

RESEARCH

Research Services Office Newsletter

Issue 11, June 3, 2016



NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

Dear Colleagues and Students,

Please welcome the 11th issue of our Research Newsletter! This issue is a closing one in the series of newsletters for Academic year 2015-2016. Our team will take a break in summer and will come back to you all fresh and new in September 2016, but before we go you will be updated with all recent research events and a lot of useful information.

May was a very busy month for our research community and Research Team is happy to share all research news from the first hands. In this issue you will read about workshop "Research Management and Administration" conducted by NU Graduate School of Education, the first Research Round Table on the topic of Gender and Women's Studies, seminar "Improving the research culture of the university of the XXI century" conducted by NU Library, PURE training conducted by Elsevier experts, Horizon 2020 Workshop, NU students' presentation on the new project "Eco-village" and a lot of other interesting news.

Our special *Spotlight* guest this time is new Interim Provost, Loretta O'Donnell, who has shared her vision on the current and future plans and activities of NU. Being a Research Newsletter, we also had a chance to discuss Dr. O' Donnell's research interests.

Don't miss the chance to read about your colleagues' successes and achievements in *New Publications* and *Congratulations* sections. We also prepared updated information about the available funding opportunities in *Grants and Competition* section.

Whether you're new to us or an old friend of our newsletter, our hope is to continue to help make our research community strong by bringing you helpful information, ideas and all necessary research updates. If you want to be the part of this process please send us any useful information on research matters or events during this summer and it will come up in September issue.

Sincerely,
Research Team

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Interview with Acting Provost Dr. Loretta O'Donnell

Research Team: Congratulations on your promotion! What plans for University do you have on your new interim position? What initiatives will you be working on in the coming year?

Loretta O'Donnell: Thank you. In April 2016 I have been appointed to serve as an Interim Provost at NU, which is a great honor for me. My position is interim, but academic and research life at NU knows no pauses and moving towards success on possibly fastest pace, so my main task is to facilitate that process. Nazarbayev University has been awarded with a status of Research University in December 2015, so we have new heights to conquer and we can't stand still.

My plans are to continue consolidating people, projects and ideas in the best possible combination and facilitate the existing projects with the necessary resources and infrastructure to reach academic and research excellence goals.

RT: In your academic career you held various positions – Director, Dean, Vice-Provost and Provost. How does the perception of University needs and goals change on different levels?

LO: It has been a very interesting and exciting journey to me to go through all stages – from being a faculty member to being the Provost of the University. I cannot say that my perception of University life, needs and goals has changed drastically. I would rather say that working at different levels helped



me to see the bigger picture, see how all pieces fit together and definitely made my vision and strategic thinking much more long-term. When I think about any investment in research or academic life of University I think by decades in terms of the benefits and costs – what will happen within 10 ,20, 50 years.

Long-term strategic vision and constantly changing and developing world outside pushes your list of priorities to recalibrate all the time and this is my job to update the list according to University needs and goals.

RT: You are chairing various Committees and Councils at NU and heading a number of highly important University initiatives. What area of your job do you feel is toughest to deal with?

LO: I would like to look at this questing from a different angle. Being so much involved in University life I started appreciating the high quality of our faculty members and administrative staff

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more and more with every passing day. I am fascinated by how talented and smart our students are. They are as talented as international students.

We have very diverse faculty members – they are coming from 52 countries. So it is at least 52 different academic and research experiences plus all of them have their own unique experience. The biggest challenge I encountered in my job is to have time to listen to everyone and to have time to respond and help everyone. We always can find additional funding and all other types of resources, but time is the only resource we can't stretch or return.

Coming back to my working plan – being an Interim Provost of NU makes me plan and optimize things even more effectively to be able to manage all

aspects of University life efficiently.

RT: You have been with NU already for 3 years. What do you think are our strong and weak sides and how to facilitate them?

LO: It has already been 3 years. They are and they will be very memorable to me. We had many challenges and many successes in these 3 years. NU is very young institution and in these 3 years our University showed tremendous success in many ways.

The main factor that made us successful is our people – they are well-educated, they are smart and hardworking and altruistic in many aspects. It is an amazing thing to see how people's knowledge and will can build an institution like NU from scratch. I will always be grateful that NU permitted me

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to be the part of that process.

However, we do have some weak sides, but I truly believe they can be overcome. We still need to develop many institutional policies on different aspects, we need to place or replace some systems and structures inside of University, but I think it is a natural evolutionary process of any young academic and research institution. We have our strong factor – our people to solve all the problems along the path to success. Good people and good systems make an institution outstanding. We have everything to reach that.

RT: We know that your home country is Australia. Can you please tell us on how Australian academic and university life differs from Kazakhstani? What do you think both systems can adopt from each other?

LO: There are many things in common between NU and any Universities in Australia. Nazarbayev University is a very global, international institution, which is always ready to present itself on the world academic and research arena. We follow all international standards on academic integrity and research excellence. So you won't feel much difference in the internal organizational processes and institutional policies.

However, there are a number of

differences. Australian Universities generally have approximately 30% of international students. NU is only striving for it right now, but it is in our future KPIs to increase that number. Another difference is that Australian Universities are known for its strong emphasis on academic integrity, which means more students are willing to pay substantial tuition fees for that. It is also a future plan of NU to introduce tuition fees as part of the University income. I believe that in the future, when NU will reach its research and academic KPIs we will be not much different from any top Western and Eastern institutions.

RT: At some point you will come back to your home country and become a head for some Australian University. Will you implement any NU experience in that institution? What ideas from NU do you see as very successful to share with other institutions?

LO: I really find the idea of having partner institutions for each School as very effective and successful. When the top Universities and Schools are guiding us in what they are good at – it makes the whole process of establishing much smoother. We have a chance to make fewer mistakes on the way, we risk fewer resources, we easier find the right people to hire, we create better infrastructure, and we implement better ideas. We are not spending the time inventing bicycle, we are almost riding it from the beginning. If I have chance in the future, I will be definitely implement or recommend implementing this idea in Australia.

RT: You have been Vice-Provost for Academic Affairs for 3 years at NU. Being a Provost right now, you are also taking care of the research processes at NU.

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How do you think we can facilitate the interaction between these two main parts of University life?

LO: The answer to that question is basically the main line in my job responsibilities list. This is why I am here. All the best internationally known universities are spending much time to integrate academic and research processes. It all starts from the students. Our main task as the Research University to demystify the research process for the students. We need to actively involve them in all type of research – encourage them to participate in research projects, to publish papers, to go to conferences, and to become the editors of their student journals. It is obvious that not all of them will become researchers, but knowing the process will help them at all the types of professions they are receiving – from engineering to public service and hopefully part of the will become successful researchers in the future.

RT: We are Research Newsletter. We believe NU Community will be please to know your research interests. Can you please share them with us?

LO: I come from a business school. My research interests are focused on analyzing human capital from the perspective of financial markets. I am interested in understanding how investors, including fund managers, value the human element in listed companies. In knowledge intensive organizations, in particular, the way in which people are managed has a significant impact on the overall value of the firm. In some cases, the human capital is the most significant asset within the firm. For instance, companies which invest in training their employees will generally outperform their competitors over time, as measured by



total returns to shareholders. The Google organization is a good example. The company invests extensively in formal and informal training for its employees as part of a broad approach to create systems to enhance intellectual capital. In addition to training, other human capital components include: recruitment, career planning, knowledge management, remuneration and performance management. Knowledge intensive organizations are more likely to be successful when these management systems are internally consistent and consistent with strategy. However, it is not easy for fund managers and other investors to analyze management systems inside listed firms. Investors typically analyze financial outputs rather than human capital systems as inputs to value creation. So there are opportunities for fund managers and other investors to reconsider their analytical tools and the assumptions on which they are based. This research has some resonance with universities. Strong and internally consistent human capital systems, which work together to enhance intellectual capital, tend to create strong performance over time.

RT: Many thanks for very interesting interview! We wish you success in all your beginnings on your new position.

LO: You are welcome. Thank you.

RESEARCH NEWS

Launch of the PURE Research Management System and Website

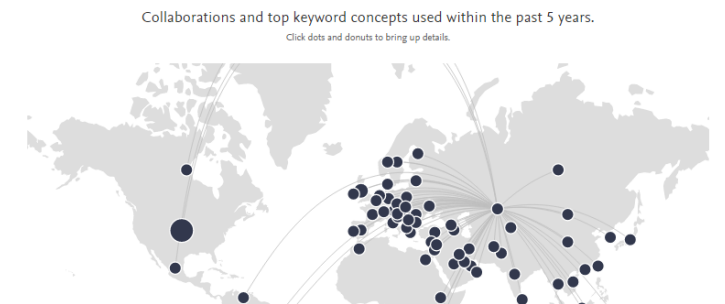
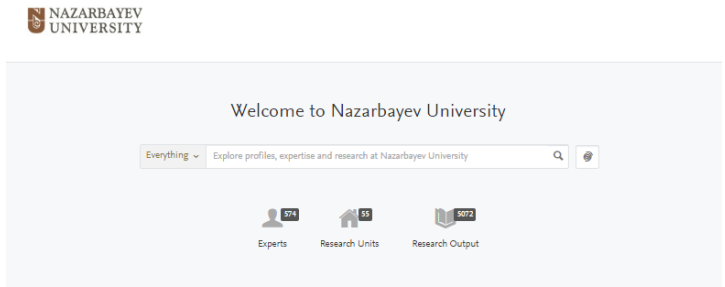
We are pleased to announce that the PURE research management solution has been launched.

Pure facilitates an evidence-based approach to your institution's research and collaboration strategies, assessment exercises and day-to-day business decisions.

Pure aggregates your organization's research information from numerous internal and external sources, and ensures the data that drives your strategic decisions is trusted, comprehensive and accessible in real time. A highly versatile centralized system, Pure enables your organization to build reports, carry out performance assessments, manage researcher profiles, enable research networking and expertise discovery and more, all while reducing administrative burden for researchers, faculty and staff.

Features

- Capture data across the world of research and reduce administrative overhead
- Certify your research information as validated and reliable
- Profile Refinement Service will create rich researcher profiles with minimal customer involvement
- Identify subject experts and stimulate collaboration through the Elsevier Fingerprint Engine™
- Build and share reports and submit



national assessment returns.

To see the external interface of the PURE research management solution, please go to <https://research.nu.edu.kz/>

Profiles of all NU researchers and faculty members can now be seen on the newly launched PURE website. In the perspective, we plan to add profiles of the students who conduct research at Nazarbayev University.

Horizon 2020 Workshop at NU

Nazarbayev University together with the European Commission organized a workshop "Horizon 2020: the EU Framework Program for Research and Innovation" in the Senate Hall on 27 May, 2016.



The event was held in an interactive format. Prof. Neil Collins, Professor of SHSS and a recipient of the Horizon 2020 grant, started the workshop by sharing his experience with applications to different Horizon 2020 calls for proposals. The event was followed by Mr. Kamen Velichkov, European Commission delegate from the EC Office in Astana, who shared the information on the different funding schemes of the Horizon 2020 Programme. By the end of the event, all workshop participants had an opportunity to ask questions to the

invited guests.

All the information presented at the Horizon 2020 workshop [can be found here](#).

You may also find useful seeing the presentations shown at the **Information Day at NU on November 26, 2015**. **This information** [can be found here](#).

Eco-Village Project at Nazarbayev University

On May 13, 2016 students of Nazarbayev University presented project called "Eco-Village".

The uniqueness of the study lies in the fact that students have created a unique structure of the road in an eco-settlement. According to the developers, the city road system, built under the presented scheme, will permit to avoid traffic jams and cut the number of accidents. To create a project, students used real terrain, located twenty kilometers from Astana. The students created the concept of futuristic eco-settlements, which can live at the



expense of renewable energy sources, and the main advantage would be - saving water and light. The model eco-village shows the structure of the town in the form of a bee honeycomb.



The project was supervised by the NU Teacher in Center for preparatory studied Galymzhan Koyshiev and made entirely by 30 students from different fields with the support of the administration of Nazarbayev University, professors, scientists and experts. Students plan to submit their project for consideration for presentation at the EXPO-2017.

During the presentation, students spoke about their achievement, demonstrated 3D-layout and posters, and also showed a video film about the project. Students carefully conducted studies of existing technologies for their application in eco-settlement, consulted with experts in various fields, from architects to energy efficiency experts, conducted a series of video interviews, made a trip to familiarize

themselves with landscapes, available resources, and set up the layout settlements.

For the realization of the project it is necessary to go through a number of official procedures, receive the evaluation of the experts, and most importantly - to find investors. According to estimates of students in order to build an eco-village with 200 houses, 8 billion tenge needed.

The projects presented at the event can be found in the ["Eco-Village Kazakhstan" book.](#)

Kalachi Sleeping Syndrome Outbreak Investigation

Kalachi and the adjacent village of Krasnogorsk (about 450 kilometers Northwest of Astana on the Ishim river), currently having a combined population of about 600-650 residents, have been afflicted by the mysterious sleeping syndrome since late 2012. Kalachi/Krasnogorsk is about seven kilometers away from an abandoned Uranium mine that has been closed since 1980.

In October of 2015, a research team from Nazarbayev University School of Medicine, in collaboration with the Scientific-Research Institute of Radiation Medicine and Ecology (Ministry of Health and Social Development), initiated an outbreak investigation of the sleeping syndrome in these villages. A comprehensive household survey was conducted, geographic location measurements were taken, and daily precipitation, wind direction and speed, and temperatures were collected for the period of the outbreak.

The Kalachi sleeping syndrome outbreak



investigation is designed to evaluate the various hypotheses for modes of transmission and sources of this mysterious sleeping syndrome and is still ongoing. Some of the following preliminary early findings are as follows:

- The primary outbreak began in late 2012 and has continued to afflict persons at least through 2015.
- A total of 1-in-every-5 residents have been afflicted with the Kalachi sleeping syndrome.
- If a resident is afflicted once by the sleeping syndrome, they are equally likely to be afflicted again.
- Only residents located inside the two adjacent villages have been afflicted with the Kalachi sleeping syndrome.
- No one has died from the syndrome.
- The Kalachi sleeping syndrome afflicts all ages and both male and female residents alike.
- Common Kalachi sleeping syndrome symptoms include: 1) falling into a sudden unexpected unconscious abnormal state lasting from several hours to a couple of days, 2) headaches, 3) dizziness, 4) short term memory loss, 5) occasional reported hallucinations, and 5) days of grogginess after waking. Physicians report unexplained temporary mildly diffused edema in the brain.
- The sleeping syndrome only primarily afflicts the residents during the cold season and is almost entirely absent during warmer months (see figure).
- The Kalachi sleeping syndrome rates has substantially increased every cold

period, from 2012-2013 to 2014-2015. Data collection ended in October 2015 (see figure).

- No farm animals have reportedly been afflicted by the Kalachi sleeping

syndrome. Only humans.

- Fishing, eating the fish, and swimming in the Ishim river is not associated with the Kalachi sleeping syndrome.

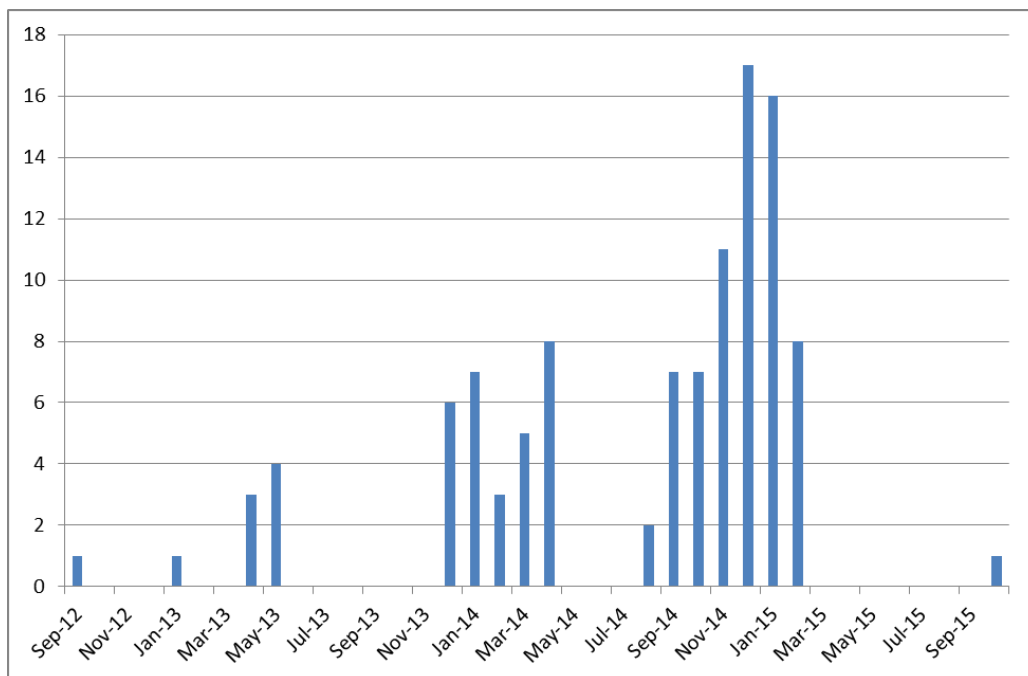


Figure : Counts of Sleeping Syndrome Events by Month and Year in Kalachi/Krasnogorsk

“Research Management and Administration” workshop at GSE

Graduate School of Education held a workshop “Research Management and Administration” as part of Newton - Al-Farabi Partnership Programme.

How to build a strong team for carrying out a research project? What are the principles of project management that would be most effective when running a research project? How to avoid violations of research ethics? These questions were discussed during "Research Management and Administration" workshop held on 18-19 May 2016 at the Professional



Development and Engagement Centre of Nazarbayev University Graduate School of

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Education. The workshop comes second from the series of seminars that will be held as part of the Newton - Al-Farabi Partnership Programme at the NUGSE. Workshop participants had a privilege to work with Tara Mitchell, Canada and Amos Fatakun, UK as trainers of the workshop. Over 20 participants representing various educational organizations in Astana, including Gumilyov Eurasian National University, Nazarbayev Intellectual Schools, Eurasian Institute for the Humanities, Kazakhstan Branch of Lomonosv Moscow State University, Astana Medical University, Astana National Laboratory, Nazarbayev University and Seifullin Kazakh Agro Technical University, took part in the workshop.

If you are interested in participating in the forthcoming workshops of the Professional

Development and Engagement Centre, please contact the coordinators of the Centre via e-mail:

gse.research@nu.edu.kz or
telephone: +7 (7172) 70 65 76, +7 (7172) 93 73.

Research Round Table: Gender and Women's Studies

By Dr. Jenifer L. Lewis

The first Research Round Table on the topic of Gender and Women's Studies was held on Friday, May 20, 2016. The purpose of the round table was to bring together members of the NU community who currently research or are interested in conducting research in any area related to Gender and/or Women's Studies.

The round table was a result of discussions started through the Women's Initiatives at NU (WIN) network organized by Interim Provost Dr. Loretta O'Donnell. Through the WIN network breakfasts it became clear that there are many members of the NU community who are interested in Gender and Women's studies as a research area. Drs. Jenifer Lewis (GSB), Anna CohenMiller (GSE), and Gwen McEvoy (SHSS) decided to host the round table to bring scholars together to discuss their shared research interests. With the support of the Provost's office and the coordinating support of Aigerim Shaikhina, Teaching Assistant in the Communication Department, the round table participants met with the goal of sharing ideas, finding collaborators, and building momentum for this emerging area of research at NU.

There were approximately 20 participants at the round table. The participants varied from current NU graduate students, faculty members, administrators, and librarians. There was representation from most of the NU schools including Engineering, Medicine, Humanities and Social Sciences, Education, Public Policy, Business, and the Foundation Year Program. Special



thanks to NU Interim Provost Dr. Loretta O'Donnell, SHSS Dean Dr. Dan Pugh, and staff of the Research Services Office for attending.

The discussion focused primarily on understanding what research has been done and what is ongoing at NU. Additionally, participants were able to interact with one another to start building collaborations and partnerships for future research. Participants identified a few areas for continued focused including women in higher education, the identity/roles of women including motherhood/family and career progression, the vulnerability of women in disasters, women in leadership, women's health, gender inequality, and gender

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mainstreaming.

Lastly, participants were presented with an initiative to establish a Gender/Women's Studies Center at NU. The event coordinators will now pursue the creation of this Center as a primary tool for supporting continued research in this area.

Any members of the NU community who are interested in learning more are encouraged to contact the round table coordinators: Dr. Jenifer Lewis (jlewis@nu.edu.kz), Dr. Anna CohenMiller (anna.cohenmiller@nu.edu.kz), Dr. Gwen McEvoy (gmcevoy@nu.edu.kz).

Library Seminar: Fostering a Research Culture at XXIst Century University

On May 25, NU Library organized a seminar "Fostering a Research Culture at XXIst Century University" for researchers from NU and other Kazakhstani universities.

The event started with a presentation "NU Research University Development Program and Tools for Research Evaluation at NU: Brief Overview" by Aiman Temirova, Manager at Research Services Office. Aiman presented the NU Research University Development Program and the research goals that need to be achieved by the University from 2016 to 2020. Aiman then presented Scopus and SciVal, where a particular attention was drawn to the possibility to see the journal rankings on Scopus and the benchmarking on SciVal.

The event continued with a presentation of Dr. Dina Vyortkina, Head, NU Instructional Technology Office, titled "Academic and Research Integrity". Dr. Vyortkina made an extensive presentation by providing different examples on why academic and research integrity shall be taken seriously at universities.

Madina Kairatbekkyzy, Expert-Manager,
NU Library Reference Department,

followed with her presentation of the "Predatory Journals". Kazakhstani institutions have been regularly contacted by different organizations that promise to publish their works in peer-reviewed journals indexed by Scopus and Web of Science for an X amount of money. As Madina warned the researchers, such organizations are predatory. If one wishes to publish his/her work in a peer-reviewed journal, it will not cost the researcher anything (unless it is an open-access journal).

Prof. Neil Collins, SHSS, Dr. Anna CohenMiller, GSE, and Aiman Temirova presented a topic of the research visibility on the Academia.edu, Research Gate, and <https://research.nu.edu.kz> websites. According to the presenters, the abovementioned websites can help the researchers find potential collaborators and increase their impact in their research fields.

The event closed with a round table "Sharing Personal Experiences of Conference Participation and Publication in Scholarly Journals", during which the NU faculty and staff answered to research-related questions that came from the audience.

GRANTS & COMPETITIONS

Funding opportunities for UK-Kazakhstan collaborations under Newton - Al-Farabi Partnership Programme

The British Council and JSC Science Fund are pleased to announce the launch of a call for proposals for Institutional Links grants under the Newton – Al-Farabi Partnership Programme. These are grants for the development of research and innovation collaborations between UK and Kazakhstani institutions at the group, departmental or institutional level, as well as the commercial and not-for-profit sector.

Grants will be between £50,000 and £300,000 over a period of between four months and two years and will cover collaborations between the UK and Kazakhstan. Grants can cover costs which support research and innovation collaboration, including:

- research-related costs
- the exchange of researchers, students and industry staff (including SMEs and not-for-profit organisations)
- the costs of organising meetings, seminars, training
- other activities to establish and strengthen collaborative links.

Other activities can also be funded. For a full list of eligible and ineligible costs, please read the guidelines document



at the link above.

The deadline for submitting proposals under this call is 16:00 UK time on 27 June 2016.

We would be grateful if you could share this information with any colleagues or contacts who may be interested.

For further information on this call or the Newton – Al-Farabi Partnership Programme more widely, please contact newton-al-farabi@kz.britishcouncil.org or b.karimkyzy@science-fund.kz.

Eurasia Programme

Norwegian Embassy in Astana announced three calls for applications for funding of joint projects under the Eurasia Programme of the Norwegian Centre for Internationalization of Education (SIU).

The Eurasia Programme supports collaboration projects between higher education institutions in Norway and Ukraine, Georgia, Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. The Programme is funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and is administered by SIU.

There are currently two open calls:

- For long-term projects (project period 1 January 2017 – 31 December 2019) a total amount of NOK 30 000 000 is made available. Projects with two collaborating partners may be awarded up to NOK 2 500 000, of which minimum NOK 500 000 must be spent on student mobility. Projects without student mobility may receive up to NOK 2 000 000. Projects with two or more partners in the cooperating countries outside Norway may be awarded up to NOK 3 000 000, of which minimum NOK 600 000 must be spent on student mobility. Projects without student mobility may receive up to NOK 2 400 000. **Deadline 5 September 2016, at 15:00 Norwegian time.**
- For short-term projects (project



period 1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018) a total amount of NOK 3 000 000 is made available. Projects may be awarded up to NOK 300 000. **Deadline: 17 October 2016, at 15:00 Norwegian time.**

Who may apply?

- **The applicant** must be an accredited Norwegian higher education institution, or an institution with accredited higher education programmes.
- **The main partner** must be an accredited institution for higher education in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan and Ukraine. Institutions in Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan may be included as network partners only. The main partner institution must provide education programmes at a level equivalent to that offered at the Norwegian applicant institution.
- **Applications** must be written in English and be submitted fully completed, including attachments, through SIU's online platform for applications and reporting (Espresso), latest within the call's final deadline.

For more information, please files and visit <http://www.siu.no/eurasia>.

Internship at the World Trade Organization

The WTO Secretariat maintains a limited internship programme for post-graduate university students wishing to gain practical experience and deeper knowledge of the multilateral trading system. Only a limited number of such internship posts is available.

Intake to the programme is on a continuing basis, with no specific recruitment period. There is no opening or closing date for applications. The WTO Secretariat maintains a limited internship programme for post-graduate university students wishing to gain practical experience and deeper knowledge of the multilateral trading system. Only a limited number of such internship posts is available.

Duration: Up to 24 weeks.

General Functions

Assignments given to interns are intended to enhance interns' knowledge and understanding of the WTO and of trade policy more generally. However, the needs of the Division recruiting an intern will be paramount in determining the precise nature of assignments.

Eligibility:

Interns are recruited from among nationals of WTO Members state.

Interns will have completed their undergraduate studies in a relevant discipline (e.g. economics, law, political science, international relations), and shall have completed at least one year of



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DU COMMERCE
ORGANIZACIÓN MUNDIAL DEL COMERCIO

their postgraduate studies.

The minimum age for an intern shall be 21 years and the maximum age 30 years.

A roster of suitable candidates is maintained from which interns are selected. In addition to the regular internship programme, the need may also arise to recruit interns at short notice for particular tasks. These recruits will also be drawn from the roster. Names will not be maintained on the roster for longer than one year.

To see the full announcement, [please click here.](#)

Health Research Board Grants & Fellowships

Opening Date: 16 March 2016

Closing Date: 1 September 2016

This is a rolling call. Please note there will be two separate peer review cycles in 2016

The HRB now wish to open a competitive call for the HRB Applied Partnership Awards. The overarching aim of the Applied Partnership Awards is to support high quality applied research projects where academic researchers and knowledge users come together in a collaboration to focus on themes/questions which are determined by the documented needs of the Irish health and social care system.

Aligned with the objectives set out in the HRB Strategy, this scheme will support high quality research proposals in clinical and/or population health practice and/or for health services management that are relevant to health priorities in Ireland. The awards will provide support for applied research proposals of between 12-24 months duration and where the findings from the research will have a direct impact on the decision making of the knowledge user's organisation/s. The proposed research should be explicitly linked to the documented evidence needs of the

knowledge user organisation/s and it must be clear from the application how the knowledge user/s is integrated throughout the research process. The question/s must be able to be answered by the research partnership and the application should include a clear and concise knowledge translation plan that will highlight how the research findings will be applied by the knowledge user organization/s.

For applications to be eligible in this scheme a co-funding commitment is required from the knowledge user organisation/s. The level of the co-funding commitment must be at least equivalent to a minimum of 20% of the total award grant requested from the HRB and the co-funding counted for this purpose must reflect a cash contribution only (higher and/or additional in-kind contributions are encouraged and welcome).

Who should apply?

Applications should be made on behalf of a team which is made up of researchers and knowledge users. The applicant team should designate a Lead Applicant from the research team, and a Lead Applicant from the Knowledge User team.

To see the full announcement, please [click here.](#)

Best Reuse and Waste Prevention Project Award

This award is open to ANY organization, all you have to do is tell us how your reuse and/or waste prevention project, initiative or business plan was managed and implemented. What did you do? How did you do it? And what positive outcomes did it deliver?

The Application must:

- Give details of the reuse/waste prevention project, initiative or plan in your organisation or business.
- Detail activities designed to promote reuse/waste prevention within your organisation/business or in partnership with other organisations in the community public or private sector.
- Demonstrate what awareness raising campaigns, encouragement programmes have taken place or are planned, and what evidence is there of real behaviour change?
- Explain what your organisation has done to actively divert waste away from energy recovery operations or disposal to landfill? Is there evidence



CIWM

Sustainability and
Resource Awards

3 November

Marriott Grosvenor Square, London

of a reduction in the amount of waste sent to these other methods of waste and resource management?

- Explain the motivations for carrying out this project, initiative or plan

Demonstrate the positive impacts brought about by the implementation of this work, whether these be social, economic or environmental.

To download an application form please [click here](#). Applications for this award close on the 3 September 2016

GSK Research Opportunities

The GSK, a science-led global healthcare company, offers an opportunity for 2 researchers from Kazakhstan to carry out a research project for 1-2 years in the GSK's R&D center in the UK, USA or Spain.

The Company provides the researchers with necessary reagents, facilities and scientific supervision. The candidates will need external funding to cover travel, insurance, daily expenses, and accommodation. GSK does not issue a salary.

At the moment, GSK is negotiating with the Bolashak Scholarship Program to fund the Research Program. I will keep you updated on their progress.



GlaxoSmithKline

The other possible option to finance the Program is the Social Policy grant (SPG). As the SPG has never funded such research activities before, we would like to ask kindly Deans of Schools and the Directors of Research Centers to review such an option.

To see the full announcement, please [click here](#).

New Funding Opportunities



Image Source: [Dixie State University](#)

We have identified new funding opportunities, all of which are suitable for the researchers based in Kazakhstan.

For your convenience, we also added funding opportunities listed in the previous issues of the Research Newsletter. The information on them can be found in the 2nd and 3rd Sheets of the Excel document.

For more information, please [click here](#).

USEFUL INFORMATION

Do you need partners for Horizon 2020 project?

In this issue, we would like to bring to your attention the information on the possible ways to find partners to apply for a Horizon 2020 call for proposals.



Image Source:
https://www.labsexplorer.com/style/img/markers_planet.png

[Partnering Events](#)

An efficient way to meet potential partners. Speed networking within a Partnering Event is an ideal way to source both technology and commercial partners. In pre-arranged face to face meetings, you will have the opportunity to meet and screen potential partners.

[Partner Search Platforms](#)

Do you want to complete your consortium or become a partner in a proposed project?

One way to find suitable project partners is to search for profiles in partner databases or to register your own profile. Several platforms offer online partner search tools to facilitate networking and collaboration among universities, research organisations, SMEs and industry across Europe and around the world.

[Personalised Technology e-Alerts](#)

Would you like to receive technology offers and requests in your industry?

The Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) has an online database designed to showcase business partners who are interested in various types of cooperation, whether it relates to commercial, technical or R&D activities. The database contains around 5000 Technology Offers and Requests from international companies and R&D organisations and is updated with new technology profiles on a weekly basis.

If you happen to be in Leicester, UK, on June 23, it would be worth attending a Horizon 2020 Information and Networking Day. The event will cover not only the main H2020 schemes and opportunities, but will also include dedicated sessions on bid-writing, and key elements of proposals such as impact, risk and IPR.

For more information, please [click here](#).

Research Performance Evaluation using SciVal

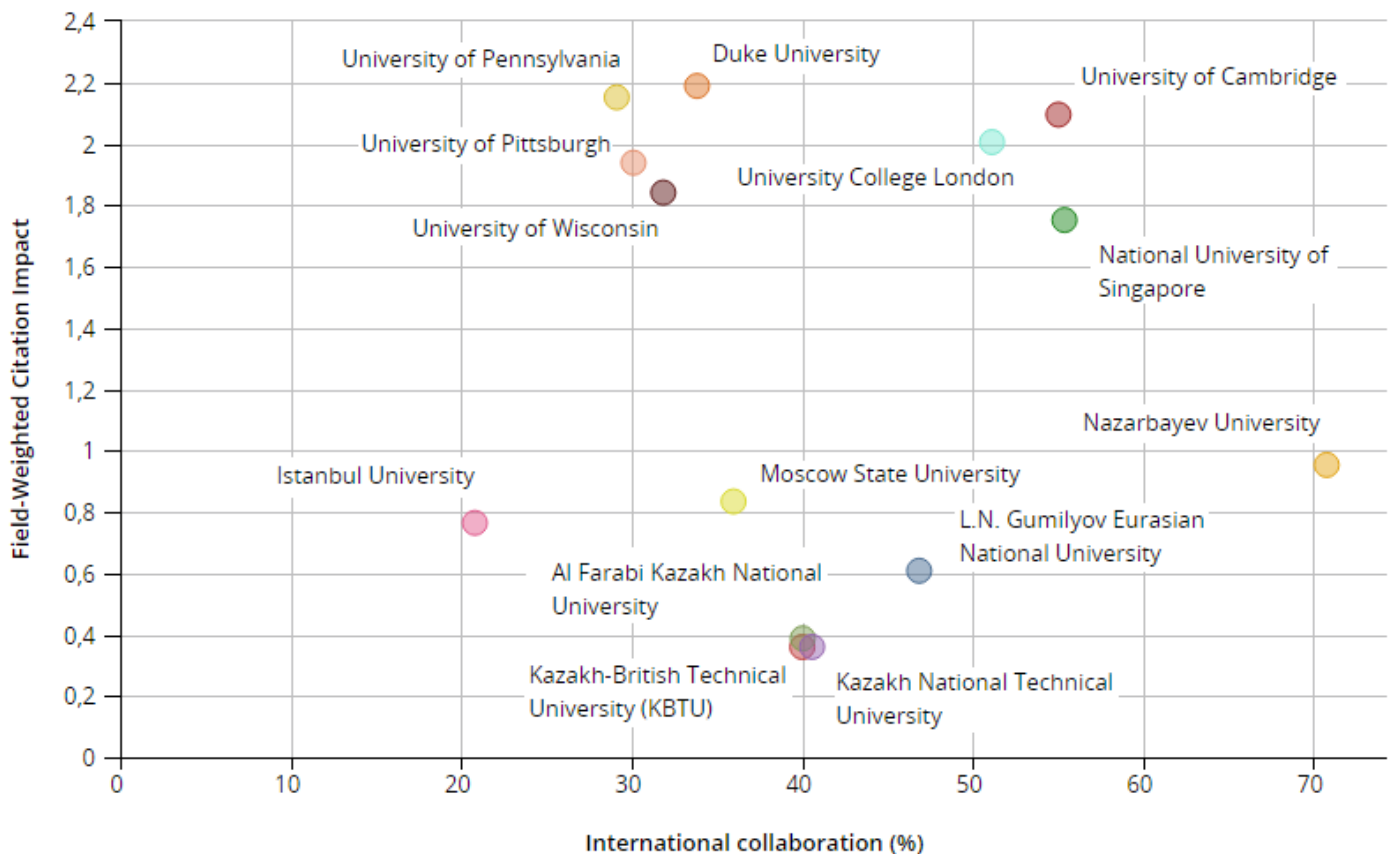
In this month's issue, we are delighted to share an updated presentation on the research performance of Nazarbayev University using the SciVal research solution.

Since its inception in 2011, Nazarbayev University faculty and researchers have released 704 peer-reviewed publications indexed by Scopus, and have been cited 1,465 times (source: Scopus, May 30, 2016). The approximate number of citations per the peer-reviewed publication is 2.2.

In order to provide you with more comprehensive information on the NU's research performance, [we prepared a](#)

[presentation](#) using SciVal research evaluation platform that is based on Scopus.

If you have any questions regarding the provided information, please contact Aiman Temirova (email address: aiman.temirova@nu.edu.kz), Manager for Research Monitoring and Assessment, Research Services Office.



Benchmarking the research performance of Nazarbayev University, national and international institutions using Field-Weighted Citation Index and International Collaboration share of peer-reviewed publications from 2011 to May 31, 2016.

Useful Materials for Applicants to the European Grant Calls

In this issue, we would like to share with you two documents. First, titled "[How to launch an FP7 project](#)", is a practical handbook for proposers that specifically focuses on collaborative research projects. Although the 7th Framework Programme came before the Horizon 2020 grant scheme, this handbook is still considered very useful by researchers in Europe.

The second document that we would like to share with you is the "[Online Glossary of terms occurring frequently in STI international cooperation activities](#)" from English to Russian. It was shared with us by the InExCB-KZ, a National Contact Point of the Horizon 2020 Programme in Kazakhstan.



Image Source:
<http://www.schumanassociates.com/images/Training.png>

We hope you will find the documents handy in your research activities.

New Publications of Nazarbayev University

Google Alerts is one of Google's tools to keep track of trends, interesting topics, or anything really new that appears on the web. We would like to introduce you the recent alerts (*since May 1, 2016 – June 1, 2016*) on the published papers by our colleagues so you can keep track on NU research successes.

For more information, please [click here](#).



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Dr. Costas Valagiannopoulos!

On behalf of Nazarbayev University, we would like to congratulate Dr. Costas Valagiannopoulos, Assistant Professor, SST, on being elevated to the IEEE Senior Member status.

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) is the world's largest technical professional organization dedicated to advancing technology for the benefit of humanity. IEEE and its members inspire a global community to innovate for a better tomorrow through its highly-cited publications, conferences, technology standards, and professional and educational activities. IEEE is the trusted "voice" for engineering, computing and technology information around the globe.

There are more than 420,000 IEEE members in more than 160 countries. IEEE publishes a third of the world's technical literature in electrical engineering, computer science and electronics and is a leading developer of international standards that underpin many of today's telecommunications, information technology and power generation products and services.

IEEE Senior Membership is an honor bestowed only to those who have made significant contributions to the profession. **Senior member is the highest grade for which IEEE members can apply. Only 9% of the 420,000 IEEE members have**



achieved this level.

To be eligible for application or nomination, candidates must:

- Be engineers, scientists, educators, technical executives, or originators in IEEE-designated fields
- **Have experience reflecting professional maturity**
- Have been in professional practice for at least ten years (with some credit for certain degrees)
- Show significant performance over a period of at least five of their years in professional practice.

This is a great achievement of Dr, Valagiannopoulos that Nazarbayev University is very proud of. We wish Costas all the best in his future professional beginnings!

Congratulations to Dr. Vassilis Inglezakis!

On behalf of Nazarbayev University we would like to congratulate Dr. Vassilis Inglezakis, Associate Professor, School of Engineering, on publishing a book “Environment and Development: Basic Principles, Human Activities, and Environmental Implications”.

Environment and Development: Basic Principles, Human Activities, and Environmental Implications focuses on the adverse impact that human activities, developments, and economic growth have on both natural and inhabited environments. The book presents the associated problems, along with solutions that can be used to achieve a harmonic, sustainable development that provides for the co-existence of man and natural life. Chapters provide detailed information on a range of environments including: atmospheric, aquatic, soil, natural, urban, energy, and extraterrestrial, as well as the relationship between the environment and development. In addition, this comprehensive book presents the latest research findings and trends in global environmental policy for each issue.

The book suits students in all engineering disciplines (particularly chemical, mechanical, and environmental engineering), environmental science and technology professionals (including ecologists, environmentalists, and professional engineers dealing with environmental issues), and policy makers and government officials.



The “Environment and Development” has been published by the Elsevier on May 23, 2016. It can be now purchased online on the Elsevier Store and Amazon.com.

Congratulations, Dr. Inglezakis! This is a big achievement that Nazarbayev University is very proud of. We wish you all the best in your research activities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Joint Seminar “Disaster Management & Emergency Responses to Flooding”

Date of workshop: 7-13 August 2016

Location: Almaty, Kazakhstan

Under the Researcher Links scheme offered within the Newton Fund of the British Council, we will be holding a workshop on “Disaster Management & Emergency Responses to Flooding”.

The workshop is being coordinated by Dr. Jonathan Pearson (University of Warwick, UK) and Dr. Zhanay Sagintayev (Jay Sagin, Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan), and will have contributions from other leading researchers. We are now inviting Early Career Researchers from the UK or Kazakhstan to apply to attend this workshop.

All travel and accommodation expenses will be covered by the Newton Researcher Links programme.

The application [form](#), with more details on the initiative, is attached and should be sent to Dr. Jonathan Pearson at J.M.Pearson@warwick.ac.uk for UK participants, Dr. Zhanay Sagintayev zhanay.sagintayev@nu.edu.kz and Dina Kaskina dina.kaskina@nu.edu.kz for Kazakhstan participants before the **deadline of 15th June 2016**.

The workshop will be held in English. In particular the workshop will focus on three



specific themes related to forecasting, decision making and response to natural disasters:

- I) natural hazards from floods and seismic activity to landslides;
- II) Remote Sensing (Satellite) for monitoring and prediction of natural disasters; and,
- III) Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience (DRRR).

Theme I will deal with natural hazards with a particular focus on flooding from seasonal glacial ice melt and seismic distortions resulting in landslides, with field work tracking and sensors applications, data collection and modelling.

(Continued on page 28)

(Continued from page 27)

Theme II is intended to deal with remote sensing for real-time monitoring and prediction analysis, applications of the different international satellite data, including EU and Kazakhstan KazEOSat-1 and -2 are very welcome. Satellite data processing, data collection, modelling and visualization with web GIS tools application are also welcome.

Theme III is to deal with Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience (DRRR) and response. Public emergency preparedness researchers, emergency agency cooperation with scientists, multidisciplinary social-political science and engineering science cooperation experts related to DRRR are welcome.

The five-day workshop will include intensive discussion forums where free thinking is encouraged to delve into the problems and challenges to uncover innovative solutions, the workshop programme has been broken down into the following activities:

- 1) Introduction & networking day;
- 2) Knowledge Transfer day;
- 3) Field visit day;
- 4) Sandpit day; and,
- 5) Future collaboration day.

We are planning to have extra couple of days for mountain hiking, geocaching and camping activities. You are welcome to

join our group, please be well prepared with the hiking clothes, boots, sleeping bags, and navigation tools GPS. For those of you wishing to extend your stay in Almaty, you are free to do so, but associated costs will not be covered by the workshop budget.

Publication

We are planning to publish the workshop papers in the AUPET's scientific journal "VESTNIK" for the promotion of disaster resilience research cooperation.

Application Form

Workshop Title: Disaster Management & Emergency Responses to Flooding

UK coordinator: Dr. Jonathan Pearson

Partner Country coordinator: Dr. Zhanay Sagintayev

Discipline: Civil, Environmental, Hydrological, Geological Sciences, Earth Observation Satellite or Remote Sensing Technologies

Dates and venue: 7th-13th August 2016, Almaty University of Power Engineering and Telecommunications, 126 Baytursynova str., Almaty, 050013, Kazakhstan Tel. +7(707)1900057, Dr. Gani Balbayev gani_b@mail.ru, Aidar Sagintayev aidarsagin@gmail.com, and Dina Kaskina dina.kaskina@nu.edu.kz

For more information, please [click here](#).

Newton-Al-Farabi Partnership Programme: Upcoming Joint Seminars

The Newton – Al-Farabi Partnership Programme has awarded funding to support several workshops as part of the British Council’s Researcher Links Programme. These workshops will bring together early career researchers from the UK and Kazakhstan to discuss their research, build contacts for future collaboration, and work on some of the key development challenges affecting Kazakhstan.

We are inviting early career researchers to apply to participate in the workshops. The funding will cover expenses related to participation in the workshop for all successful participants, including accommodation, travel and subsistence.



Details of the upcoming workshops can be [seen here](#).

Eligibility: This is open to early career researchers (PhD + 10 years maximum) based in the UK and Kazakhstan.

Professional Development Centres

The centres provide skills training and knowledge exchange activities, facilitate and encourage engagement between researchers and end-users, and promote the development of links between researchers in Kazakhstan and their peers in the UK.

The Professional Development Centres are organizing workshops on the following topics:

- 1) Commercialization of Research;
- 2) Publishing with Impact;
- 3) Research Management and Administration.

We are inviting researchers to apply to participate in the workshops in different regions. Details of the upcoming

workshops can be found [here](#).

For more information on the activity, please contact:

Astana City/Akmola Region— NU
Graduate School of Education:
gse.research@nu.edu.kz

Almaty City/Almaty Region:
1) Kazakh British Technical University:
m.mukhtarova@kbtu.kz
2) Al-Farabi Kazakh National University:
cpdkaznu@gmail.com

To see the PDCs in other regions of Kazakhstan, please [click here](#).

Upcoming Joint Seminar “Resource scarcity: securing a sustainable development of mineral resource base of Kazakhstan”

Date of workshop: 8-10 September 2016

Location: Oskemen, Kazakhstan

Deadline for applications: 24 June 2016

The Centre for Russian and Central EurAsian Mineral Studies (CERCAMS) is a centre for research on the geodynamics and metallogenesis of the former Soviet Union and its neighbouring territories, including China and Mongolia.

The CERCAMS has been awarded under the **British Council Newton Researcher Links** scheme (with an application deadline of **24 June 2016**) the funding for a workshop on “Resource scarcity: securing a sustainable development of



mineral resource base of Kazakhstan” in Oskemen, Kazakhstan.

The corresponding workshop information and application website is available at

<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/our-science/our-work/sustainability/cercams#workshop>

Upcoming Joint Seminar “Energy security: Sustainable management of natural resources”

Date of workshop: 27 June—1 July 2016

Location: Almaty, Kazakhstan

The workshop focuses on the key dimension of energy security that is the expansion of energy production from renewable energy sources (RES). The workshop addresses Kazakhstan’s need to better understand why RES are critical for its energy security, and how to create conditions for expanding their use, as the nation’s decreased reliance on oil will ensure greater economic and environmental sustainability. The main objectives of the workshop are to: Enhance the participants’ capacity in the field of renewable energy sources, identify

key research gaps and emergent themes, and focus participants’ research agendas on clean energy and sustainability; Develop recommendations to support Kazakhstan’s energy security and disseminate them to stakeholders; Foster long-term sustainable collaborations between participants and the partner institutions aimed at joint research projects and publications on renewable energy sources. Participants from various fields, such as economics, management, business, energy, sustainability, ecology and others are welcome to apply.

For more information, please [click here](#).

21st International Symposium on Heavy Ion Fusion

18-22 July, 2016

You are cordially invited to participate in the 21st International Symposium on Heavy Ion Inertial Fusion (HIF2016), to be held in Astana, Kazakhstan on 18-22 July 2016.

This symposium continues the series of symposia that began in Berkeley in 1976. The most recent symposia occurred in Lanzhou, China (2014), Berkeley, USA (2012), Darmstadt, Germany (2010), Tokyo, Japan (2008), and Saint-Malo, France (2006). The purpose of the symposia is to review the status of heavy ion fusion research, and to stimulate further progress in understanding inertial fusion energy production and the science and technology needed for its implementation.

Heavy-ion accelerators are promising candidate drivers for energy production due to their high repetition rate and high efficiency. We also expect to critically assess the PW-laser applications in ICF (Inertial Confinement Fusion). A positive emphasis will be also given to the ongoing heavy ion accelerator projects at large institutions located in Europe, Russia, China, Japan, USA and others. The highlighted topics of HIF2016 will cover:

- Heavy-Ion Inertial Fusion and other ICF programs;



- Properties of Warm Dense Matter: Theory, experiments, and advanced diagnostic techniques;
- Ion sources and high power accelerators, Pulsed Power (pulsed energy);
- Fusion target physics, Hydrodynamic instabilities;
- Beam-plasma interactions, Atomic processes in plasma, laser plasma interactions;
- Applications of ICF;
- TOKAMAK, Nuclear Science (related to the Kazakhstan activities);
- Dark Energy and Dark Matter research;
- Heavy ion stopping.

In case you have any questions, please send us an email at hif2016@nu.edu.kz, and visit the symposium website www.hif2016astana.org. To see the full announcement, please [click here](#).

We look forward to seeing you in Astana!

Dieter Hoffmann, Kanat Baigarin, Joe Kwan, Alexander Tikhonov

Chairman, Local Chair and Co-Chairs

NEWSLETTER'S PREVIOUS ISSUES

Take a look back through the previous issues of our Newsletter!

NAZARBAYEV UNIVERSITY
Office of the Provost - Research
September Newsletter
Issue 1, 09/09/2015

Dear colleagues and students,

Welcome to the September issue of the Office of the Provost - Research (OPRV) newsletter. We hope that you enjoyed your summer holiday and return refreshed and reinvigorated. In this issue, we present the research performance evaluation of the structure, organization and operation of the OPRV; the latest OPRV Council's call for grant applications, as well as 23 other, current, journal finding opportunities.

If you are aware of any additional finding schemes that you would like to share with your colleagues, please contact us.

NU Research Evaluation: A Brief Overview

Almas Taimova, Manager for Research Monitoring and Assessment, presented an overview of Nazarbayev University's research performance at the Research Council of August 4, 2015.

The presentation drew attention to the fact that, since its inception, Nazarbayev University has steadily increased both the quantity and quality of its research output. Overall, 100 OPRV faculty members and researchers have produced 300 internationally refereed publications between 2011 and 2014, 14 of which are ranked among the world's top 100 most highly cited papers. It was also worth noting that 68.4% of them have been co-authored with international collaborators.

Issue #1

NAZARBAYEV UNIVERSITY
Office of the Provost - Research
September Newsletter
Issue 2, 09/09/2015

Dear colleagues and students,

Welcome to the second issue of our new research newsletter from the Office of the Provost (Office of the Provost for Research). We hope you enjoy this newsletter as a way to keep you informed of the exciting news from our office, receive useful information about research events, and find new finding opportunities for your projects.

Your comments and feedback are welcome and necessary in order to ensure that this newsletter serves you in the best possible way. We also encourage you to share this newsletter with your colleagues and contacts who may be interested in this information.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us:

Asel Nazarbayeva
Senior Manager for Research Operations
asel.nazarbayeva@nu.edu.kz

Almas Taimova
Manager for Research Monitoring and Assessment
almas.taimova@nu.edu.kz

Issue #2

Office of the Provost (Research)
Newsletter, Issue #3

Dear colleagues and students,

We have launched yet a new initiative - to share not only research-related information from our office, but also to discuss research and scientific-related information from you, our faculty members and researchers.

This issue includes an interview of Zochary Coffey, Assistant Professor in School of International and Social Sciences, who is part of the team that discovered a new species of the genus *Stenomacrus* from the Caspian Chamber, South Africa. Congratulations to Zochary! This is a truly inspiring event. Our office would like to share the pride for our University and support our faculty members and researchers to highlight their results through this media.

We also wish to share with you the possibilities for a workshop that was conducted for the School of Medicine on *Global and Social Funding (GSMF and GSMF)*. This presentation drew attention to the role of the software, which can help increase the research productivity of the School's members.

We have expanded the list of finding opportunities for School and Research Centers and organized it by discipline for your convenience. Moreover, there is additional information on the *Human 2020* program on health care.

Our main aim would like to thank Helge Prosser, Vice-Provost for Research, who has been a truly inspiring leader to our team, Prof. Prosser, through administrative coordination. Indeed, the University's vision, Research Strategy for 2014-2020 and Implementation plan, has also launched numerous initiatives and research-related events over the past few years. It has been a remarkable time for University. We wish him all the best for his future!

Best wishes to all,
Office of the Provost (Research Team)

Issue #3

RESEARCH
Nazarbayev University Office of the Provost Newsletter
Issue 4, November 2, 2015

NAZARBAYEV UNIVERSITY

Issue #4

RESEARCH
Nazarbayev University Office of the Provost Newsletter
Issue 5, November 30, 2015

NAZARBAYEV UNIVERSITY

Issue #5

RESEARCH
Research Services Office Newsletter
Issue 6, December 24, 2015

NAZARBAYEV UNIVERSITY

Issue #6

RESEARCH
Research Services Office Newsletter
Issue 7, February 2, 2016

NAZARBAYEV UNIVERSITY

Issue #7

RESEARCH
Research Services Office Newsletter
Issue 8, March 1, 2016

NAZARBAYEV UNIVERSITY

Issue #8

RESEARCH
Research Services Office Newsletter
Issue 9, March 1, 2016

NAZARBAYEV UNIVERSITY

Issue #9

RESEARCH
Research Services Office Newsletter
Issue 10, March 1, 2016

NAZARBAYEV UNIVERSITY

Issue #10



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Astana 010000, Kazakhstan