

COST: Early Stage Researchers' Network Planning Workshop

The HeLEX Centre, University of Oxford: 17th-21st November 2014

Aim

The aim of this workshop is to plan the programme of ESR activities for the COST Action and to identify the activities and tools to support this action. The following objectives are:

1. Identify the activities and tools that need to be developed to support a graduate network, develop capacity and attract graduates to the COST Action
2. Make a plan on how to achieve these objectives over the life of the COST Action and how to utilise the COST Action to support these activities.
3. Start work on developing the e-workspace and other 2.0 tools to support the ESR network and other COST Action activities.
4. Identify topics that are suitable for the COST Action.
5. Identify how the COST summer school should be planned to attract graduate students.
6. Disseminate the findings of the workshop and engage more graduate students

Skills and Achievements

As a result of participating in this workshop you can expect to develop skills in:

- Planning
- Drafting documents
- Strategy and policy development
- Presenting
- Developing new ways of working for researchers in our field
- Working co-operatively with others

Format

The aim of this week long workshop is to encourage creative thinking and the development of new approaches, activities and tools to engage the ESR community in this field. It will be a very interactive format requiring participants to be fully engaged and involved in a number of learning activities.

Agenda

Day 1 Monday 17th November

Welcome and introductions

- Presentation on the ELSI 2.0 E-Workspace
- 'Post-it' brainstorm:
 - What do ESR's need?
 - Identifying the activities and tools needed to make this happen
- Daily progress report

Day 2 Tuesday 18th November

- Organise into small working groups to develop the activities and tools identified on Day 1 Daily progress report

Day 3 Wednesday 19th November

- Continue to develop your plan for implementation - which will be presented to the whole group
- Explore how the ELSI 2.0 e-workspace and other platforms/technologies could be used to promote ESR activities
- Daily progress report

Day 4 Thursday 20th November

- Re-join and develop strategy plan that incorporates your individual activities for final 3 years of COST Action
 - How can we develop these tools for addressing future CHIP ME core questions - below)
- Write up into GANT chart with deliverables and budget
- Daily progress report

Day 5 Friday 21st November

- Individual working group presentations
- Whole group presentation on Strategy Plan
- Plans for the future (see below COST CHIP ME core questions, Year 3 and 4)
- Other COST members can join via Omnijoin to hear the final presentations

Planning for the Future of CHIP ME

All the activities will be linked to CHIP ME deliverables, focusing on all WGs core questions:

Year 1

- How do researchers, health care institutions, and companies deal with providing feedback concerning genetic information?
- How does the genetic testing industry challenge societal norms?

Year 2

- How will the increased power and the fall in cost of genomics technology impact on science, medicine, and business development?
- Can ICT technology contribute to democratizing biomedical research?

Year 3

- Will social web applications revolutionize the way genetic and other biological information is accessed and used?
- What are the ethical differences between medical and non-medical genetic information?
- What should be the role of public or private initiatives in promoting genetic services through the web?

Year 4

- Can different stakeholders reach a reasonable compromise between improving public health, defending citizens' dignity and avoiding misguided regulatory burdens that would only stifle innovation?