobility instruments and possibilities for transatlantic collaboration. There were several concrete questions and requests regarding U.S. researchers wishing to do research in Europe. The contacts that have been made to the NORDP board of directors and board members are much appreciated and future collaboration is demanded from both sides, the BILAT-USA project as well as NORDP.

Discussions and Outcomes

The 2012 Annual Conference of the National Organization of Research Development Professionals (NORDP) took place on 21-23 May 2012 in Alexandria, Virginia. 300 research practitioners and administrators gathered, in order to exchange views on numerous topics, such as enhancing researchers' competitiveness in seeking extramural funding, managing cross-disciplinary collaboration or advancement of women in academic science and engineering careers.

Program specialists and advisors for R&D from the National Institute of Health (NIH), the National Science Foundation (NSF), the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Department of Energy (DOE) have been invited to highlight the funders' perspectives. Collaborative, multidisciplinary and large-scale research is an increasing trend, involving several investigators and several institutions. This has to go hand-in-hand with clear management, coordinated leadership, as well as good conditions for knowledge and technology transfer. The current trend of increasing numbers of proposals for research funding implies the increasing need for more reviewers which sometimes may cause difficulties.

The international part of the conference was taken over by the BILAT-USA session on 'Transatlantic Mobility Without Borders', facilitated by the US project partner AAAS and was very well received among the U.S. research development professionals.

James Lightbourne, Director of the Division of Graduate Education at NSF, highlighted the interest of NSF for transatlantic collaboration by introducing Science Across Virtual Institutes (SAVI) , an innovative concept to foster interaction among scientists, engineers and educators around the world. He pointed out that there is still lack of understanding the differences between European and U.S. research funding systems and consequently a need to close this gap.

Therese Lindahl, Austrian National Contact Point for the Marie Curie Actions of the EU's Seventh Framework Program (FP7) gave an overview on current FP7 mobility instruments and possibilities for transatlantic collaboration. Her contribution was very well received among participating research development professionals, leading to several concrete questions and requests regarding cooperation possibilities between Europe and the U.S. through mobile researchers: FP7 mobility funding of US researchers in Europe.

Izabella Zandberg, EURAXESS Links USA project manager, rounded up the panel by highlighting why international mobility and internationalization of research are important factors for excellence of research. Main obstacles to mobility are still administrative and legal issues, the missing transferability of e.g. pensions from one country to the other, as well as lack of information and dual career support. In order to facilitate the mobility of researchers, funding programs for mobility and research collaboration have to be aligned and career paths in different countries have to be made compatible.

Chair of the session was the project manager of BILAT-USA, Elli Tzatzanis-Stepanovic, who together with her Hungarian and U.S. project partners organised and prepared the session.

The main conclusion of the BILAT-USA participation at the NORDP conference was that the round 300 participating research practitioners and administrators from all over the U.S. were exactly the accurate audience for the BILAT-USA session. As multipliers they can spread the information about BILAT-USA and FP7 mobility instruments and possibilities for transatlantic collaboration at their universities. The possibility of networking with the NORDP board of directors and board members was much appreciated and future collaboration is demanded from both sides, the BILAT-USA project as well as NORDP. The conference offered the possibility of a fruitful get-together of BILAT-USA representatives, Gwen Coat (AAAS) and Elli Tzatzanis-Stepanovic (FFG) with NORDP representatives, Ann McGuigan (Texas A&M University), Jacob Levin (University of California at Irvine), Jaine Place (North Carolina State University), Jeffrey M. Anderson (University of Texas at San Antonio) and many more.

Conference Documentation

Appendix A: Agenda



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AGENDA

MONDAY, MAY 21, 2012

- 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. **SPONSOR EXHIBITS** – *Plaza Ballroom Foyer, Dogwood and Maple*
- 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. **REGISTRATION** – *Ballroom Foyer*
- 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. **WELCOME RECEPTION**, *Sponsored by Elsevier – Arbors*

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2012

- 7:30 – 8:00 a.m. **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND REGISTRATION** – *Plaza Ballroom Foyer*
- 8:00 – 8:30 a.m. **WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**
Jacob Levin, NORDP President 2011-2012
Plaza Ballroom East
- 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. **MANAGING LARGE RESEARCH INITIATIVES: THE FUNDER'S PERSPECTIVE**
Program officers from multiple federal funding agencies (NIH, NSF, USDA, DOE, and NEH) will share experiences, insights, and expectations on development and evaluation of collaborative, interdisciplinary (and often large-scale) research grant proposals and how research development professionals can best partner with program officers to foster such proposals.
Chair: Holly J. Falk-Krzesinski, Research Assistant Professor and Director, Research Team Support and Development, Clinical & Translational Sciences Institute, Northwestern University
Panelists:
Dragana Brzakovic, Senior Staff Associate, Office of Integrative Activities, NSF
Laurie Fortis, Program Specialist, Institute of Bioenergy, Climate & Environment, NIFA, USDA
Kara L. Hall, Director, Science of Team Science Team, and Health Scientist, Division of Cancer Control & Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute, NIH
Colin McCormick, Senior Advisor for R&D, Office of the Under Secretary, DOE
Plaza Ballroom East
- 10:00 – 10:15 a.m. **COFFEE BREAK** – *Plaza Ballroom Foyer*
- 10:15 – 11:45 a.m. **TRANSATLANTIC MOBILITY WITHOUT BORDERS**, *Presented by AAAS*
This session is an outgrowth of work by the BILAT-USA project, which aims to raise awareness of EU-U.S. science and technology cooperation. The panel discussion will increase mutual understanding of current opportunities, strategies, and trends in transatlantic mobility for researchers. It will give an overview of instruments, career prospects, and recent trends in the migration of highly skilled labor, as well as recommendations for new strategies to address challenges related to international mobility. The panel will discuss ways in which mobility of highly skilled labor boosts global innovation, as well as how this can increase EU-U.S. collaboration

in science and technology in a sustainable manner. Research development professionals in the audience are welcome to share practices and suggest mechanisms that support and facilitate international research collaboration and innovation. This project is co-funded by the European Union's 7th Framework Programme (FP7).

Chair: **Elli B. Tzatzanis-Stepanovic**, Expert, International Cooperation, Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)

Panelists:

James Lightbourne, Director, Division of Graduate Education, NSF

Therese Lindahl, Austrian National Contact Point for the Marie Curie Actions, European Union Seventh Framework Program for Research and Technological Development (FP7)

Izabella Zandberg, Project Manager, EURAXESS Links USA, Network of European Researchers in the U.S.

Plaza Ballroom East

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

LUNCH, Sponsored by ProQuest – *Plaza Ballroom West*

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

NORDP

National Organization of Research Development Professionals

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AGENDA AT A GLANCE (DRAFT 4/12/12)

Monday, May 21

4:00-6:00 p.m.	Sponsor Demonstrations	<i>Plaza Ballroom Foyer</i>
5:30- 6:30 p.m.	Registration	<i>Plaza Ballroom Foyer</i>
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Welcome Reception, Sponsored by Elsevier	<i>Arbors</i>

Tuesday, May 22

7:30-8:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast and Registration	<i>Plaza Ballroom Foyer</i>
8:00-8:30 a.m.	Welcome and Opening Remarks	<i>Plaza Ballroom East</i>
8:30-10:00 a.m.	Managing Large Research Initiatives: The Funder's Perspective	<i>Plaza Ballroom East</i>
10:00-10:15 a.m.	Coffee Break	<i>Plaza Ballroom Foyer</i>
10:15-11:45 a.m.	Transatlantic Mobility without Borders Brought to us by AAAS	<i>Plaza Ballroom East</i>
11:45-12:30 p.m.	Lunch	<i>Plaza Ballroom West</i>
12:30-1:30 p.m.	Coffee and Dessert, Sponsored by ProQuest Keynote Address: NIH Strategic Planning and the Common Fund <i>Dr. James M. Anderson, Director, Program Coordination, Planning and Strategic Initiatives, National Institutes of Health</i>	<i>Plaza Ballroom West</i>

1:30-2:45 p.m.	<p>Concurrent Sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forging Partnerships: Research and University Development <i>Aspen</i> • Research Development: Collaborations among Research Scientists and Educators <i>Walnut</i> • Helpful Gatekeepers: Positive Management of the Limited Submission Process <i>Beech</i> • Leadership and Team Dynamics: Considerations in Organizing and Managing Cross-Disciplinary Teams <i>Terrace</i> • Communicating with Research Faculty <i>Arbors</i>
2:40-3:00 p.m.	Coffee Break <i>Plaza Ballroom Foyer</i>
3:15-4:30 p.m.	<p>Concurrent Sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing Center Proposals: Establishing Synergy Beyond Disciplinary Boundaries <i>Terrace</i> • Research Development and Federal Relations: A Match Made in Heaven? <i>Beech</i> • Strategies for Developing NSF ADVANCE Programs and Programs to Increase the Representation and Advancement of Women in Academic STEM Careers <i>Arbors</i> • What We Did Last Summer: Structure and Function of a Grant Writing Boot Camp <i>Aspen</i>
4:30-6:30 p.m.	Sponsor Demonstrations <i>Plaza Ballroom Foyer</i>
6:30-8:00 p.m.	NORDP Recognition Dinner <i>Plaza Ballroom West</i>
8:00-10:00 p.m.	NORDP Board Meeting <i>Birch</i>

Wednesday, May 23

8:00-8:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast <i>Plaza Ballroom Foyer</i>
8:30-9:45 a.m.	<p>Working Group Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing Research Collaboration <i>Arbors</i> • Effective Practices and Professional Development <i>Terrace</i> • External Engagement <i>Beech</i>
9:45-10:15 a.m.	Coffee Break <i>Plaza Ballroom Foyer</i>
10:15-11:30 a.m.	<p>Concurrent Sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Strategic and Organizational Development Tools in Research <i>Aspen</i> • Building Research Capacity in a College of Education <i>Walnut</i> • Internal Funding: Evolution and Outcomes <i>Beech</i> • Seeding Team Science: Research Development Professionals as Catalysts and Coaches <i>Terrace</i>

11:30-12:15 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crafting Better Proposals Using the Heilmeier Criteria and Persuasive Rhetoric 	<i>Arbors</i>
12:15-1:15 p.m.	<p>Lunch</p> <p>Coffee and Dessert</p> <p>Keynote Address: The Current Health and Future Well-being of Academic Research: Insights from a National Study</p>	<i>Plaza Ballroom West</i>
1:15-2:30 p.m.	<p>Dr. Brad Fenwick, National Academy Jefferson Science Fellow, Senior Science and Technology Advisor, U.S. Department of State and U.S. Agency for International Development</p> <p>Concurrent Sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Strategic Capabilities and Alliances • Building a Grants Culture: Advice to Campus Leaders • Research Networking Tools and Expertise Profiling Systems • Maximizing Potential with Minimal Resources 	<p><i>Plaza Ballroom West</i></p> <p><i>Beech</i></p> <p><i>Arbors</i></p> <p><i>Terrace</i></p> <p><i>Aspen</i></p>
2:45-3:45 p.m.	<p>NORDP Business Meeting and Working Group Reports</p> <p>Closing Remarks</p>	<i>Plaza Ballroom East</i>

Appendix B: Presentations

All symposium presentations can be accessed from the following website:

<http://www.nordp.org/2012-conference-materials>

Appendix C: Complete Conference Program and Speaker Bios

https://nordp.memberclicks.net/assets/RDConf2012/ProgramGuide/nordp_program_2012_proof4_opt.pdf

Appendix D: List of abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full-Term
AAAS	American Association Advancement of Science and Technology
BILAT-USA	Bilateral Coordination for the Enhancement and Development of S&T Partnerships between the European Union and the United States of America
FFG	Austrian Research Promotion Agency (Oesterreichische Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft mbH)
FP(7)	(Seventh) Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development
NORDP	National Organization of Research Development Professionals
R&D	Research & Development
RTD	Research and Technological Development
S&T	Science & Technology
SAVI	Science Across Virtual Institutes
U.S.	United States of America
USA	United States of America