

COST Action CA15137 Training School 2019 Call for trainees

“Evaluation procedures and their impact on SSH careers”

Date and location: 7-11 January 2019, Vilnius, Lithuania

Local host: Vilnius University, Faculty of Philology
(<https://www.flf.vu.lt/en/>)

Venue address: 5 Universiteto str., LT-01513 Vilnius, Lithuania

ABOUT THIS TRAINING SCHOOL

This training school enables participants to understand the relation between research quality, research evaluation and career. It focuses on the particular challenges linked to evaluation and career in the social sciences and humanities. In theoretical and hands-on sessions on such topics as evaluation systems, quality criteria, metrics and peer review, the participants will interact with and learn from specialists in these fields and develop their own understanding of the complex relationships between evaluation and career in the social sciences and humanities.

The training school is organised within the framework of the COST Action “European Network for Research Evaluation of the Social Sciences and Humanities” ([ENRESSH](#)) by Working Group 1 (Conceptual frameworks for SSH research evaluation) and Special Interest Group for Early Career Investigators.

The confirmed teachers are: Thed van Leeuwen (CWTS Leiden, Netherlands), Alesia Zuccala (University of Copenhagen, Denmark), Wojciech Sowa (National Science Center, Poland and HERA Network Chair), Aldis Gedutis (Klaipėda University, Lithuania), Michael Ochsner (ETH Zurich, Switzerland), Jolanta Šinkūnienė (Vilnius University, Lithuania).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Understand differences and similarities as well as the complexities of national evaluation systems.
2. Develop competencies in using quality criteria for improving own research and evaluate research of others (literature, peer review).
3. Become “metric-wise”: know what for metrics can and cannot be used, learn to apply bibliometrics in simple situations.
4. Understand peer review: be able to write a good review, be able to respond to a review.
5. Develop skills to critically reflect on evaluation procedures, to interact with evaluators, to suggest improvements and to use them for career development.

ABOUT ENRESSH

The “European Network for Research Evaluation in the Social Sciences and the Humanities” is a COST action aiming to improve evaluation procedures for social sciences and humanities (SSH) within European research evaluation systems and research institutions. It brings together numerous experts, such as researchers in evaluation studies, policy makers and members of evaluation units, as well as researchers from SSH disciplines. Its approach is based on the comparison and the cross fertilisation of strands of work dedicated to SSH research evaluation, currently under development in different parts of Europe, seeking to avoid unnecessary duplication and to upscale results.

COST is the longest-running European framework supporting trans-national cooperation among researchers and scholars across Europe. It was created in 1971 to bridge the gap between science, policy makers and society. The framework supports the mobility of researchers across Europe and fosters the establishment of scientific excellence. COST also plays an important role in building a European Research Area.

PRACTICAL DETAILS

The training school will last 4 full days starting with an introductory get together on Monday afternoon, and will finish on Friday at noon. A grant of up to 700 EUR (up to 350 EUR for the residents of Lithuania excluding residents of Vilnius) will be provided for accepted participants as a contribution to the travelling costs, accommodation and subsistence during the Training School.

For grant related queries please contact Marek Holowiecki at marek.holowiecki@amu.edu.pl

For other queries please contact Jolanta Šinkūnienė at jolanta.sinkuniene@flf.vu.lt

APPLICATION PROCESS

Researchers at different ranks are eligible to apply for the training school, including graduate and PhD students, postdoctoral researchers, research managers and administrators, etc. However, priority will be given to early career investigators (PhD + 8), as well as to trainees from inclusiveness target countries (see [COST ITC](#)). Researchers from any branch of humanities and social sciences are welcome to apply, provided that they have an interest in SSH research evaluation and can participate actively during the whole training school.

APPLICANTS TO THE TRAINING SCHOOL ASKING FOR FUNDING SHOULD SUBMIT:

1. A motivation letter, not exceeding one page that provides a clear indication of experience relevant to the topic of the training school; provide a rationale of why you are interested in the training school and how you envisage the training school to contribute to your learning, career and research objectives.
2. A short reflection on research evaluation procedures' impact on your career decisions (1 page).
3. A short CV (2 pages max)

Please submit the applications to:

Michael Ochsner, ochsner@gess.ethz.ch and **Jolanta Šinkūnienė**, jolanta.sinkuniene@flf.vu.lt

Closing date for applications: 25 October 2018

The applicant will be informed about acceptance for a grant via email. This Training school is supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology).

ABOUT THE HOSTS



The training school will be hosted by Vilnius University, Faculty of Philology (Vilnius, Lithuania). Founded in 1579, Vilnius University is one of the oldest and most famous higher education institutions in Eastern and Central Europe. During its history of more than 400 years, Vilnius University has played a major role in the cultural and scientific development of Lithuania.

The old historical campus of the university, where the Training School will be held, is home to the faculties of social sciences and humanities and is considered to be one of the finest architectural examples of Vilnius old town combining elements of Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque and Classicism.

For the location of the Faculty of Philology [follow this link](#).

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

MONDAY (JANUARY 07): INTRODUCTION TO THE TRAINING SCHOOL

- 16:30-18:00 Registration and introduction to the training school
18:00-20:00 Dinner and informal networking

TUESDAY (JANUARY 8): EVALUATION

- 9:30-11:00 Introduction to research evaluation
11:30-13:00 Research Evaluation Systems: Lecture and hands-on session
14:00-15:30 Lecture on quality criteria for SSH research and measurement
16:00-18:00 Hands-on session on using quality criteria in the research process

WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 9): METRICS

- 9:30-11:00 Introduction to bibliometrics and specificities of bibliometrics for the SSH
11:30-13:00 Hands-on bibliometrics (calculation of citation scores etc.)
14:00-15:30 Altmetrics for the SSH
16:00-18:00 Hands-on session on metrics in SSH (group work)

THURSDAY (JANUARY 10): PEER REVIEW

- 9:30-11:00 Introduction to peer review in the SSH
11:30-13:00 Bias and predictive validity in peer review processes
14:00-15:30 Lecture and exercises: Writing and receiving/interpreting reviews
16:00-18:00 Hands-on session: Writing and receiving reviews (group work)

FRIDAY (JANUARY 11): REFLECTION, EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES, CLOSING

- 10:00-11:00 Group work: Reflecting on what was learned and how it can be used for career planning
11:30-13:00 Group work: Discussion on how things could be improved