



PhD Program in Science & Policy: Career Workshop - Women in Science

Lecturer: Dr. Hilde Janssens, Dr. Gerlind Wallon

Location: ETH Zurich, CLA J1

Dates: 15th & 16th April 2015

Credit Points: 1 ECTS

Course Description

Why are there so few women in the upper ranks of academia? Lack of self-confidence and the fear of not being able to combine an academic career with family life are two of the main reasons for women to leave science. The aim of this workshop is to provide support for female scientists on their way to feel stronger, confident, and more comfortable in the (still) male-dominated world of scientific research. Our way to achieve this aim is by raising awareness of potential problems, and by providing tools to deal with issues such as self-confidence, guilt feelings, differences between personality types, or stereotyping and bias (conscious as well as unconscious). And last but definitely not least, we will also point out the immense power and value of local personal influence and peer support.

Course Program

Day 1:

Background information and facts about women in science, stereotypes & biases Basic communication tools
Personality traits

Day 2:

Talks and discussion round with invited female leaders in science Self-confidence
Work-life balance Peer coaching

Prior Knowledge: None

Number of Participants: A maximum of 20 students will be able to enrol in this course.

Individual Performance and Assessment:

The format of the workshop is very interactive and hands-on, involving case-studies, role play, small group work and discussion groups. Participants will get actively involved in the course, discussing their own life experiences and being self-reflective, in a stimulating and guided process.

Dr. Hilde Janssens:

Hilde Janssens has a PhD in cell biology & developmental genetics. Throughout her scientific career, she has been teaching and coordinating scientific and professional development courses. She developed workshops specifically for women in the scientific academic world. She currently lives with her husband and two children in Berlin, focusing entirely on freelance training (for women-in-science in particular) and workshop facilitation. For her work as a trainer, she has been cited twice in Science Careers:

http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/career_magazine/previous_issues/articles/2013_09_17/caredit.a1300201

http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/career_magazine/previous_issues/articles/2014_04_21/caredit.a1400099



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Dr. Gerlind Wallon:

Gerlind Wallon (PhD in Biochemistry) is the deputy director of the European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO). At EMBO she is responsible for the EMBO Young Investigator Programme, the EMBO Installation Grants and the Women in Science activities. Gerlind Wallon has developed the EMBO Laboratory Management Courses for leadership development, started the Career Day that offers transferable skills training and authored studies on the selection processes and the effects of gender on application success at EMBO.