CIRCLE U. STAFF WEEK

How to develop research support in the context of the European Universities initiative ?

UCLouvain – 14.12.2022-16.12.2022

Draft Programme

The composition of the panels that will animate the discussions is not yet determined. If you wish to be part of one of them, please mention it in the registration form.

Wednesday, 14 December

13:00 –13:30	Registration
13:30-13 :45	Official opening of the Circle U. Staff Week - Welcome and introduction
13:45-17 :00	Presentation of participants – Participants from the same university are expected to prepare a presentation of their institution and the way research support is organized.
17:00-18 :00	Networking
18:00-19 :00	Campus tour
19:30 - Late	Welcome Dinner

Thursday, 15 December

8:30-9:00	Welcome coffee
9:00-10:30 Workshop 1	*Interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary Research : How can Research Support Offices support culture change at their universities?* **Presentation by Pierre Mersch**, UCLouvain Research Department **Panel composition:** to be defined **Abstract**: Over the last decades, inter and trans-disciplinary research has gradually gained in recognition and has become a major trend in academia. Despite strong structural obstacles, support to interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research approaches has become a science policy priority, whereas interdisciplinarity in research has gradually established itself in the world of research-intensive universities. As the emphasis on interdisciplinary research increases, universities have gradually put in place support measures in order to boost inter and transdisciplinarity in the research process. In this session, through concrete examples of existing initiatives to support inter and transdisciplinarity within Circle U. partner universities, we aim to discuss how specifically Research Support Offices can be actors of this culture of change and help these often-siloed worlds to collide.

10:30-11:00	Coffee Break
11:00-12:30 **Workshop 2**	***PhD Tools : How do our universities support PhD candidates through their doctoral journey ?*** **Presentation by Sophie Leclère**, UCLouvain Research Department **Panel composition:** to be defined **Abstract:** Various reports and studies demonstrate the importance of institutional support for the completion of a doctoral thesis. This support takes the form of an efficient administrative follow-up as well as an attractive training offer. In that context, universities are also very active in developing tools to be used throughout the doctoral studies. These tools are numerous and concern many aspects of the doctorate: assessment of skills, interactions with the supervisor, post-doctoral employment opportunities, well-being assessment, etc. Assuming that tools created within one university could be extremely useful for other institutions, that may share or adapt these tools to their own needs, the aim of this session is to discuss with PhD Support Officers from Circle U universities how a shared toolbox, gathering concrete examples from different partner universities, would improve the experience of our PhD students .
12:30–14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:30 **Workshop 3**	***Researchers' mobility : What kind of support and welcome mechanisms for researchers experiencing an international mobility ?*** **Presentation by Elisabeth Colon,** UCLouvain Research Department and **Dominique Socquet**, UCLouvain HR Department **Panel composition:** to be defined **Abstrac**t: A key element in achieving the European Research Area (ERA) is to make Europe a more attractive location for top class research talents through better career perspectives and opportunities. This objective is at the heart of the European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for their Recruitment as well as of the subsequent policy initiatives including the EURAXESS Services. Academic mobility is also one of the priorities for our universities : it allows a mutual enrichment of knowledge and constitutes an asset for the researcher, the supervisor as well as for the host institution. In this respect, one of the main objectives of the Circle U. alliance is to boost academic researcher's careers. Yet, however, the differences between the universities are deep, namely in regards to recruitment, contracts and working conditions, among others. In this session, we will share good practices about support and mechanisms relevant to the hosting of international researchers within the Circle U. alliance. We shall also discuss how we can improve our services to foster attractiveness and cope with the various barriers to mobility.
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break
16:00-17:30 **Workshop 4**	***EU research funding: How to support researchers to prepare successful EU research proposals ?*** **Presentation by Eleonore Couder,** UCLouvain Research Department **Panel composition: to be defined** **Abstract:** Quality of proposals increases. Success rates are low. This may lead the researchers' motivation to decrease. The following questions arise in this context : What can we do to maintain motivation ? Is there anything new we may do to help ? Does Circle U. offer an opportunity to increase EU proposal submissions and to make the research proposals successful ?

	This workshop offers an opportunity to share the ways to support researchers at our own institution, to establish contacts, and to potentially create new prospects for research collaborations.

Friday 16th of December

9:00-9:30	Morning Coffee
9:30-11:30 Workshop 1	*Supporting researchers (and future researchers) in their quest for a more virtuous scientific publication: examples and case studies of the activities of the Science and Technology Library at UCLouvain.* **Presentation by:** **Florence Vande Capelle**, UCLouvain BST LC Pasteur Training Manager and **Dr. Frédéric Brodkom**, UCLouvain, BST LC Pasteur Director (Visit of the Learning Center Pasteur included)
11 :30-12 :30	Break and light lunch
12:30-15:30 Workshop 2	*Open Science : From strategy to actions* **Presentation and discussion led by:** **Pr Yves Deville**, Senior Advisor to the President for the Digital University and Open Science, UCLouvain; **Pr Anne Vanet,** Vice President for Digital Transformation and Open Science, University Paris Cité and **Christine Jacqmot**, Project Manager for Digital University and Open Science, Louvain Learning Lab, UCLouvain. **Abstract**: Open Science is a political priority for the European Commission and the standard method of working in its research and innovation funding programmes, as it improves the quality, efficiency and responsiveness of research. Circle U. has also incorporated Open Science into its objectives. One of its working groups is discussing Open Science objectives as well as recommendations to policy makers within our institutions. In this interactive workshop, participants will discuss and build concrete actions to deploy openness in our universities. The workshop will start with a short introduction to Open Science, organised as a debate. In a second step, organised as a world café, different dimensions of open science will be discussed: open access (for scientific publication), open data and research data management, and research evaluation. From a set of possible recommendations, the participant will have to choose some recommendations, discuss them and propose different actions to concretely implement and achieve the chosen recommendations. Each action will be analysed and described in terms of actors involved, potential impact, possible costs, barriers... In a final step, all proposed actions will be shared in a plenary discussion.
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break
16:00-16:45	Round table discussion and closing key-note talk