

European Summer School for Scientometrics (ESSS) to be launched

Juan Gorraiz · Christian Gumpenberger · Stefan Hornbostel ·
Sybille Hinze · Wolfgang Glänzel · Koenraad Debackere

© Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest, Hungary 2010

Scientometric methods are increasingly used to analyse developments and trends in science and technology. Decisions to be taken in science policy and research management often have severe implications. Consequently data handling, indicator construction and interpretation require competent expert knowledge, which is currently only available to a limited extent for all stakeholders in Central Europe not the least due to lacking training opportunities.

Responding to the lack of a pertinent scientometrics education (especially in German speaking countries) and to the increasing demand, the University of Vienna (Austria), the Humboldt University of Berlin (Germany), the Institute for Research Information and Quality Assurance (iFQ, Germany) and the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium) have joined forces. They agreed upon jointly launching the *European Summer School for Scientometrics* (ESSS) this year. ESSS will take place alternately in Berlin, Vienna and Leuven.

ESSS will offer training covering major aspects of quantitative science and technology studies. The main emphasis will be on scientometrics methods however, relevant aspects of patent analysis will be covered as well. The sound theoretical education will be combined with practical exercises in order to give participants the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the most commonly used databases, to learn how to construct relevant indicators and how to interpret the outcomes.

ESSS courses provided are especially designed to cater for the needs of science policy makers, research quality managers, scientists, information specialists and librarians. ESSS is open to interested parties from all over Europe and beyond.

J. Gorraiz · C. Gumpenberger
University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

S. Hornbostel · S. Hinze
Institute for Research Information and Quality Assurance (iFQ), Bonn, Germany

S. Hornbostel
Humboldt University of Berlin, Berlin, Germany

W. Glänzel · K. Debackere
K.U. Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

The inauguration of ESSS will take place in Berlin on June 16th, 2010. The first ESSS course will take place in conjunction with this year's iFQ annual conference on research evaluation, which will be held from June 14th–15th at the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin (WZB). In 2010 a 3-day programme (16–18 June) will be offered covering two thematic modules. In the following years the coursework will be extended to cover five modules. Thus, in 2010 a small but premium foretaste of what attendees can expect from 2011 onwards will be given.

The 1st day of the ESSS, June 16th, will feature keynotes and presentations by internationally recognised scientometrics experts. On day 2 and 3 we will present the first two teaching modules: module one will focus on journal impact measures and composite indicators while module two will be concerned with Hirsch-type indices. On both days lectures will be given, introducing the theoretical background, which will be combined with practical exercises. The lectures will be delivered by experts from the three institutions participating. In addition internationally recognised scientometricians will be invited as trainers.

Each module can be attended independently from the other modules. ESSS will be integrated into the postgraduate course offerings of the University of Vienna and aims to award attendees with ECTS points for successfully completed course modules.

ESSS will have an international orientation using English as language of instruction.

The ESSS steering committee members (Wolfgang Glänzel, Koenraad Debackere, Stefan Hornbostel, Sybille Hinze, Juan Gorraiz and Christian Gumpenberger) are looking forward to seeing you in Berlin. Please, also visit our ESSS website at <http://www.scientometrics-school.eu>. Once registration is open further details will be communicated.