Call for Proposals ESOF 2010 – Scientific Programme

Welcome

Thank you for your interest in ESOF2010. With your help, we are planning to stage a great event, that will address important issues in which science and technology play a central role, assess scientific and cultural trends, and debate emerging ethical and social concerns and challenges. It will be a unique opportunity to meet and discuss the frontiers of scientific and technological research, the relationship between science and society, and the policies needed to support the advancement of knowledge. In accordance with the Euroscience spirit, special emphasis will be put on science communication and media issues.

Guidelines

- **Please read carefully the list of ESOF2010 proposed themes on pages 5-6 of this document.**

- **The deadline for proposal submission is June 15, 2009, at 15:00 (3 p.m.) Central European Time.**

- The official language of ESOF 2010 is English.

- Session proposals should take into account the following key points:
  - relevance
  - quality
  - originality
  - international perspective
  - interdisciplinary approach
  - interactive session format

- ESOF strives for diversity among speakers and participants. We welcome applications from all over the world, provided their proposals are relevant to Euroscience goals. We especially encourage proposals from Central and Eastern Europe and from Mediterranean countries.

- Within each theme, applicants are also encouraged, when appropriate, to cover: social science perspectives, including STS (science and technology studies); humanities and arts; mathematics; policy implications; economical and business issues; media involvement; ethics; public engagement.

- All submitted proposals will undergo a review process; please note that the Programme Committee may ask you to modify your project in order to accept it.

PaSsionForScienCe

- If your proposal is accepted, ESOF2010 will provide the venue and take care of the overall organisation and marketing of the event. However, proposers can help in this process by promoting their session to their own contacts. Activities must be completely *self-financed*: this includes contributors' travel, accommodation and any organisational expenses. However no registration fees will be charged to the selected participants. *You cannot apply to Euroscience or the ESOF2010 committees for financial support.*

Now you may proceed to the first step of the submission process.

STEP 1: Nominate a Spokesperson

You should nominate a *named contact* who will deal with all organisational matters: she/he is the one we will contact, regardless of whether or not she/he will be present in Torino.

Please fill in all the following fields. *You will be able to change these data later, before the final submission of your proposal(s)*

- first name
- last name
- institution/organisation
- contact details (address, telephone, e-mail)

STEP 2: Choose a theme

Choose one of the ESOF2010 themes [*here multiple choices menu*]. If you feel your proposal fits in more than one area, you may select an additional theme.

Proposals outside the published themes may be considered, but please explain clearly your goal [*here blank space*]

STEP 3: Choose a session format

Choose one of the following:

- interactive round table(s): a flexible format with brief presentations and ample space for questions, answers and reactions
- panel discussion: 3-4 speakers (maximum 15 minutes each) followed by extended discussion with the audience
- pro and con debate on a controversial topic
- interview: proposers will provide an experienced interviewer and interviewee(s)
- seminar: 2-3 speakers, educational bent, aimed to a more specialised audience

- classical workshop format
- invent your own format: you may choose any format that suits your proposal, but please describe it clearly and explain (1) the degree of interactivity and (2) why it is preferable to those listed above.

Remember that this is not a conventional scientific meeting: your audience may be quite diverse and interested, but not necessarily knowledgeable in your particular field. Thus, pay special attention to the communication style and be prepared to be flexible and patient, giving sufficient time for questions and debate. *Please note that each session should be chaired by an experienced moderator nominated by you.*

STEP 4: State the title

Please use no more than 150 characters. Remember this is important to attract an audience, so be descriptive and attractive.

STEP 5: Provide a synopsis

Provide a clear synopsis of the proposed activity (maximum 1500 characters). You should highlight the relevance of the proposed subject and the objectives. Please do *not* list the speakers or summarise their presentations here.

STEP 6: State your target audience

Choose one of the following (more than one choice is possibile, up to a maximum of 3):

- scientists/scholars
- media
- policy makers
- industry
- general public
- students
- other (specify)

STEP 7: Scheduling

Sessions last 1 hour and 15 minutes. However you may submit a proposal involving *two linked sessions*: in this case you should be clear on how the second session relates to the first.

STEP 8: Speakers

Please provide a list of speakers you have invited. Note that the Programme Committee reserves the right to re-examine proposals if the final list of contributors

differs substantially from the initial proposal. *Do not include people you have not yet contacted.*

- first name
- last name
- gender
- age group
- institution/organisation
- country
- contact details
- brief cv clarifying why she/he has been chosen (maximum 1000 characters)
- status: accepted, waiting response

STEP 8: Special needs and remarks

Please specify if you have non-standard technical needs, or if you need a special room setup (e.g. multiple round tables, theatre style setting etc), and state anything else you feel the Committee should be aware of (maximum 1500 characters).

STEP 9: Attachments

You may attach a brief supporting document or a graphical synopsis of your proposal; this should be not larger than 10 MB. You may also submit the URL of a relevant web page.

FINAL STEP: Save/submit proposals

You may now

- save this proposal in your personal account, but not submit it yet
- save and submit
- add a new proposal

Thank you for submitting your proposal

At the end of the evaluation process, the spokesperson you provided will be contacted by the Programme Committee. Proposals may be rejected, accepted, or conditionally accepted, provided you make the alterations suggested by the reviewers. Even if your proposal is accepted, the Programme Committee reserves the right to make editorial changes in the title and/or synopsis, or to modify the allotted time. If you feel our changes have had a negative impact on your proposal, please contact the ESOF Project Team at *info@esof2010.org*, telephone +39 011 6702740.

ESOF 2010 Themes

Proposals could address issues and questions such as those listed below each theme headline. Within each theme, applicants are also encouraged, when appropriate, to address cross-cutting issues such as: linking the natural and social sciences, humanities and arts; policy implications; economical and business issues; media involvement; ethical dimensions; public perceptions.

1. Sustainable living and moving
Our built environment, infrastructure and transportation; urban planning; regulatory issues; sustainable architecture; the future of food in a changing world; urban ecology; interactive cities; creativity and urban lifestyle; influence on lifestyle and health; positive environmental aspects of urban living; green roof technologies; ambient light capture...

2. Evolution, development and adaptation of organisms
Interaction between genes and environment; epigenetics; somatic selection; adaptability of organisms to changes in environment; influence of life style on disease later in life or on the unborn child; implications for health care…

3. Moving into and up from the quantum world
Quantum computers; quantum teleportation; nanotechnology; quantum optics; frontiers of particle physics; quantum cryptography; from particles to the universe…

4. Responding to global needs
Contextualising global concerns e.g. food shortage, climate change, population dynamics, mobility and migration, environmental degradation, resources and services; economics of sustainability; biodiversity; water management; balancing innovation and conservation; disaster management; violence and safety; conflict and cooperation; water wars; effects of sea water level rise; politics of forced migration; roles of governments, NGOs, entrepreneurship, technology and innovation; the impact of the financial crisis...

5. Frontiers in energy research
New technologies for scaling up solar energy; biofuel; geothermal energy; wave and tidal energy; biotech: synthetic and enhanced photosynthesis; energy efficiency and conservation; energy security; waste recycling; energy policy and fiscal/taxation mechanisms; energy markets and global security; decentralised energy systems; transportation and super grids; potential political impact of changed energy structures...

6.   Science, knowledge and belief

Science as a cultural activity based on human curiosity; cultural differences in science, knowledge and belief; is need the mother of invention? neuroscientific approaches to belief; the role of (science) education; past, present and future of the interaction between science, knowledge and belief…

7.   Memory and learning in organisms, social and artificial systems

The sciences of brain, mind, and behaviour; learning and memory; neural and tissue memory; evolution of memory and learning; growing, aging; anthropology of learning; learning in preliterate societies; material and cultural heritage; how can findings of neurosciences affect education systems; how do financial organisations/political systems learn? how long does memory last in organisations? data organisation and searchability of knowledge; recurrent financial crisis – how might society learn for the future? …

8.   Languages, cultures and variability

Origins and evolution of language; diversity and loss of language; what will be the *lingua franca* of tomorrow? (e.g. domain loss in science and music in non-English speaking countries); dominance of language in humans and other species; expressing emotions through language (body language etc.); computer language; mathematics; music: listening and performing; sign language; neurolinguistics...

9.   Integrating science with health care

Bridging the growing gap between biomedical research and health care; convergence and divergence of patterns in health and disease; social organisation of health care; integrated platforms for diagnosis and treatment; evidence-based medicine; pharmacogenetics; the economics of health care; health technology assessment; prevention in infectious and lifestyle diseases; influence of demography, new technologies and economic growth in health care; how to deal with the public's view on and interest in non-science based treatments…

10.   Policy – what follows?

European science, research and innovation policies; the role of EU and national institutions; European science policy in a global context; international S&T cooperation policies; the changing landscape of European universities; what comes after Lisbon? strategies for the future…