

SciDF

REPORT 2018-19

INTERACTION IS THE SOLUTION



SCIENTISTS
DATING FORUM
SOCIETY POLITICS ECONOMICS

DEAR FRIEND,

This report shows the effort and perseverance of Scientists Dating Forum (SciDF) in the last year and a half. During this period, we have reorganized the association both ideologically and structurally. This allowed us to convey a message of cohesion between the scientific, political, and social axes on scientific knowledge as a transformation tool.

To better understand this concept, let's think of a table that represents our perception of science and, by extension, our political priorities. Table legs (researchers' work, political decisions and citizens' support) are necessary to keep the well-state and balance of the table. This is the reason why from SciDF we defend the necessity of working together on these aspects. Otherwise, we may be losing information from any of these "legs", which are key to solve the problem from a general perspective.

SciDF members have many backgrounds, from researchers and communicators to editors and leaders of scientific areas. What they have in common is high professionalism and commitment in the delivery of our association's message.

As a result of the team effort and the extensive network of collaborators, it has been possible to organise events, roundtables, and workshops. These have created a meeting point between scientific advancement, political decisions and general public, which is reflected in this report.

Our interest for the upcoming months will remain the same: support research and enable the understanding of its value in all sectors, promoting researchers as key members of the process.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you need more information or want to join SciDF. We are keen to work with motivated people who want to promote science.

SciDF Directive Board

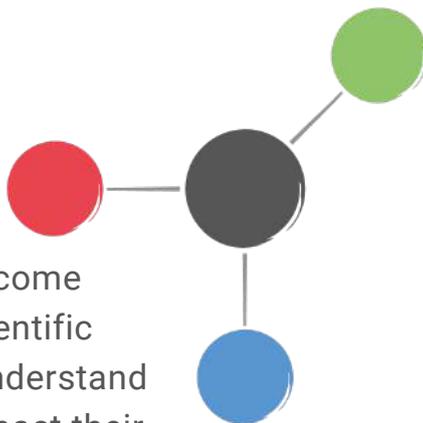
Laura Díaz, President
Carla Conejo, Vice-President
Ryan Armstrong, Treasurer

Scientists Dating Forum

SciDF aims at strengthening the dialogue between science and politics, economics and the society.

Citizens

We want citizens to become accomplices of the scientific process so that they understand that science has an impact their lives, even when it is not obvious. Hence our actions in the field of citizen science.



Researchers

We want researchers to take action and explore beyond traditional academia. Hence our projects related to employment, promotion, and our round tables about other approaches to science as new professions in the field.

Politicians

We want politicians to get more involved and to recognize science as a priority for the well-being of citizens. Hence our actions and debates on topics connecting science with the political sphere.

2018-19

IN NUMBERS

19

ACTIONS

23

VOLUNTEERS

35

COLLABORATORS

1,055

ATTENDEES

Politics & SCIENCE

We want politicians to get more involved and to recognize science as a priority for the well-being of citizens. Hence our actions and debates on topics connecting science with the political sphere.

04-05-2019

#TambéVotemCiènciaBCN

MARCH FOR SCIENCE 2019

On May 4th 2019, March for Science was celebrated in different cities around the world, an initiative first conceived in 2017 in the United States to highlight the importance of science in the lives of people as a driver of progress and social advance. SciDF became a satellite of the March for Science in 2019 and, taking advantage of the proximity of its date to the municipal elections of the city of Barcelona, we kicked off again the project #TambéVotemCiència (#AlsoVoteScience), first launched in December 21st 2017. For the event, we organized a debate on scientific issues with the representatives of political parties candidates aspiring to lead the Barcelona City Council. Different aspects related to science, research and innovation, considered of great importance for the citizens of Barcelona were addressed. This event counted with the support of the Association for the Advancement of Science (AEAC) and the Royal Academy of Arts and Sciences of Barcelona (RACAB).



Montserrat Ballarín Partit Socialista de Catalunya (PSC)

Jordi Graupera Barcelona És Capital

Ferran Mascarell Junts per Catalunya

Carlos Rivadulla Ciutadans

Gemma Sendra Esquerra Republicana de Catalunya (ERC)

Joan Subirats Barcelona en Comú

Moderated by **Pastora Martínez**, Vice President of Globalization and Cooperation of the Open University of Catalunya (UOC)



Coordinators

Laura Díaz

Carla Conejo

Patricia Laiz

Montserrat Batlle

Volunteers

Jordi Gatnau

Roger Ponce

Laurent Ladépêche

Rubén Pavia

Alicia Arroyo

Pablo Bonilla

Olivia Tort

Vittoria Spinosa

Adrián Hinojosa

Filippos Exadaktylos

Guillem Pérez



Palau Macaya. Barcelona. Live Streaming



10-2019

Have your say

ON FUTURE OBJECTIVES FOR EU-FUNDED RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

In July 2019 SciDF participated in the European Commission project 'Have your say', an online consultation whose purpose was to know the interests of different scientific personnel (such as that on associations doing activism on the topic of interest) on the management and destination of economic funds for science and research.



Renata Kubus
Alicia Arroyo



European Commission



Online



07-2019

EuroScience

SCIENCE POLICY WORKING GROUP

In October 2019 SciDF joined the scientific policy group of the European Association EuroScience. The group remains active, participating in online meetings for the presentation of a joint strategy between the different entities that make it up.



Alicia Arroyo
Renata Kubus



EuroScience



Online



Citizens

& SCIENCE

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28-02-2019

Funding Science

EXPERIENCES AND CHALLENGES AS A SOCIETY

SciDF and FEBiotec, with the support of Spanish Association for the Advancement of Science (AEAC), organized this event to discuss how science is funded and what is the current situation that researchers find themselves. There is much talk of science, scientists and the lack of opportunities, but ... do we really know how scientists are today in this country? Researchers, policy makers and other professionals explained their experiences, the difficulties and opportunities they encountered, to give the audience a complete overview of the current situation.



Montserrat Dabán Head of International Relations, Secretariat for Universities and Research of the Government of Catalunya, Scientific Director and Head of International Relations of BIOCAT (BioRegió de Catalunya).

Josep Dalmau ICREA Senior Investigator, Director of the 'Pathogenesis of immune-mediated neurological disorders' Group at August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS) and Professor of Neurology at the University of Pennsylvania

Javier Ramón Azcón Junior Group Leader at the Institute for Bioengineering of Catalunya (IBEC).

Moderated by **Sara Ricardo** Researcher at the Institute for Molecular Biology of Barcelona (IBMB-CSIC), Spanish Association for the Advancement of Science (AEAC), Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA)



Maria Noguera
Laurent Ladépêche
FEBiotec



Centre Cívic Can Deu. Barcelona



PROJECT

Puzzle of global challenges

The purpose of this activity is to convey that in order to solve many of the current global challenges, the different representatives of the scientific, political, economic and civil society sectors need to sit at the same table to discuss and find solutions together, because their interests are interdependent: the best solution for everyone is not the best for the whole. For this reason, participants are invited to solve a puzzle using a role-playing game. Each puzzle consists of four pieces and each piece represents a possible solution to a problem of high social impact. Each participant dressed up a costume and speaks for a representative from each of these sectors: scientists, politicians, businessmen/economists and civil society. Each group will have to choose the part that, for them, represents the best solution to the problem and then have to check if their own solution fits with the solution of the other groups. Participants will realize that only through dialogue and critical thinking can one of the possible solutions to the problem be reached together in an agreed manner.



17-18-09-2018

Campus Gutenberg 2018

PARTICIPATION | WORKSHOP

SciDF offered the activity of the puzzle at the Campus Gutenberg 2018, a conference devoted to communication, outreach and scientific culture.



Vittoria Spinosa
Patricia Laiz
Janire Gesto



Barcelona School of Management (BSM)
University Pompeu Fabra (UPF)



CosmoCaixa. Barcelona

04-04-2019

#Imperdible_03 | COTEC Foundation

PARTICIPATION | WORKSHOP

SciDF also offered the activity of the puzzle at #Imperdible_03, the third edition of insignia events signed by Fundación Cotec. This year's Imperdible's topic was the future and innovation of the cities.



Vittoria Spinosa
Roger Ponce
Patricia Laiz
Laura Díaz
Renata Kubus
Janire Gesto



COTEC Foundation for Innovation



Fernán Gómez Cultural Center of La Villa. Madrid



Researchers

& SCIENCE

We want researchers to take action and explore beyond academia. Hence our projects related to employment, promotion, and our round tables about other approaches to science as new professions in the field.

04-05-10-2018

BDebate - Open Science

PARTICIPATION | POSTER AND FLASH TALK

**Open science: from values to practice.
Building a roadmap for transformative change**

With the support of IDIBAPS, SciDF participated in this event organized by B-Debate to discuss the impact and future of Open Science, through a poster and a flash talk presentation. Open science is a wide concept involving e.g. open access, patient engagement, transparency, data sharing, a real impact of science on society, etc. The biggest problem so far to implement it is how to evaluate scientists. The areas of science are so diverse that different 'framework' metrics are needed. Moreover, science has become hypercompetitive, and new efforts should be addressed to make it more collaborative. Of note there is a big problem in science ethics, integrity and reproducibility. Scientists have a barrier to share 'their' data and include non-scientists in shaping science. Open science can be seen as an opportunity to do 'good' science: 'Good science anywhere is good for science everywhere'.



Laura Díaz
Olivia Tort



Barcelona International Center for Scientific Debate (BDebate)
Biocat & Obra Social La Caixa



CosmoCaixa. Barcelona



08.11.2018

I&Research Seminars for PhD

PARTICIPATION | WORKSHOP

Scientists Dating Forum: linking science, politics, society and economics

SciDF presented its approach to promote that researchers are more actively involved in society and the political sphere through a broad number of actions. Topics that go from general outreach to science diplomacy are quite well aligned with several of the priorities of the María de Maeztu transversal actions, that include opening up scientific work and setting the means that guarantee that excellent science also results in positive impacts in society. Also, an participative workshop was performed to introduce predoctoral research and staff attending to the concept of Open Science.



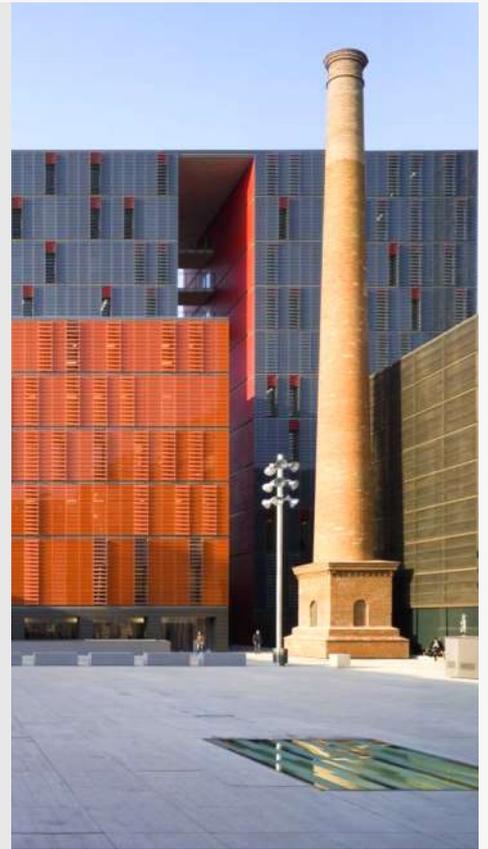
Carla Conejo
Ryan Armstrong



Department of Information Technology and Communications,
University Pompeu Fabra (DTIC - UPF)



DTIC - University Pompeu Fabra. Barcelona. Live Streaming



18.01.2019

3rd Biomed PhDay

PARTICIPATION | WORKSHOP

Analyzing factors for getting the PhD and keeping the sanity

The workshop was the initial step of a larger project aimed at promoting well-being among PhD student. The workshop aims to raise awareness about the risks faced during this particular research stage and about the inter-connection of different drivers. The workshop allowed PhD students to analyze the factors that can affect their well-being, to discuss the possible solutions and to understand the complexity of the situation. At the end of the workshop the participants were invited to fill in a questionnaire to reflect upon their own experience and to contribute in shedding a light into the current situation within the Biomedicine Program of the UB.



Vittoria Spinosa
Laura Díaz
Ryan Armstrong



Biomed PhD Day



Faculty of Biology. University of Barcelona (UB). Barcelona



PROJECT

Well-being of predoctoral researchers

Recent studies suggest that PhD students suffer mental health issues at alarming levels -around six times the level of the general population- issues which impact not only productivity and program outcomes but also the long-term well-being of the developing researcher. Research centers have begun to address the issue, but it resists a simple policy solution. However, this problem lacks of a definitive solution and it is tightly intertwined with a number of interconnected systems. In light of these challenges, the workshop created by SciDF takes a collaborative, action-oriented approach to generate awareness and empower PhD students. Based on methods developed in psychology, organizational studies, and design thinking, it provides a means of understanding and addressing the challenges PhD students face in a way that allows for the variety of forms these are likely to take. The learning objectives are: to develop increased awareness of typical threats to well-being in carrying out PhD research and what to do about them, to train complex problem-solving skills, and to facilitate practical strategies for positively dealing with threats to well-being encountered in the PhD. Participants will gain increased awareness of the complexity of the issue and propose their own solution in a hands-on, supportive setting.



15-03-2019

Science & Beers

PARTICIPATION | WORKSHOP

Brief introduction about SciDF actions, including a description about the project and workshop about 'Promoting well-being of PhD students'.

04-04-2019

Keeping your sanity during the PhD

PARTICIPATION | WORKSHOP

Workshop to raise awareness about the mental health issues that affect predoctoral students and to provide solutions to this complex problem that occurs within the research ecosystem of research centers and universities.



Laura Díaz
Ryan Armstrong
Vittoria Spinosa



Department of Information Technology and Communications,
University Pompeu Fabra (DTIC - UPF)



DTIC - University Pompeu Fabra. Barcelona. Live Streaming



07·03·2019

If women talk, science stops!

PARTICIPATION

SciDF member Alicia Arroyo participated in the round table on gender policy in research, proposed by the Coordination of Research Centers (CIR).



Alicia Arroyo



Coordinació Intercentres de Recerca (CIR)



August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS). Barcelona



06·06·2019

JPhD2019 Congress

PARTICIPATION

Round table 'Beyond the lab'

On the occasion of the 4th Scientific Meeting of BNC-b Student JPhD2019 Congress, SciDF participated in a debate that addressed topics such as the benefits of participating in the entities represented in the round table (SciDF, Pint of Science and SCN2, among others), the skills that can be developed, the efforts towards different approaches to scientific dissemination, funding mechanisms or ways to fight for the labor rights of research staff. SciDF President Laura Díaz explained why it is necessary for young researchers to become aware of their role in science policy decisions.



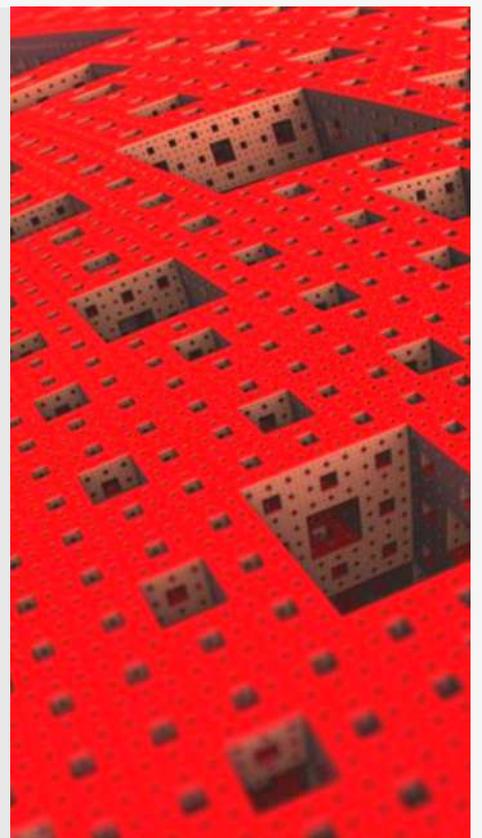
Laura Díaz



Catalan Society of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (SCN2)



Institute of Materials Science of Barcelona (ICMAB).
Campus de la UAB. Bellaterra, Barcelona



Collaborations

WITH OTHER INITIATIVES

11·04·2019

AEAC Presentation in Barcelona

PARTICIPATION

SciDF participated in the presentation of the Spanish Association for the Advancement of Science (AEAC) in a round table on the need to facilitate scientific knowledge to non-scientific citizenship.

 Laura Díaz

 Spanish Association for the Advancement of Science (AEAC)

 Palau Macaya. Barcelona



20·05·2019

Science, history and vice versa

PINT OF SCIENCE

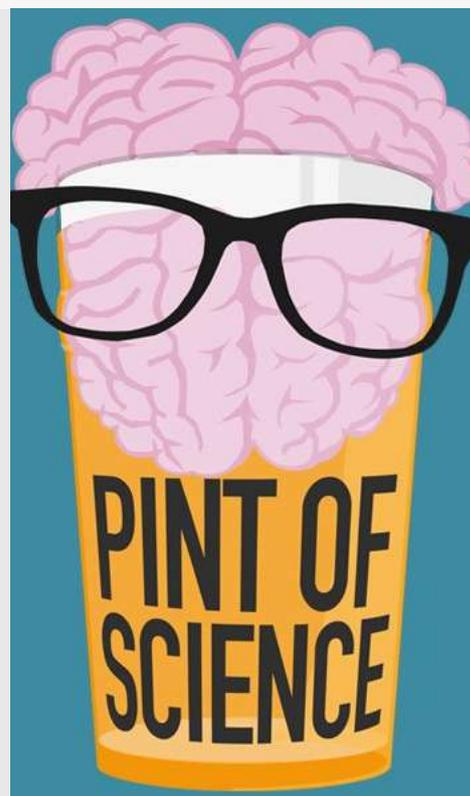
SciDF collaborated in the session about 'Science, history and vice versa', conducted by Jordi Pérez of the Center for the Study of Provincial Interdependence in Classical Antiquity of the University of Barcelona (CEIPAC-UB) and José Pardo of the Milá y Fontanals Institution (IMF-CSIC), research center in humanities, in the science dissemination event Pint of Science in Barcelona.

 **Jordi Pérez** Center for the Study of Provincial Interdependence in Classical Antiquity of the University of Barcelona (CEIPAC-UB)
José Pardo Milá y Fontanals Institution (IMF-CSIC)

 Maria Noguera

 Pint of Science

 Casa Orlandai. Barcelona



30-05-2019

Open Access. Present and Future

PARTICIPATION

Internet access and the digitization of scientific publications allows Open Access (OA) to anyone interested. The complex open situation -that has to do with paying for access to results of a publicly funded research, the costs of publication, the quality of publications and its transparency- generates complex scenarios with various solutions and opinions to the which must be dealt. SciDF participated in the round table organized by the RACAB to help clarify the debate and to discuss about the benefits, contributions, challenges and of the necessary changes that must be applied to achieve an open access in research to improve access to scientific knowledge.



María Noguera



Royal Academy of Arts and Sciences of Barcelona (RACAB)



Royal Academy of Arts and Sciences of Barcelona (RACAB). Barcelona



09-11-2019

14th INNOVACEF Report 2019

PARTICIPATION

In July 2019 SciDF participated as a collaborator in the dissemination of the survey for the execution of the 14th INNOVACEF Report 2019, promoted by the Distance University of Madrid (UDIMA), whose objective was to find out the levels of confidence about the employment opportunities of three scientific groups: young researchers who work in Spain, Spanish scientists working abroad and scientists returned to Spain.



Laura Díaz



Distance University of Madrid (UDIMA)



Online



Other

ACTIVITIES

08·11·2018

Speed Dating for Science Lovers

SOCIAL EVENT

The social event 'Speed Dating for Science Lovers' was a meeting between current members of the association and potential members. SciDF new operation strategy after the presidency take over was presented in this informal event. Also, a 'speed dating' was organized to enforce networking and the collaboration of the association with other entities, who were represented in the event, and encouraged attendees to become part of our association.



Presenters

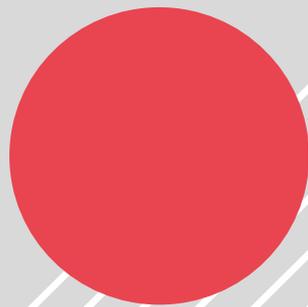
Òscar Aznar (Lana Vuli)
Ryan Armstrong

Laura Díaz
Carla Conejo
Maria Noguera
Patricia Laiz
Vittoria Spinosa



BlackLab Brewhouse & Kitchen. Barcelona





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