



# PLANT FELLOWS *News*

Career Alert of the Zurich-Basel Plant Science Center

No 2, 2016

## Upcoming

### Events

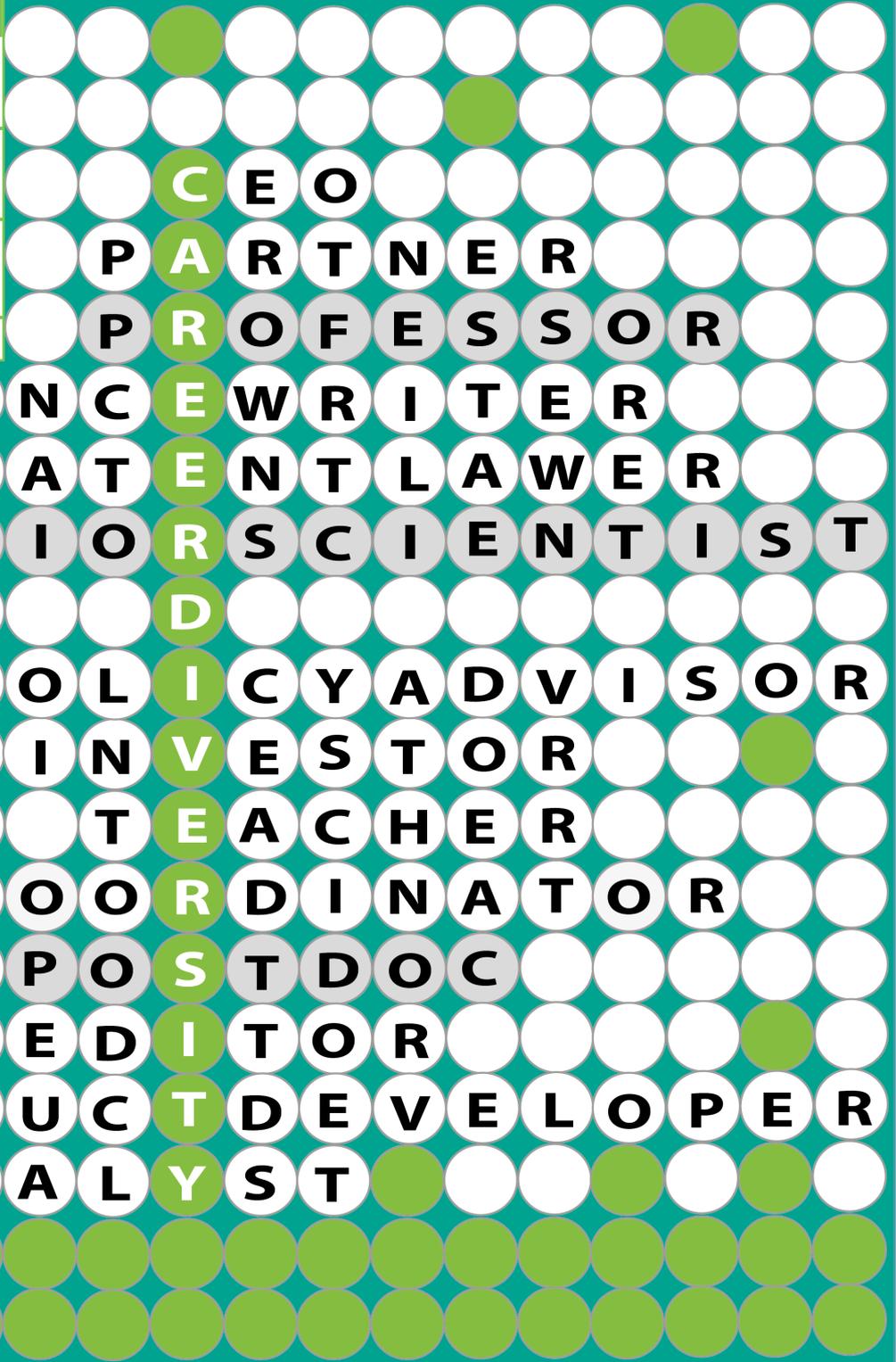
PLANT FELLOWS Final Meeting

### Mentoring

Diversity Management

### Funding Opportunities

Gender Equality & Fellowships



## Upcoming

### Training Events

#### Supervision and Leadership Skills for Senior Postdocs and Group Leaders

1 & 2 Nov 2016

Lecturers: Olga Pardo (ETH Zurich, Human Resources, Personnel and Organizational Development) and Benjamin Kunzli (CLC Consulting AG, Zurich)

<https://spsw.registration.ethz.ch>

### Career Events

#### Careers in Science and Policy

Sep - Dec 2016, Every second Tuesday, 17 to 20 pm, ETH Zurich

20 Sep **Simon Briner** (FOAG) and **Franziska Humair** (FOEN)

11 Oct **Michele Garfinkel** (EMBO) and **Thomas Marty** (Senior Consultant Berinfor AG/ European Advisor SwissCore Brussels)

25 Oct **Dominik Klauser** (Syngenta Foundation) and **Eva Spehn** (SCNAT, Forum Biodiversity)

8 Nov **François Meienberg** (Erklärung von Bern) and **Friedrich Wulf** (ProNatura/Friends of the Earth)

22 Nov **Sabine Perch-Nielsen** (Ernst Basler + Partner AG, MyClimate) and **Claudia Bölter** (KWS SAAT AG)

6 Dec **Mike Hoffmann** (IUCN/ United Nations Environment Programme - World Conservation Monitoring Centre) and **Claude Garcia** (Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR))

<https://spsw.registration.ethz.ch>

#### Industry Mentoring

Next company visit: Frutarom, Wädenswil

Date tbd. Registration via doodle.

Established in 1933, Frutarom is a rapidly growing global flavor and fine ingredients company and is numbered among the ten leading companies in the world, in the field of flavors & fragrances. The site in Wädenswil concentrates on health solutions and the use of plants is very important for the creation of new ingredients in this sector.

More events

[www.plantsciences.uzh.ch/en/mentoring.html](http://www.plantsciences.uzh.ch/en/mentoring.html)



## Editorial

Managing the PLANT FELLOWS Program for 4 years now, we had the opportunity to accompany you - our fellows - during a short, however, important part of your professional development. We have met you in trainings, mentorings, formal and informal meeting and saw a lot of talent and dedication. We saw your enthusiasm in arriving in your new host countries, adapting to the new cultures and the local academic and non-academic community. We saw you growing in managing your own project, supervising students, and achieving your research goals. Now you are on the move to new positions. Our second career alert is dedicated to funding opportunities from all over Europe and a resume arising from our industry mentoring: what competencies does industry expect from applicants moving from the academic to the industry sector?

Don't forget to network: PLANT FELLOWS and Marie Curie offers you several alumni opportunities.

Melanie Paschke & Manuela Dahinden  
Program Management

PLANT FELLOWS LinkedIn Group



[www.linkedin.com/groups/4376601](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/4376601)

Marie Curie Alumni network

[www.mariecuriealumni.eu/](http://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/)

Stay connected with other Marie Curie researchers and access various services meant to help you advance your career. Join in and get involved (free of charge) – your input is important!

Check the Marie Curie Alumni events

[www.mariecuriealumni.eu/events](http://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/events)

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# How to apply for a job in industry

## Retrospect

Sandrine Gouinguéné

On March 1, 2016, Roger Gfrörer from the Career Services of the University of Zurich came to answer questions about how to apply for a job in the industry. The event raised a lot of interest but we kept it to an audience of 11 participants in order to make it easier for discussions with Roger.

Roger explained what do you need to get a perfect job in the industry. Of course the answer is not as easy as having a check list but few points are important. Have the perfect fit with your profile, your experience and also time to apply. A very important point is to know yourself first, and to know exactly what you would like to have and also what you do not want to have in your future job. This means you need to think about your personality and social resources, your skill, competences and self management and also about your value.

Another important point is to know the opportunities. For this you need to be aware of the position names in companies, this is very often a tricky point as companies have different vocabulary for the same function. Of course you need to know industries and companies in your field. The most difficult part is to know about the hidden labor market, meaning the jobs which are never announced. The main point from Roger was to plan your application strategy and take some time to do it.

The career service from the University of Zurich provides some trainings and help if you need more advice to apply for jobs.

[www.careerservices.uzh.ch](http://www.careerservices.uzh.ch)

## What profile and competencies are industries looking for?

In 2015, the Zurich-Basel Plant Science Center organised two site visits at plant breeding companies in Switzerland and Germany. The industry visits allowed PhD students and postdocs to talk to industry representatives from different research and development departments and to present their research. Additionally, career opportunities were presented.

**Interview with Claudia Bölker**  
Corporate Employer Branding, KWS SAAT AG  
**What are the entry points to your company? What are the profiles that you are searching for?**

KWS scientists deal with both basic and applied research, like the development of cellular and molecular tools and the application of advanced methods in service units. Different opportunities are also available, not only in the research sector: some researchers also join our groups and departments responsible for plant breeding, regulatory affairs, quality management and intellectual property rights management.

**What are the competencies that you expect to see in successful candidates?**  
KWS expects that successful candidates will exchange information in interdisciplinary teams and will take the opportunity of working in international relationships, working independently and flexible working hours. KWS supports every employee in gaining experience, continuing their education and steadily developing their abilities further. Thus above the scientific expertise, KWS values communication skills, and good team management.

[www.kws.com/aw/KWS/company-info/Careers-kws/~dged/Jobs-at-KWS/](http://www.kws.com/aw/KWS/company-info/Careers-kws/~dged/Jobs-at-KWS/)

**Interview with Christina Uhl**  
HR Business Partner CP Research Biological Sciences & Commercial CH, Syngenta Crop Protection AG

**What are the entry points to your company? What are the profiles that you are searching for?**

You could start as a team leader or scientific expert.

**What are the competencies that you expect to see in successful candidates?**

Both scientific and soft skills including the experience of different cultures are important for successful recruitment. Applicants from university need more experience in project management, especially also in managing several projects within a portfolio. We expect competencies in analyzing information from several sources, in choosing from different options and in making effective decisions. Another competency that we expect from applicants is the ability and motivation to work with different teams and in different collaborations to generate and share knowledge.

Vacancies at the different Syngenta research centers are published at:  
[www.syngentajobs.com](http://www.syngentajobs.com)

# Benefit from the PLANT FELLOW Training Program and Certification

Melanie Paschke

On June 23, 2016 five fellows will be awarded the PLANT FELLOWS Career Development Programme certification of 180 hours accomplished and accredited training.

With the certification, the PSC has a vision: offering you accredited training components as groundwork for future appointments. You may thus build up a strong portfolio that articulates the knowledge, experience and competencies that you have acquired. As you will move from one postdoctoral position to the next or move outside of academia, documenting continuous education and career development activities becomes essential. A record in continuous education within a Marie Skłodowska-Curie program is a valuable asset to your CV. The certification is issued by the University of Zurich and the host organization of the fellow.

**For more information on how to get the certificate please check our website:**

[www.plantfellows.ch/node/266](http://www.plantfellows.ch/node/266)

## Your feedback is important to us!

Some of you already gave us valuable feedback to our question: What have been your main developments during the PLANT FELLOWS fellowship? Mostly mentioned were independence in publication as first or last author, gaining experience in advanced project management including budget responsibility, development of new collaborations, gaining experience in supervising undergraduates, graduates and other staff members and becoming clearer about what are the requirements for an academic or non-academic career. These are valuable and important competencies that are very much in-line with the objectives of our training program. We appreciate your recommendations to the PLANT FELLOWS Training Programme.

The program office welcomes you to hand in your documentation for the certification not later than August 2016.

## Contact

[info@plantfellows.ch](mailto:info@plantfellows.ch)

## Next company visit

**Ricola AG, Laufen, Switzerland**  
16 June 2016, from 13:30-17:00

You will have the opportunity to visit the research and production center of Ricola, which is located in Laufen, not far from Basel. Ricola is a very famous sweet producer and uses plants to flavour his sweets and develop other products like herb tea. During this afternoon visit it will be a great opportunity to know more on how to make a sweet but most importantly it will be a very good occasion to meet representatives of Ricola and discuss career opportunities.



© Ricola

## Registration

<https://ethz.doodle.com/poll/m5uqaw-wcekrwymxz>

## Check our mentoring offers!

[www.plantsciences.uzh.ch/en/mentoring.html](http://www.plantsciences.uzh.ch/en/mentoring.html)

## From our Fellows

### A Pragmatic Approach to Getting Published: 35 Tips for Early Career Researchers

Natasha M. Glover, Ioanna Antoniadou, Gavin M. George, Lars Götzenberger, Ruben Gutzat, Kadri Koorem, Pierre Liancourt, Kinga Rutowicz, Krishna Saharan, Wanhui You and Philipp Mayer

Published in Frontiers in Plant Sciences, 2016

doi: 10.3389/fpls.2016.0061

Read more about the story behind the paper:

<http://lab.dessimoz.org/blog/2016/05/10/publishing-tips-story>  
by Natasha Glover

## How PLANT FELLOWS contributed to my professional development

Andrea Clavijo McCormick

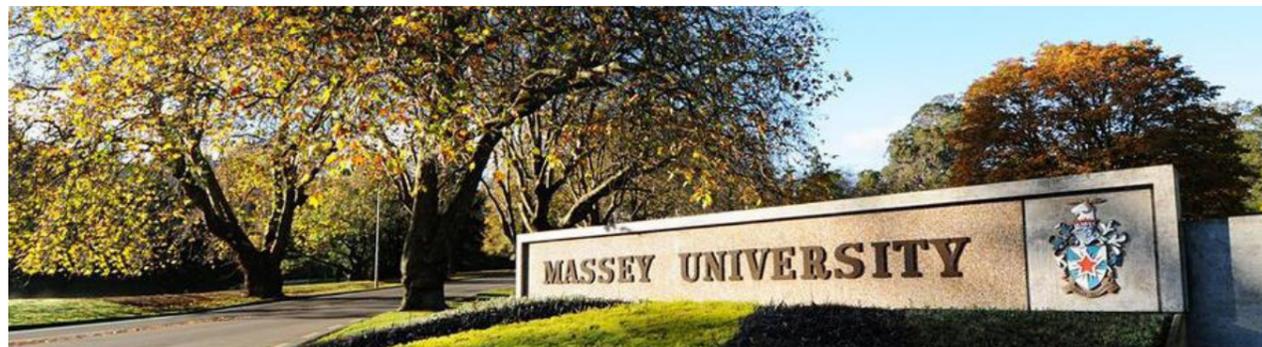
My name is Andrea Clavijo McCormick, I am originally from Colombia and obtained my PhD degree in Germany, where I investigated direct and indirect plant defense in polar trees at the Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology. I carried out my postdoc fellowship at the ETH Zurich in the group of biocommunication and entomology led by Prof. Consuelo de Moraes. During this period I studied the behavioral and evolutionary implications of the loss of flight in an

important forest defoliator (the gypsy moth-*Lymantria dispar*). The PLANT FELLOWS program provided valuable training in several relevant issues such as funding, career planning and leadership skills. In addition it was a great opportunity to broaden my professional network, while maintaining previous research contacts. Working at the ETH Zurich also enabled me to participate of additional training events, gain teaching experience and establish collaborations with other researchers within this insti-

tution. All together the PLANT FELLOWS program had a positive impact on my professional career by allowing me to gain additional experience and skills, which contributed to obtaining my new position as a lecturer in Massey University in New Zealand.

Contact

[A.C.McCormick@massey.ac.nz](mailto:A.C.McCormick@massey.ac.nz)



Florian Boucher

My name is Florian Boucher and I am a French evolutionary biologist. The PLANT FELLOWS program has funded my postdoc entitled 'Speciation in Alpine Primula: roles of geography, ecology and floral morphology', which I did at the Institute of Systematic Botany of the University of Zurich. My initial training was in physics and mathematics, but I later did a PhD in evolutionary biology and became interested in alpine plants. My postdoc in Zurich has been a great opportunity for me to increase my knowledge in plant biology and systematics.

In my experience, the PLANT FELLOWS had two main advantages: it provided me with financial independence. The research money was enough to cover most of the DNA sequencing I needed for my project. And it also insured that I had a project of my own since I had to write it in order to apply for the fellowship.

These two aspects have been essential for my development as a mature and independent scientist during these two years and have helped me making a name in my area of expertise: the evolution of the alpine flora. My fellowship has indeed revealed the primordial role of geographic isolation between different mountain ranges in the evolution of alpine primroses, which are of high importance for alpine botany and for speciation research more generally. The fellowship also gave me the opportunity to meet new colleagues, mostly from Switzerland, but also from other European countries and the US. I indeed had the possibility to visit a lab from the University of Idaho, USA, where I stayed for one month. All of this has largely broadened my scientific network, which was so far mostly restricted to France.

Since the beginning of April 2016 I have started a new postdoc at the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa with

funding from the Claude Leon Foundation, a local organization. I will still be studying speciation in plants from extreme environments, but rather different ones: dwarf succulents from the Succulent Karoo desert! There's no doubt that the research I have carried when I was a PLANT FELLOW has helped me in getting this position.

Contact

[floboucher@gmail.com](mailto:floboucher@gmail.com)

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**Plant Pathology 64, 664–670 (2015)**

**Significant variation in sensitivity to a DMI fungicide in field populations of *Fusarium graminearum***

Talas F, McDonald BA

**Funct. Plant Biology 42(4) 38 (2015)**

**Image based phenotyping during winter: a powerful tool to assess wheat genetic variation in growth response to temperature**

Grieder C, Hund A, Walter A

**Ecography 39, 338–348 (2016)**

**Fine-scale coexistence patterns along a productivity gradient in wet meadows: shifts from trait convergence to divergence**

Mudrák O, Janeček Š, Götzenberger L, Mason NWH, Horník J, de Castro I, Doležal J, Klimešová J, de Bello F

**Glob. Change Biol. 21, 3489–3498 (2015)**

**Leaf-trait plasticity and species vulnerability to climate change in a Mongolian steppe**

Liancourt P, Boldgiv B, Song DS, Spence LA, Helliker BR, Petraitis PS, Casper BB

**Trends Ecol Evol. 30(2), 78–87 (2015)**

**Genomics and the challenging translation into conservation practice – TREE**

Shafer et al, including Roumet M

PLEASE NOTE

The listed publications have been randomly selected based on the periodic report submitted by all fellows in March 2016. The list will continue within the next issues of the PLANT FELLOWS career alerts.

**J. Biogeogr 42, 1176–1186 (2015)**

**Climatic drivers of trait assembly in woody plants in Japan**

Shiono T, Kusumoto B, Maeshiro R, Fujii SJ, Götzenberger L, de Bello F, Kubota Y

**Mol. Biol. Evol. 33 (4): 870–884 (2016)**

**A Gene Encoding a DUF247 Domain Protein Cosegregates with the S Self-Incompatibility Locus in Perennial Ryegrass**

Manzanares C, Barth S, Thorogood D, Byrne SL, Yates S, Czaban A, Asp T, Yang B, Studer B

**Nature Plants 1, 15089 (2015)**

**PRC2 represses dedifferentiation of mature somatic cells in *Arabidopsis***

Ikeuchi M, Iwase A, Ryman B, Harashima H, Shibata M, Ohnuma M, Breuer C, Morao AK, De Lucas M, De Veylder L, Goodrich J, Brady SM, Roudier F and Sugimoto K

**Science 17, 302–305 (2015)**

**Worldwide evidence of a unimodal relationship between productivity and plant species richness**

Lauchlan et al, including Koorem K

**New Phytol. 209, 1096–1105 (2016)**

**Does the legacy of historical biogeography shape current invasiveness in pines?**

Gallien L, Saladin B, Boucher FC, Richardson DM, Zimmermann NE

**Diversity Distrib. 21, 1414–1427 (2015)**

**Using molecular tools to guide management of invasive alien species: assessing the genetic impact of a recently introduced island bird population**

van de Crommenacker J, Bourgeois YXC, Warren BH, Jackson H, Fleischer-Dogley F, Groombridge J, Bunbury N

**Ann. Bot. 117 (1): 9–24 (2016)**

**Genetic control of root growth: from genes to networks**

Slovak R, Ogura T, Satbhai SB, Ristova D, Busch W

**Science 28, 970–973 (2015)**

**Global assessment of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungus diversity reveals very low endemism**

Davison J, Moora M, Öpik M, Adholeya A, Ainsaar L, Bâ A, Burla S, Diedhiou AG, Hiiesalu I, Jairus T, Johnson NC, Kane A, Koorem K, Kochar, Ndiaye MC, Pärtel M, Reier Ü, Saks Ü, Singh R, Vasar M, Zobel M

**J. of Vegetation Science 27, 249–258 (2016)**

**Short-term manipulation of precipitation in Mongolian steppe shows vegetation influenced more by timing than amount of rainfall**

Spence LA, Liancourt P, Boldgiv B, Petraitis PS, Casper BB

**PNAS 112 (39), 12211–12216 (2015)**

**Receptor-like cytoplasmic kinase MARIS functions downstream of CrRLK1L-dependent signaling during tip growth**

Boisson-Dernier A, Franck CM, Lituiev DS, Grossniklaus U

# Diversity in science can only be reached through a diversity of approaches

**Building and managing a research group is a real challenge for scientists. We all want to have a motivating atmosphere in which collaborators can flourish and deliver excellent science. We asked Hilde Janssens for advice. Hilde is a recognized trainer in the area of diversity management.**

Hilde Janssens

Our chances to discover important new avenues in science are closely linked to us making best use of the rich potential of human thought. The academic world realizes that diversity in science is key for future scientific discoveries, and is therefore interested in involving a diverse pool of scientists. One way to increase diversity in science is by including more women, especially in higher academic positions.

Finding out how best to support women in science is still a work in progress, and trial and error is part of the process. It clearly requires effort at three levels simultaneously:

- (1) individual scientists can self-reflect and work on their own attitudes, (hidden) biases, and behaviours;
- (2) scientific communities, as well as individual scientists, can create awareness in their local surroundings by organising seminars and workshops on diversity, bias, critical thinking, and soft skills such as communication. Individuals can speak up when colleagues show gender-biased behaviour towards co-workers;
- (3) institutes can implement infrastructures and measures to support women in a scientific career.

Change can be induced in two ways: subtly or drastically. Both have their value. Moving slowly with careful - yet proactive and insistent - steps in the desired direction will help reduce resistance and insecurity. This can be done by offering information platforms (e.g. seminars and workshops) and by providing a space for dialogue. It is essential to detect where biases in academia might act, for instance in recruitment panels, then create awareness of the problem, in order to encour

age people to monitor themselves and others in these situations.

In order to reach equality sooner, change can also be induced by drastic measures, such as introducing mandatory quotas, or implementing rules regarding gender compositions of scientific committees and advisory boards. It is essential to actively assess the consequences of such measures before and after implementation, to learn from mistakes, and to readjust if necessary. Moreover, we need to keep in mind that case-by-case assessment of interventions often results in fairer outcomes than general rules. In every approach, one factor that is crucial to reaching change is creating an underlying safe environment in which gender bias can be addressed, since this will lead to more support.

The more people that support, the more likely to achieve it. For this reason, it is important that men feel included. Unfortunately, it can be challenging for some men to publicly support gender equality due to their role, affiliation, personality, age and, last but not least, gender stereotypes. Every individual, woman or man, needs to find their own way to contribute to the change. Individuals as well as institutes need to decide in which situations to act, and how. Constantly reminding scientists about gender equality may create an aversion to the topic, and may even contribute to polarisation in the scientific community. Cases of blatant gender discrimination and injustice need to be dealt with firmly and swiftly. In other cases, it might be more effective if the push for gender equality runs in the background.

A final note of caution: let's not allow the topic of gender equality - or, as I prefer

to call it, gender fairness - to obscure our main goal, which is to make inspiring science possible. We should cherish the huge diversity in personalities, experiences, and approaches among scientists. Appreciating the value of this vast diversity might actually help cross the divide between women and men scientists and unite us further in our goal to keep more women in academia. And, ultimately, it will enable scientists to take science into exciting new directions, to make discoveries we cannot even think or dream of today.

Check out more of Hilde's guides and resources:

<https://servusscience.org>

## Women in Science Award

The FEBS | EMBO Women in Science Award highlights major contributions by female scientists to life sciences research. Winners of the award are inspiring role models for future generations of women in science. Each year the exceptional achievements of one woman working in the life sciences in Europe will be rewarded. The winner will receive 10,000 euro, a bronze statue and the opportunity to give a plenary lecture at the FEBS Congress.

**Deadline for nomination: October 1**

## Women in Science Lectures

Organizers of conferences funded through the EMBO Courses & Workshop programme wishing to invite a scientist speaking about issues related to women in science are encouraged to apply for this lecture grant.

[women@embo.org](mailto:women@embo.org)

# Grant for gender equality

## MARIE HEIM-VÖGTLIN (MHV)

MHV grants are aimed at female doctoral students and postdocs in Switzerland who had to interrupt or reduce their research activities due to family commitments. The candidates can boost or re-start their career with a research project of their own and improve their scientific profile. The grant includes the salary of the grantee for up to two years and, in addition, it can cover a portion of the research costs as well as childcare costs. It is possible to work part-time.

**Next deadline: 2 August**

[www.snf.ch/en/funding/careers/mhv-grants/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.snf.ch/en/funding/careers/mhv-grants/Pages/default.aspx)

## SNSF GENDER EQUALITY GRANT

The gender equality grant is aimed at young women researchers funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF). It offers them additional individualised and flexible support for their career development. An eligible person receives CHF 1000 per 12 months' approved project running time. The grant may be used to finance career support measures but does not cover family support measures.

**Contact:** [equality@snf.ch](mailto:equality@snf.ch)

## DAPHNE JACKSON FELLOWSHIP

Daphne Jackson Fellowships enable scientists and engineers to return to appropriate careers in UK universities or labs following a career break due to family commitments. A typical fellowship lasts two years and is held on a flexible part-time basis to enable the Fellow to meet ongoing family commitments.

**Deadline: all year round**  
[www.sst.ph.ic.ac.uk/trust/](http://www.sst.ph.ic.ac.uk/trust/)

## DOROTHY HODGKIN FELLOWSHIP

This scheme is for outstanding scientists in the UK at an early stage of their research career who require a flexible working pattern due to personal circumstances such as parenting or caring responsibilities or health issues. Eligibility criteria include all EU countries including Switzerland.

**Deadline for application is in the beginning of January**

<https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/grants/dorothy-hodgkin/>

## CHRISTIANE NÜSSLEIN-VOLHARD FOUNDATION

The Foundation for the promotion of science and research, initiated in 2004, supports talented young women with children. It aims to enable them to create the freedom and mobility required to further their scientific careers. The Foundation wishes to help prevent science from losing excellent talent. It is aimed specifically at graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in the fields of experimental natural sciences and medicine. Women are, measured by their scientific potential, underrepresented in leading scientific or research positions. A monthly financial grant to pay for assistance in household chores and for additional childcare is aimed to relieve these young female scientists from household tasks. The time thus freed allows them to continue working at a high standard, despite the double burden.

**Next deadline: 30 November 2016**

[www.cnv-stiftung.de/en/goals.html](http://www.cnv-stiftung.de/en/goals.html)

## UNESCO-L'Oréal GRANTS FOR YOUNG WOMEN SCIENTISTS

The \$10,000 scholarships are the result of a partnership between L'Oréal and UNESCO and are aimed at helping women under age 30 establish careers in research. Recipients were selected from 90 nominees put forward by the UNESCO National Commissions.

**Deadline: all year round, depending on country**

[www.forwomeninscience.com/awards/grants.asp](http://www.forwomeninscience.com/awards/grants.asp)

## UK CAREER RE-ENTRY FELLOWSHIPS

This scheme is for postdoctoral scientists who have recently decided to recommence a scientific research career after a continuous break of at least two years. It gives such scientists the opportunity to return to high-quality research, with the potential to undertake refresher or further training in the UK or UK, Republic of Ireland. The fellowship is particularly suitable for applicants wishing to return to research after a break for family commitments.

**Next deadline: 10 October 2016**

[www.wellcome.ac.uk/Funding/Biomedical-science/Funding-schemes/Fellowships/Basic-biomedical-fellowships/WTD004380.htm](http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/Funding/Biomedical-science/Funding-schemes/Fellowships/Basic-biomedical-fellowships/WTD004380.htm)

## Fellowship & research grants

### HELMHOLTZ POSTDOC PROGRAM

Talented young academics who have completed a promising doctoral thesis can take advantage of a new Helmholtz Association programme designed to help them further develop their scientific excellence effectively. They will receive a grant for a period of two to three years directly after earning their PhD, enabling them to work independently on a research topic of their own choosing and establish themselves in their field of research, e.g. by publishing on the topic. To promote equal opportunities, it is intended to grant at least 50 percent of the positions in the program to women.

No call in 2016

[www.helmholtz.de/en/jobs\\_talent/funding\\_programs/helmholtz\\_postdoc\\_programme/](http://www.helmholtz.de/en/jobs_talent/funding_programs/helmholtz_postdoc_programme/)

### HELMHOLTZ YOUNG INVESTIGATORS GROUPS

With the Helmholtz Young Investigators Groups, the Helmholtz Association fosters the early academic independence of its young researchers and offers them secure career prospects. The program is the only one of its kind in Germany and increases the appeal of the Helmholtz centres among aspiring scientists all over the world. Since funding from the Initiative and Networking Fund began in 2003, about 200 young researchers have been accepted on the program – most of them foreigners or Germans returning from a research appointment abroad. The Young Investigator Groups therefore play an important role in attracting new research talent to come and work in Germany.

**Deadline: April in each year**

[www.helmholtz.de/en/jobs\\_talent/funding\\_programs/helmholtz\\_young\\_investigators\\_groups/](http://www.helmholtz.de/en/jobs_talent/funding_programs/helmholtz_young_investigators_groups/)

### SNSF PROFESSORSHIPS

The SNSF professorships enable excellent young researchers who wish to pursue an academic career and have several years of recognised research experience to take a major step forward.

**Next deadline: 1 May 2017**

[www.snf.ch/en/funding/careers/snsf-professorships/Pages/default.aspx#How%20To](http://www.snf.ch/en/funding/careers/snsf-professorships/Pages/default.aspx#How%20To)

### SNSF ADVANCE POSTDOC.MOBILITY

Advanced Postdoc.Mobility fellowships are designed for postdocs who wish to enhance their scientific profile by working at a research institution abroad. In addition to the fellowship, applicants can request a grant for a research period upon returning to Switzerland.

**Next deadlines: 1 August 2016, 1 February 2017**

[www.snf.ch/en/funding/careers/advanced-postdoc-mobility/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.snf.ch/en/funding/careers/advanced-postdoc-mobility/Pages/default.aspx)

### SNSF INTERNATIONAL SHORT VISITS

The scheme International Short Visits is aimed at researchers in Switzerland who wish to go abroad for a short period or researchers abroad who wish to collaborate with researchers in Switzerland. During the visit, they pursue a small joint research project. Short visits may last from one week to three months. There are no geographical and topical restrictions. The grants include travel, room and board expenses.

**Deadline: all year round**

[www.snf.ch/en/funding/careers/international-short-visits/Pages/default.aspx#Documents](http://www.snf.ch/en/funding/careers/international-short-visits/Pages/default.aspx#Documents)

### CTI R&D PROJECTS

The Federal Commission for Technology and Innovation (CTI) accepts application-oriented projects in any research-based innovative field. You and your business partner can submit an application at any time. The focus should be on science-based innovation – the practical application of the latest technologies or findings.

**Deadlines in 2016:**

2.5. 6.6. 8.8. 5.9. 3.10. 14.11.

Please note: STARTUP CAMPUS provides entrepreneurship courses on behalf of the Federal Commission for Technology and Innovation (CTI). [www.startup-campus.ch/en/](http://www.startup-campus.ch/en/)

### CTI/ SNSF BRIDGE PROJECTS

The Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) and the Commission for Technology and Innovation (CTI) are jointly setting up the new program “Bridge” to complement the support they already provide for Swiss science and innovation respectively. The programme aims to better exploit the economic and societal potential of scientific research by promoting the transfer from scientific knowledge to innovation. The final decision concerning the launch of “Bridge” and the final amount of funding will be taken by the Swiss parliament in autumn 2016. The first call for projects will be opened shortly after the decision by parliament.

[www.kti.admin.ch/kti/en/home/unsere-foerderangebote/fuer-forschende/programm--bridge--von-snf-und-kti.html](http://www.kti.admin.ch/kti/en/home/unsere-foerderangebote/fuer-forschende/programm--bridge--von-snf-und-kti.html)

### GRC GRANTS

The Graduate Campus (GRC) grants of the University of Zurich are funds for junior researchers' activities which aim to promote networking and academic interaction among PhD candidates and postdoctoral researchers at the University of Zurich and thereby broaden their academic horizon. The activities are self-initiated and organized by PhD candidates and postdocs and they are open to a larger group of junior researchers who are integrated into the implementation of the grant. In terms of content, the activities transcend the aims of a single research area.

**Deadline: 15 March, 15 October**

[www.grc.uzh.ch/en/calls/grants.html](http://www.grc.uzh.ch/en/calls/grants.html)

### SSA FUND FOR YOUNG SCIENTISTS

The Swiss Society of Agronomy (SSA) supports young scientists. The contributions intend to enable young researchers to actively participate in international scientific meetings, when the existing funds are not sufficient. The orientation of the presentation is subject to the following conditions:

- The theme of the meeting should be related to the agronomic research and the development of plant cultivation in the broadest sense.
- Active participation (posters, presentation)
- Submitting a completed application form incl. submitted abstracts and budget
- There are max. CHF 600.- granted per request
- The applicant should be younger than 30 years and must be a member of SSA
- A poster presentation at the next annual meeting of SSA is expected

[www.naturwissenschaften.ch/organisations/sgpw/fund\\_for\\_young\\_scientists](http://www.naturwissenschaften.ch/organisations/sgpw/fund_for_young_scientists)

### PRESTIGE RE-INTEGRATION MOBILITY TO FRANCE

The PRESTIGE program, co-financed by the FP7 Marie Curie Actions - COFUND for five years (2014-2019), aims at fostering the international mobility of postdoc researchers. Three mobility schemes are available:

- Incoming, allowing researchers to carry out their postdoc research work in France;
- Outgoing, for researchers employed in a French research institution wishing to carry out a postdoc research project abroad;
- Re-integration, targeted at researchers working abroad and wishing to come back to France to further develop their career.

PRESTIGE is a co-financing program, funding about 1/3 of the postdoc salary. Every French research institution, either public or private, is eligible to be a PRESTIGE hosting or sending organization. PRESTIGE is open to all scientific fields provided that each proposed research project is in compliance with the EU ethics rules. Co-financing partners may however limit the eligible scientific fields, according to their own prioritised thematic areas.

**4 cut-off dates/year:**

31.3 30.6. 30.9. 31.12

[www.prestige-postdoc.fr](http://www.prestige-postdoc.fr)

### Pan-European pension fund

Mobility of researchers is a driver of excellence in research. Nevertheless, researchers currently face many difficulties in preserving their supplementary pension benefits when moving between different countries. To overcome this problem, the European Commission conducted a feasibility study in 2010 on a Pan-European pension arrangement for researchers. Following the feasibility study, the Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation invited a group of interested employers and employer representatives to prepare the ground for the establishment of what has become known as “Retirement Savings Vehicle for European Research Institutions” or RESAVER. Once put in place, the RESAVER initiative would mean that researchers could move freely without having to worry about preserving their supplementary pension benefits.

[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-14-1063\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-1063_en.htm)

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# Program of the PLANT FELLOWS Final Meeting

## 09:00 Opening

Prof. Ueli Grossniklaus, University of Zurich, chair of the PLANT FELLOWS program  
Dr. Manuela Dahinden, Managing Director Zurich-Basel Plant Science Center

09:20 Dr. Gavin George: *Unlocking plant potential: A cross-species analysis of plants deficient in starch metabolism*

09:40 Dr. Eri Yamasaki: *Flowering phenology and the environmental factors in the tropical tree genus Macaranga (Euphorbiaceae)*

10:00 Dr. Paloma Ruiz Benito: *Climate-induced effects on tree demography and the functional composition of European forests*

## Coffee Break

10:45 Dr. Kelsey Byers: *Selection on floral traits in *Gymnadenia* orchids in the Alps*

11:05 Dr. Glen Uhrig: *Exploring post-translational protein modifications in *Arabidopsis thaliana* through quantitative proteomics*

11:25 Dr. Nial Gursansky: *Characterization of the role of MOL1 in cambium homeostasis in *Arabidopsis**

11:45 Dr. Charlotte Decock: *Can crops with deeper and larger root biomass improve soil nitrogen retention and mitigate nitrous oxide emissions?*

## Lunch Break including a guided tour through the climate garden

14:00 Dr. Javier Sanchez Martin: *Combination of high-throughput sequencing technologies and genomics for the molecular cloning of the wheat powdery mildew resistance gene Pm2*

14:20 Dr. Tim Paape: *Transmission and attenuation of parental gene expression in allopolyploids: constitutive zinc hyperaccumulation in the allopolyploid *Arabidopsis kamchatica* as a quantitative trait*

14:40 Dr. Ruben Gutzat: *Stem cell epigenetics in *Arabidopsis**

15:00 Dr. Kinga Rutowicz: *Is the rearrangements of linker histones required for cell plasticity in plants?*

## Coffee Break

15:45 Dr. Natasha Glover: *Lessons learned from an academic-industry collaboration*

16:05 Keynote Speech

Dr. Henning Redesting: *The transition from academia to industry from an industry perspective*

16:40 Closing and Training Certification Award

Apéro

## PLANT FELLOWS Final Meeting

23 June 2016, Zurich

The one day symposium is dedicated to presenting the outcomes of the PLANT FELLOWS program. The symposium will highlight the scientific results of some of the 51 postdoctoral fellowships. The event concludes with the award ceremony of the PLANT FELLOWS Training Certification.

Venue: Old Botanical Garden, University of Zurich, Pelikanstrasse 40, CH-8001 Zürich

Program: [www.plantfellows.ch/node/631](http://www.plantfellows.ch/node/631)

Contact & registration: [romy.kohlmann@usys.ethz.ch](mailto:romy.kohlmann@usys.ethz.ch)



PLANT FELLOWS  
[www.plantfellows.ch](http://www.plantfellows.ch)

## Marie Skłodowska-Curie 2016 Forum

29 June 2016, Brussels

WHERE BUSINESS AND RESEARCH TALENT MEET: The objective of this event is to discuss the role of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) in supporting researchers to develop their careers outside academia and in businesses in particular. In the morning, representatives of EU institutions, MSCA fellows, businesses and universities will discuss intersectoral mobility of researchers and contribute to strengthening the programme. The afternoon session will provide "Tips and Tricks" on MSCA and in particular on the new "Society and Enterprise" Individual Fellowships panel launched on the 12th of April 2016. The event will also feature an exhibition and networking area with businesses, researchers and universities organisations.

## EMBO Meeting 2016

10-13 Sep 2016, Mannheim

The EMBO Meeting is an annual event held in Europe to promote the life sciences and the exchange of scientific results. The meeting encourages scientists to look beyond their own fields, engage with the international scientific community and explore interdisciplinary approaches to research in the life sciences. Participants experience new perspectives on topics that cover the entire range of the life sciences – from studies of molecules and the cell all the way up to investigation of larger, complex biological systems. EMBO travel grants are available! Please indicate your request when submitting your abstract. Abstract submission opens in January 2016.

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PLANT FELLOWS is an international postdoc fellowship program in the field of plant sciences co-funded by the FP7 Marie Curie Actions – People, Co-funding of Regional, National and International Programmes (COFUND).

Managed by the Zurich-Basel Plant Science Center, PLANT FELLOWS offers fellowships to postdoctoral researchers. Through mentoring, access to state-of-the-art facilities and networking within the plant science community, PLANT FELLOWS offers an internationally competitive environment for young researchers embarking on their careers.



This project receives funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no GA-2010-267243 – PLANT FELLOWS.

**The career alert provides information about scheduled training and career events and funding opportunities.**

**Contributions are always welcome! If you are interested in contributing to the next issue, please contact [info@plantfellows.ch](mailto:info@plantfellows.ch)**

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