Octobre 2022

Lettre Amérique du Nord - AdN

LA LETTRE D'INFORMATION DES BUREAUX CNRS EN AMERIQUE DU NORD

EXPLOREZ NOS ACTUALITES, DES INFORMATIONS SUR LES LABORATOIRES ET PROJETS DE LA REGION AINSI QUE DES TEMOIGNAGES DE CHERCHEUR.SE.S QUI FONT VIVRE LES COLLABORATIONS FRANCO-AMERICAINES SUR NOTRE SITE INTERNET!

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Octobre 2022

EN DIRECT DES ACTIONS STRUCTURANTES

Kickoff meeting: Mini-Workshop of the CNRS IRP Brain Vasculature

The International Network (IRN) on Neurovascular Alterations (INNOVation), will host a workshop on brain vasculature to be held at the University of California Irvine on November 17-18, 2022.

The directors of this upcoming IRP are both French and American: Jérome Badaut research director at CNRS in "Institut des Neurosciences Cognitives d'Aquitaine"and Andre Obenaus, Professor, Pediatrics School of Medicine and Director, Preclinical and Translational Imaging Center at the University of California, Irvine.

The goal of the CNRS-UCI Mini-Workshop on Brain Vasculature is to educate trainees on the physiological, cellular and molecular aspects of the neurovascular unit, including vessels, astrocytes and other associated cell types. Hands on demonstrations to further our understanding of brain vessel physiology will enhance didactic lectures. The mini-workshop is designed as a precursor to scientific exchanges between CNRS (Bordeaux, France) and UCI (CA, USA), and is focused on training new and existing graduate students and post-doctoral fellows on the importance of vascular biology in health and disease.

A short syllabus of selected readings will be provided to attendees. Trainees invited to the Mini-Workshop are expected to present their ongoing research and its relevance to vascular physiology and pathology.

Click on here to find the program: https://tinyurl.com/uxnbxh7w

PhD Joint Programs, la science en réseaux

© Laurent Bruxelles

Avec 107 bourses doctorales financées par le CNRS depuis leur lancement en 2019, les PhD Joint Programs offrent la possibilité aux doctorants de réaliser leur thèse avec une équipe de recherche étrangère et permettent au CNRS de renforcer ses coopérations avec des partenaires internationaux prestigieux.

Avec ses PhD Joint Programs, le CNRS souhaitait accroître sa position dans le paysage international de la recherche. Et c'est chose faite. En 2023, cinq partenaires académiques seront au cœur de ce dispositif : les universités de Tokyo, de Toronto, de Chicago, d'Arizona et l'Imperial College London. Le CNRS financera 5 bourses de doctorat avec chacun de ces cinq partenaires - qui eux-mêmes en financeront le même nombre – soit 50 bourses au total.

Le programme est « bien rodé », avec un directeur de thèse côté CNRS, et côté université partenaire. Ces derniers déposent une demande de financement de deux doctorats conjoints (Joint PhD) en vue de la réalisation d'un projet de recherche sur 3 ans.

Chaque organisme apporte au doctorant ou à la doctorante un budget additionnel de 5 000 euros par an pour faciliter les échanges entre les deux équipes et donc les mobilités.

Hugo Toudic, qui a fait partie des premiers doctorants ayant participé à un Joint PhD Program a « pleinement investi » son partenariat avec l'**Université de Chicago** depuis 2019 en réalisant deux missions longues dans cette ville américaine. Son projet, en philosophie, porte sur l'héritage du philosophe et écrivain français Montesquieu au sein des Federalist Papers, qui dessineront la future constitution américaine. Grâce à ce dispositif, il a pu avoir accès à des documents indisponibles en France et rencontrer des acteurs et des collègues spécialistes de son domaine. « Pour moi, c'est l'avenir de la recherche. La science ne se suffit pas à un seul pays et beaucoup de domaines scientifiques demandent de traverser les frontières pour aller à la rencontre d'experts. Le PhD Joint Program a été une chance exceptionnelle. J'ai bénéficié des images de marque du CNRS et de l'Université de Chicago qui m'ont conféré expertise et reconnaissance », affirme-t-il.

En savoir plus : https://tinyurl.com/k6dw6dbs

Octobre 2022

CNRS and the University of Toronto: three projects for original collaborative research

The objective of this new call is to identify innovative and multidisciplinary research projects, including research-training activities, and to fund them for a period of three years, with the possibility of renewal for two additional years. The projects will start their activities on January 2023.

The three-awarded projects are:

– « New Directions in Philosophy of Physics: Approximation, Precision, and Discreteness », coordinated by Vincent ARDOUREL (Institut d'Histoire et de Philosophie des Sciences et des Techniques; CNRS/Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne) and Mike MILLER (Department of Philosophy, Université de Toronto)

– « Quantum communication applications based on entanglement and hyperentanglement », coordinated by Eleni DIAMANTI (Laboratoire d'informatique de Sorbonne Université; CNRS/Sorbonne Université) and Li QIAN (Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Université de Toronto)

– « Finding needles in haystacks: New strategies for mapping molecular orientation, association, and dynamics in biology», coordinated by Martin OHEIM (UMR8003 – Institut des Neurosciences Paris Saint-Pères; CNRS/Université Paris Cité) and Christopher YIP (Institute of Biomedical Engineering, Université de Toronto).

CNRS and the University of Toronto have strengthened their strategic partnership for several years. The University of Toronto, recognized worldwide for the intensity and excellence of its scientific research, is among the Canadian universities that collaborate strongly with the CNRS, particularly in terms of co-publications and co-funded projects. For instance, since 2019, three joint doctoral calls have also been launched, supporting some thirty young Canadian and French talents.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/2ahjhjyp

Octobre 2022

CIFAR announces honorary Alan Bernstein Fellow to support the next generation of scientists

Photo credit: CIFAR

As tribute to the outgoing President and CEO, Dr. Alan Bernstein, CIFAR community members have contributed 1 M CAD in his honour. Because of this generosity, a CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar, who becomes a CIFAR Fellow, will receive the honorary designation of Alan Bernstein Fellow.

The Alan Bernstein Fellow is symbolic of Bernstein's legacy at CIFAR and his incredible contributions to supporting the next generation of research leaders. Close to 100 members of the CIFAR community contributed to the honorary recognition. The announcement was unveiled at an event in celebration of Bernstein on October 19.

Over his decade as CIFAR's President and CEO, Bernstein was instrumental in launching two international Global Calls for Ideas; shaping CIFAR's programming, and rallying scientists from around the world to share their bold questions and solutions to humanity's greatest challenges. He established the CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholars program, in support of advancing knowledge and connections for early-career researchers, and positioned Canada as a world leader in artificial intelligence (AI), with CIFAR's leadership of the world's first national AI strategy.

CNRS has strengthened its ties with CIFAR, namely since having established the CNRS office in Canada. The CNRS CEO Antoine Petit, member of the CIFAR's Scientific Advisory Board, was also among the guests
Of the event in Toronto.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/mrx26c26

Octobre 2022

Making the world better through biogeochemistry' – Remembering Thomas Meixner

©Chris Richards/University of Arizona

The CNRS is deeply moved by the tragedy affecting his colleagues at the University of Arizona and the research community as a whole. Thomas Meixner was supportive of the CNRS U. Arizona IRC.

The University of Arizona and the Tucson community mourn the loss of Thomas Meixner, department head and professor of hydrology and atmospheric sciences, who was killed in a campus shooting on Wednesday afternoon.

Meixner grew up in Maryland playing in streams and digging in the garden. As an adult, he carried that same passion for water and the environment throughout his research.

Meixner studied water in arid and semi-arid regions, with a focus on the American Southwest, which eventually became his home. His research interests included understanding how water influences the biology and geology of landscapes as well as where rivers source their water, urban hydrology in desert cities and the effect of climate change on groundwater recharge. His work spanned environments as diverse as desert scrub and Alpine ecosystems from scales small to large.

"Dr. Meixner, an international force in his field of hydrology and atmospheric sciences and a kind and warm man, had a tremendous impact on his department and the students he mentored," University of Arizona President Robert C. Robbins wrote in a message to campus Thursday. "Our hearts break for his family, students, colleagues, and our entire campus community. He set a wonderful example for all of us on how to be a true servant leader in life, and he will not be forgotten."

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/mduhdxr8

Octobre 2022

Intervention de Régis Ferrière dans le cadre du séminaire MOPGA

©Régis Ferrière lors de son intervention dans le cadre du programme MOPGA/Lauréats MOPGA

Les 17 et 18 octobre derniers, ont donné lieu au séminaire du programme MOPGA Make our Planet Great Again, organisé par le CNRS et le Service pour la Science et la Technologie (SST) de l'Ambassade de France aux Etats-Unis.

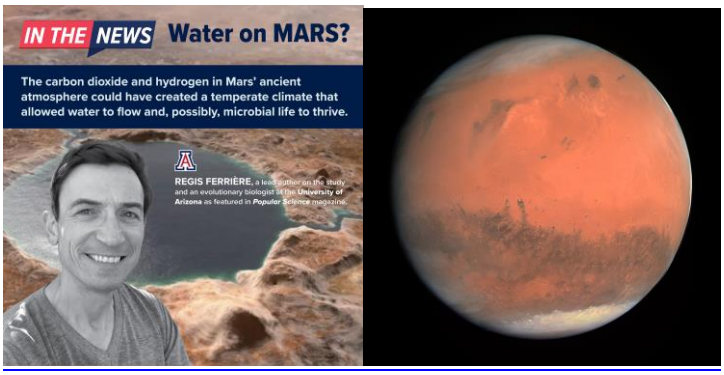
Le colloque scientifique intitulé « A Look Back on MOPGA and the Future of Transatlantic Ties for Climate Research », a mis en lumière 14 lauréats issus d'institutions nord-américaines, invités lors de tables rondes à s'exprimer sur leur perception du programme ainsi que les résultats de leurs recherches. Leurs spécialités se répartissent en trois grandes catégories : **"sciences du système Terre"**, **"sciences du changement climatique et de la durabilité"**, **" sciences et technologies de la transition énergétique"**.

Etaient également représentés, côté français, le MEAE, le MESR, l'ANR et les organismes de recherche dont les laboratoires ont accueilli des lauréats (CNRS, IRD, INRAE, CEA). Le CNRS était représenté par Stéphane Blanc, Directeur de l'Institut CNRS Ecologie et Environnement. Stéphane Blanc a participé au montage du programme prioritaire de recherche Make Our Planet Great Again tant au niveau de la définition des axes prioritaires de recherche que de la pré-sélection des candidats. Depuis 5 ans il co-pilote le Comité franco-allemand qui assure l'animation du programme ; et côté américain, l'Office for Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) de la Maison Blanche, la National Science Foundation (NSF), principale agence de financement de la recherche publique américaine, ainsi que la National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). La NSF a d'ailleurs présenté ses outils de financement, et des exemples de collaborations avec la France en sciences de l'environnement, notamment avec le CNRS et le CNES. Le CNRS a également présenté ses outils internationaux.

C'est dans ce contexte que Régis Ferrière, Associate Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology à l'Université d'Arizona est intervenu dans le cadre de ce programme devant les intervenants MOPGA ; l'occasion pour celui qui est l'actuel directeur de l'IRL CNRS iGlobes de s'exprimer sur le succès de la collaboration entre le CNRS et l'Université d'Arizona incarnée par l'International Research Center - IRC – France-Arizona Institute for Global Grand Challenges. Une coopération scientifique formalisée en avril 2021 sur l'environnement, les questions climatiques, l'astronomie, la gestion de l'eau et ses ressources. En somme, des thématiques transversales qui s'entrecroisent avec le séminaire MOPGA.

Octobre 2022

Des microbes auraient pu modifier le climat de Mars il y a 4 milliards d'années



©Twitter / Planète Mars© OSIRIS

Régis Ferrière, le directeur de l'International Research Laboratories IGlobes est à l'honneur. Dans le cadre de l'IRC France-Arizona Institute for Global Grand Challenges entre le CNRS et l'Université d'Arizona, le bureau du CNRS à Washington met en lumière les actions scientifiques de ses chercheurs.

Selon une étude de modélisation publiée dans Nature Astronomy, il est fort probable que la subsurface de la planète Mars ait été habitable pour des micro-organismes qui se nourrissent d'hydrogène et produisent du méthane. La production de biomasse prédite pourrait avoir été comparable à celle de l'océan primitif de la Terre. Cette grande biosphère pourrait avoir eu un effet de refroidissement global sur le climat de Mars à ses débuts, mettant peut-être fin à **l'habitabilité** de la planète.

L'habitabilité potentielle de la planète Mars, il y a plus de 3,7 milliards d'années, a fait l'objet de nombreux débats. Des preuves suggèrent que la planète rouge a accueilli, au moins pendant une partie de son histoire, des conditions potentiellement favorables au développement de la vie. La probabilité d'un tel scénario a toutefois rarement été établie de manière quantitative.

Une équipe scientifique - pilotée par Régis Ferrière (IBENS et responsable du laboratoire international «iGLOBES» du CNRS et de l'ENS-PSL à l'Université d'Arizona) et Stéphane Mazevet (OCA) et qui regroupe des chercheurs de l'ENS-PSL et du LESIA (CNRS, Observatoire de Paris-PSL) - a modélisé l'interaction entre l'environnement primitif de Mars et un écosystème d'hydrogénotrophes méthanogènes (des micro-organismes qui survivent en consommant de l'hydrogène et en produisant du méthane) qui sont considérés comme faisant partie des premières formes de vie sur Terre.

L'habitabilité est l'un des nouveaux thèmes clés de l'IRC CNRS U. Arizona discuté à Paris lors du second atelier du France-Arizona Institute for Global Grand Challenges en septembre dernier.

Cette thématique intitulée **Habitability in our future: What Makes A World Fit For Life, and How to Keep it That Way;** s'ajoute aux approaches interdisciplinaires suivantes; **Integrated Food-Energy-Water Solutions at Scale;**

Preparedness to Planetary Challenges: Climate change, OneHealth and immunity.

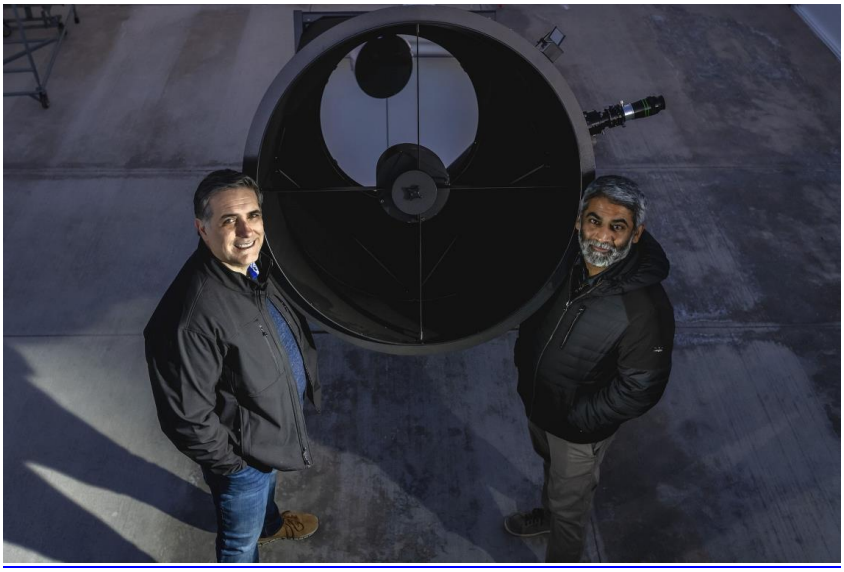
En savoir plus :

https://tinyurl.com/27cj3av5

https://tinyurl.com/4c4njftf

https://tinyurl.com/yrwbub4d

New UArizona center focuses on safety, sustainability and security in space



Roberto Furfaro (left), professor of systems and industrial engineering, and Vishnu Reddy, professor of planetary sciences, at the Biosphere 2 Space Domain Awareness Observatory. Reddy and Furfaro are director and deputy director, respectively, of the new Space4 Center at the University of Arizona.

Now more than ever, orbital space around Earth has become congested, contested and competitive. The University of Arizona's newly established Space4 Center is developing research and education solutions to ensure that use of orbital space remains safe, secure and sustainable for decades to come.

Earlier this year, Reddy, a professor of planetary sciences, and Furfaro, a professor of systems and industrial engineering, received $7.5 million from the Air Force Research Lab to develop ways to detect, characterize and track objects in cislunar space, or the space between Earth and the moon. The university also operates a Space Domain Awareness Observatory complex, located near Biosphere 2. Reddy, Furfaro and Merchant are long-standing collaborators who, as part of a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Air Force, developed VerSSA, an extension of CyVerse's computational infrastructure focused on space domain awareness.

Director Vishnu Reddy; deputy director of engineering Roberto Furfaro; deputy director of data science Nirav Merchant, who also leads the university’s Data Science Institute and the National Science Foundation-funded CyVerse platform; and deputy director of community engagement Walt Harris lead the center.

Creating a legal framework for operators in space, for example, is central to the future of space exploration. Space4 will collaborate with Andrew Keane Woods, professor of law, to develop a first-of-its-kind executive course in space law at UArizona. The course will be offered to UArizona students and industry leaders in collaboration with the university's D.C. Center for Outreach & Collaboration.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/ycka5j33

Capturing and converting methane with bioreactors focus of $3.2M grant

©Twitter

Researchers at the University of Arizona and Penn State University are looking to the sea for inspiration on how to capture methane and convert it into energy or valuable chemicals.

Methane is a potent greenhouses gas emitted from sources such as wastewater treatment plants, cows and fracking sites. When comparing methane to carbon dioxide molecules one-to-one, methane is 25 times more efficient at trapping heat in the atmosphere than carbon dioxide, and methane is the second most potent greenhouse gas based on the actual amount released, according to the **Environmental Protection Agency**.

Bacteria on the seafloor are able remove methane from their surroundings, entirely without oxygen, through a process called anaerobic methane oxidation. The National Science Foundation has awarded nearly $2 million to UArizona researchers and $1.3 million to Penn State researchers for a joint project to better understand these microorganisms, engineer synthetic versions of them and deploy them in bioreactors for capturing and converting methane.

Ingmar Riedel-Kruse, the project's lead principal investigator and an associate professor in the UArizona Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, and Thomas Wood, project co-principal investigator and a professor of chemical engineering in the Penn State College of Engineering, have joined forces to use a specific enzyme – found in microbes at the bottom of the sea – to capture methane. This enzyme was previously cloned by Wood's lab into easy-to- culture bacteria, representing a first step toward creating scalable biological reactors to harness methane. Riedel-Kruse's lab recently developed new techniques for adhering these bacteria to each other and to surfaces, which would allow scientists to better culture them inside such reactor.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/2b5hnu5a

Octobre 2022

APPELS D'OFFRES

Programme MOPGA : Ouverture du 6ème appel à candidatures

L'appel à candidatures MOPGA 2023 est ouvert jusqu'au 16 janvier 2023. Ce programme de bourses permettra d'accueillir en France 40 jeunes chercheurs internationaux souhaitant effectuer des recherches sur des thématiques en lien avec les enjeux du changement climatique et environnementaux.

La France, en tant qu'acteur majeur dans la lutte contre le changement climatique et garant de l'esprit de l'Accord de Paris, lance un nouveau **programme MOPGA de bourses de séjour de recherche pour jeunes chercheurs** en vue d'œuvrer au renforcement des contributions scientifiques aux enjeux du changement climatique soulevés par les COP.

Ce sixième appel à projet du programme Make Our Planet Great Again (MOPGA), financé par le Ministère de l'Europe et des affaires étrangères (MEAE), en partenariat avec le Ministère de l'enseignement supérieur et de la recherche (MESR) et mis en œuvre par Campus France, permettra d'accueillir de jeunes chercheurs internationaux souhaitant mener des travaux de recherche au sein de laboratoires et centres de recherche français.

40 bourses seront attribuées aux jeunes chercheurs lauréats sur une période de **12 mois** à compter de **septembre 2023**.

Qui peut candidater ?

Les chercheurs étrangers qui remplissent les conditions suivantes peuvent candidater :

- **Avoir un diplôme de doctorat depuis moins de 5 ans**
- être **exclusivement de nationalité étrangère**
- **Ne pas avoir résidé en France après le 1er septembre 2022** (durée de plus de 90 jours)

Date limite de candidature : 16 janvier 2023

En savoir plus : https://tinyurl.com/2mpc26rm

Octobre 2022

CNRS-UArizona Joint Call for Proposals: Graduate Research Fellowship & International Mobility

The France-Arizona Institute for Global Grand Challenges (CNRS & University of Arizona International Research Center) is issuing this call for proposals to support collaborative research in all disciplines. Each project will involve one CNRS-affiliated team and one UArizona team. Each team will be built around a Principal Investigator (PI) and a doctoral student (identified or not at the time of proposal submission). Up to five three-year awards will be made, including:

- to the CNRS-affiliated team: a three-year fellowship for the doctoral student starting in Fall 2023, supplemented with up to 5,000 euros/year for three years to cover mobility costs for visits to the UArizona partner team by the CNRS-affiliated doctoral student and PI and co-PIs.
- to the UArizona team: up to 5,000 US dollars/year for three years to cover mobility costs for visits to the CNRS-affiliated partner team by the UArizona doctoral student and PI and co-PIs. Note that the UArizona doctoral student involved in the project is expected to have her/his own graduate funding (Teaching Assistantship, training grant, NSF GRFP…)

The CNRS-UArizona IRC selection committee is seeking projects that demonstrate four qualities:

- Address a research grand challenge that the two teams, by working together, are in a world leadership position to tackle.
- Focus on a specific goal or milestone that can be reached on a three-year timeline, and that can make a transformative contribution toward the grand challenge.
- Combine and integrate teams' expertise into an exceptional capacity that no single team could achieve, and that has potential to last and develop beyond the confines and terms of the project.
- Offer a unique training opportunity to the doctoral students involved in the project.

While we expect teams with a productive history of collaboration to be in a strong position to apply, projects involving new collaborations are also highly encouraged. This year, we are especially interested in projects that can help tackle grand challenges related to habitability and environmental resilience, the food-energy-water nexus, and climate change and health

Octobre 2022

Call opening: October 10th, 2022

Submission deadline: November 18th, 2022 at 23:59 Paris time (3:59pm Arizona time).

Notification: January 30th, 2023.

More info: https://tinyurl.com/bdzb2xus

Octobre 2022

ETATS-UNIS

Arati Prabhakar confirmed as OSTP Director

© Arati Prabhakar at her nomination hearing on July 20. (Image credit Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee)

The Senate confirmed Arati Prabhakar by the end of September director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy on a vote of 56 to 40. President Biden nominated her for the job in June and stated she would also be his chief adviser on science and technology as well as a member of his Cabinet, pending her confirmation.

Trained as an engineer, Prabhakar previously served as director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology during the Clinton administration and of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency during the Obama administration. She is the first woman and the first person of color to be confirmed as OSTP director.

OSTP Deputy Director Alondra Nelson has been leading the office on an interim basis since Biden's previous science adviser and OSTP director, Eric Lander, resigned in February. Former National Institutes of Health Director Francis Collins has been serving as Biden's interim science adviser.

En savoir plus : https://tinyurl.com/yc7sdyfx

OSTP Director Arati Prabhakar speaks with AAAS CEO Sudip S. Parikh in her first public address

©Credit: AAAS website

Federal science needs three major shifts to ensure that the benefits of science and technology address the challenges facing all Americans, Arati Prabhakar said in her first public address as director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

Speaking at AAAS headquarters on Oct. 21, A. Prabhakar said that "at every step of the way, science, technology, research, innovation, experimentation have been integral" to U.S. justice, national defense and the general welfare.

Prabhakar noted that the president's fiscal year 2023 budget request included more than $200 billion for federal science and technology, with $111 billion of that amount directed at basic and applied research. This is the largest-ever budget request for science and technology, she said.

The OSTP director said she was confident much of this request would be supported on a bipartisan basis by Congress. "What the political world is saying to science and technology is, 'we believe in you, we need you, we're going to keep backing you, and we need you to keep what you've been doing.'"

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/2trfmtbv

MIT names Dr. Sally Kornbluth as new President

©Credit: MIT News

Incoming MIT President Sally Kornbluth greeted members of the Institute community at a campus event on Thursday afternoon, outlining her vision and values, and thanking everyone for the reception she has enjoyed. In her remarks, which were also webcast to an online audience, Kornbluth emphasized the contributions MIT can make at a time of social and civic need, while describing some key elements in her intellectual and professional background.

Kornbluth is a cell biologist who has been serving as provost of Duke University since 2014. She is also currently the Jo Rae Wright University Professor of Biology at Duke, where she has been on the faculty since 1994. As Duke's provost, Kornbluth was the university's chief academic officer, overseeing teaching, research, and intellectual priorities across Duke's 10 schools and six institutes.

After graduating from Williams, Kornbluth earned a scholarship to study at Emmanuel College of Cambridge University, earning a BA in genetics. She earned her PhD from Rockefeller University, and then was a postdoc at the University of California at San Diego, before joining Duke.

Kornbluth's selection is the culmination of an eight-month process run by a 20-person MIT search committee.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/3bphux75

AAAS Survey: Many Researchers Face Difficulties Paying Open Access Fees

©Credit: AAAS website

To better drive scientific innovation and apply lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, federal policymakers are exploring methods to increase access to published scientific research and data that is federally funded. Yet the policies meant to ensure public access for readers are increasingly affecting publishing opportunities for researchers, creating hidden financial and career consequences, according to a new survey released by AAAS.

One current method for financing public access to scientific research is an article processing charge, or APC: a fee paid by researchers or their institutions. Among the researchers surveyed who had previously paid APCs, many found it difficult to obtain funding to pay the price of open access publishing, sometimes forgoing professional development opportunities to allocate funds for APCs.

The APC "is a model that freezes inequities into place," said Sudip Parikh, chief executive officer of AAAS and executive publisher of the Science family of journals. Parikh announced the survey findings Oct. 25 at the AAAS Science and Technology Policy Forum – and offered recommendations to ensure that public access policies benefit readers and ensure equitable opportunities for researchers.

AAAS collected 422 responses from U.S. researchers between March and September 2022 to better understand how open access publishing trends and costs are affecting the scientific enterprise and

administrators representing 89 institutions. According to the survey findings, 63 percent of researchers had paid an APC at some point in their career. Among those who had previously paid APCs and answered survey questions about experiences paying APCs, 52 percent of respondents reported that it was difficult or very difficult to obtain those funds, and 69 percent of respondent had used grant funds to cover APC costs.

As public access policies continue to gain traction – the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy issued guidance in August to make federally funded scientific research and accompanying data immediately available to the American public at no cost by end of 2025 – such policies must not perpetuate the unintended consequences of certain open access models.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/3ehfry65

Biden-Harris Administration Announces $2 Billion from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to Finance Carbon Dioxide Transportation Infrastructure

©The White House

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today began accepting letters of interest from applicants for loans under a new $2.1 billion Carbon Dioxide Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation (CIFIA) program. Enacted under President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, CIFIA offers funding for large-capacity, shared carbon dioxide (CO2) transportation projects located in the United States.

Appropriated annually through 2026, CIFIA will support shared infrastructure projects, including pipelines, rail transport, ships and barges, and ground shipping, that connect anthropogenic sources of carbon with endpoints for its storage or utilization.

Carbon management technologies such as direct air capture, carbon capture from industry and power generation, carbon conversion, and CO2 transportation and storage technologies must be deployed at a large scale in the coming decades to meet the United States' net-zero greenhouse gas goals by 2050.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/2s4xbnhk

NIH to award over $200 million to support potentially transformative biomedical research projects

©NIH website

The High-Risk, High-Reward Research program, supported by the Common Fund at the National Institutes of Health has awarded 103 new research grants to support highly innovative scientists who propose visionary and broadly impactful meritorious behavioral and biomedical research projects.

Awards include the impact exposure to fracking might have on pregnancy and conception; how brain mechanisms influence memory performance; the neural basis of social bias and association using the female songbird as a model; tissue regeneration using the uterus as a model; a mixed methods examination of skin tone and health among African Americans across the United States; and a new model organism to lead in the development of an HIV vaccine.

The 103 awards total approximately $285 million in support from the institutes, centers, and offices across NIH over five years beginning in 2022, pending the availability of funds.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/25yr9pa6

New NSF workforce development program opens new doors in emerging technology fields

©NSF website

The U.S. National Science Foundation has launched a new $30 million workforce development program, Experiential Learning for Emerging and Novel Technologies, or ExLENT.

The program will expand practical learning opportunities for individuals interested in entering or gaining more experience in emerging and novel technology areas such as advanced manufacturing, artificial intelligence, biotechnology, quantum information science, and semiconductors and microelectronics. With awards of up to $1 million over three years, the program will promote partnerships between organizations in emerging technology fields and those with expertise in workforce development.

Using a cohort model and emphasizing the importance of mentorship, the ExLENT program will connect interested companies, governments and nonprofits with current and potential learners in science, technology, engineering and mathematics who are seeking paid opportunities to explore career paths and develop skills in emerging technology areas

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/3fjt5ppu

NSF invests nearly $8 million in inaugural cohort of open-source projects

© The White House OSTP courtesy

The new Pathways to Enable Open-Source Ecosystems program supports more than 20 Phase I awards to create and grow sustainable high-impact open-source ecosystems

The U.S. National Science Foundation announced the first Pathways to Enable Open-Source Ecosystems, or POSE, program awards to more than 20 Phase I projects. Researchers will create ecosystems for materials science research, renewable energy adoption, natural hazards, health data sciences and informatics, supply chain monitoring, and many other important applications.

Launched by NSF's Directorate for Technology, Innovation and Partnerships, or TIP, and supported by all NSF directorates, the POSE program harnesses the power of open-source development for the creation of new technology solutions to problems of societal, economic and technological importance. The POSE program supports managing organizations that will facilitate the creation and growth of sustainable high-impact open-source ecosystems, or OSEs, around already-developed open-source products, many of which are the result of prior NSF-funded research. Each managing organization will establish capabilities critical to the growth of its OSE, including security, privacy, developer and end-user coordination, and efficient technology delivery.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/mv66p3h8

NOAA Awards $11M for Coastal and Infrastructure Resilience Research

©Credit: Chesapeake Bay Program/Will Parson

NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) is announcing $11M in Fiscal Year 2023 to fund 18 coastal resilience research projects across the nation.

The complex challenges of sea level rise, coastal flooding, and increased storm frequency pose increasing risks to our nation's communities and their surrounding ecosystems. Storm surge and coastal flooding that alters shorelines also represent a significant — and costly — threat to ports, roads, railways and public transportation.

As the shift of preferred coastal protection measures from traditional engineered structures to natural and nature-based features (NNBF) gains momentum, so too does the need for scientific assessments of their effectiveness and implementation.

NCCOS is allocating $800K for three new awards and $3.2 million for 13 continuing awards, funded under its Effects of Sea Level Rise (ESLR) Program. Funded projects will help inform mitigation of sea level rise (SLR) impacts to coastal ecosystems, communities, infrastructure and surface transportation; and investigate the ability of NNBF to reduce the impacts of sea level rise and flooding.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/taw8vxx2

NOAA "Dialogues with Industry" to advance ocean observing

©Credit: Unsplash

The ocean observing landscape is changing with demand for ocean information to support the blue economy. How can industry, science and government together advance ocean observing for 2030?

NOAA is co-hosting dialogues with industry partners across the ocean information value chain. Join industry, academia, and government together to develop actionable recommendations for expanding the Global Ocean Observing System. Brittany Croll, from NOAA's Global Ocean Monitoring and Observing Program, is one of four members on the executive planning team for this initiative.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/2zxhck3e

NOAA: Significant Measure Approved to Reduce Potent Greenhouse Gas Emissions

©Credit: Unsplash

NOAA science expertise and data has supported the U.S. government decision to reduce potent greenhouse gas emissions. On September 21st, the United States Senate successfully approved the Kigali Amendment of the Montreal Protocol with strong bipartisan support. The Kigali Amendment, negotiated under the Obama administration in 2016, is an international agreement to phase-out and replace hydrofluorocarbons, a class of chemicals that act as potent greenhouse gasses. In 2020, Congress approved the 2020 American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act which set a path for an 85% reduction in HFC emissions by the year 2036.

The approval of the Kigali Amendment, as well as scientific leadership, has positioned the U.S. for technological leadership in the reduction and replacement of HFCs, as well as for further reductions in various greenhouse gas emissions. While legislation is driving a national phasedown of these harmful chemicals, the approval of the Kigali Amendment shows the United States' commitment to the international effort to reduce powerful greenhouse gasses.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/4smzh9tw

CANADA

Le LIA RespiVIR est lancé

Guy Boivin et Manuel Rosa-Calatrava / Crédit photo: Stevens Leblanc

L'Université Laval et l'Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1 joignent leurs forces en recherche sur les infections virales respiratoires. Des membres des communautés de l'Université Laval et de l'Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, ainsi que des partenaires du milieu de la recherche - le CNRS et l'INSERM, se sont réunis pour souligner la création du Laboratoire international associé (France-Canada), qui effectue des travaux sur l'origine, le traitement et la prévention des infections virales respiratoires (LIA RespiVIR).

Sous la codirection du professeur titulaire à la Faculté de médecine de l'Université Laval, Guy Boivin et du directeur de recherche de l'Institut national de la santé et de la recherche médicale à l'Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, Manuel Rosa-Calatrava, le LIA RespiVIR vise à être une référence mondiale en recherche sur les infections par les virus respiratoires émergents et réémergents.

En savoir plus : https://tinyurl.com/44jk6k67 ; https://tinyurl.com/j9r5puxx

Canada's welcoming artificial intelligence research ecosystem

Elissa Strome / Photo credit: CIFAR

A conversation with Elissa Strome, Executive Director of the Pan-Canadian AI Strategy for the global research organization CIFAR

Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning have great potential, but come with inherent risks. For 40 years, CIFAR, an international organization based in Canada, has brought researchers together across disciplines and borders to address the most important questions facing science and humanity. This includes early investment in fundamental knowledge and applications of responsible AI. In 2017, CIFAR was asked by the Government of Canada to plan and lead the world's first national AI strategy.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/kuwcu8ev

University of Toronto one of nine schools chosen for Eric Schmidt's new 148 M USD AI research initiative

The University of Toronto (U of T) has been selected as one of nine schools globally to receive funding from ex-Google CEO Eric Schmidt's new, $148 million USD program focused on enabling the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in research.

Through the Eric and Wendy Schmidt AI in Science Postdoctoral Fellowship, Schmidt Futures aims to support the work of researchers applying AI to research in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The program will fund nearly 300 postdoctoral fellows each year over six years. U of T will host 10 fellows during the first year of the initiative, and 20 annually thereafter.

The other eight schools selected for the program include: Singapore's Nanyang Technological University and the National University of Singapore; the United Kingdom's University of Oxford and Imperial College London; and the United States' Cornell University, University of California San Diego, University of Chicago, and University of Michigan.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/4hxmfxf8

Le gouvernement du Canada lance le Comité consultatif sur le système fédéral de soutien à la recherche

Le gouvernement fédéral a lancé le Comité consultatif sur le système fédéral de soutien à la recherche. Le Comité se basera sur les perspectives de leaders du domaine des sciences, de la recherche et de l'innovation pour fournir des conseils d'experts stratégiques et indépendants au sujet de la structure, de la gouvernance et de la gestion du système fédéral qui soutient la recherche et les talents.

Précédemment, en 2016, un exercice similaire a été dirigé par l'ancien recteur de l'Université de Toronto, David Naylor. D'après une récente analyse, neuf des 35 recommandations du rapport ont été mises en œuvre, 13 sont en cours de déploiement et 13 n'ont pas été adéquatement appliquées.

Parmi les recommandations mises en œuvre, on compte le financement régulier et permanent destiné à la Fondation canadienne pour l'innovation (FCI), la révision du Fonds d'excellence en recherche Apogée Canada et l'uniformisation des programmes d'innovation du gouvernement fédéral. À ces efforts s'ajoute également la création du Comité de la coordination de la recherche au Canada (CCRC).

En savoir plus : https://tinyurl.com/95jhkue8 ; https://tinyurl.com/yc6jkaf8

Joint EU/Canada quantum research projects

The European Union and Canada announce support for three jointly funded projects in quantum research and innovation.

The selected EU-Canada projects, (MIRAQLS - quantum sensing, including Ecole Polytechnique de Montréal; FoQaCiA -quantum computing, including the University of British Colombia; and HYPERSPACE -quantum communications, including the INRS), are co-funded by the EU Quantum Flagship under Horizon Europe, and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC).

The three winning projects will share grants of €4million from the EU and close to CAD$5 million in total investments from NSERC over three years.

Research supported through these projects is expected to lead to useful applications in a wide range of fields. The specific applications for quantum sensing (in the MIRAQLS project) will increase the accuracy of measurements in imaging sensors which could be used in fields as diverse as better precision medicine, to more comprehensive detection of pollutants in the atmosphere, to precisely monitoring traffic flows and congestion.

Moreover, the design of quantum algorithms for quantum computing (in the FoQaCiA project) will go a long way to improving the processing of increasingly large amounts of data needed to solve complex societal and environmental problems, and exploiting high-dimensionally entangled photons (in the HYPERSPACE project) will contribute to ensuring more secure data processing and transmission.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/2sjsjtrf ; https://tinyurl.com/29htuf5f

Edmonton named Canada's first UNESCO Learning City

Photo credit: Richard Siemens

With significant contributions from the University of Alberta in its winning application, Edmonton has been selected to join UNESCO's Global Network of Learning Cities. The designation means UNESCO will share local innovations and successes with other members of the network around the world while promoting a range of inclusive and accessible learning opportunities — from the essential and informal to those of higher education.

The network aims to extend education to families and diverse communities, as well as facilitate learning in the workplace, maximize digital learning technologies and foster a culture of lifelong learning. It also places a strong emphasis on empowering individuals and promoting social inclusion while enhancing economic development and cultural prosperity.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/ypjt9snk

Peter Wall and UBC launch new program awarding up to 4 M CAD per year to help create sustainable solutions in B.C.

Photo credit: Hover Collective / UBC Brand & Marketing

Peter Wall and UBC announced the launch of the Wall Research Awards and Wall Fellowships, which will be supported by the Peter Wall Legacy Fund. These Wall Research Awards and Fellowships will be offered to UBC faculty members and students.

They will initially focus on research relating to sustainability in the areas of urban development, water, energy, transportation infrastructure, environmental protection of oceans and waterfronts, and resource-intensive industry. A celebration will also accompany the announcement of the awards and fellowships each year.

In 1991, UBC received a gift of 6.5 M CAD Wall Financial Corporation shares from Peter Wall, then valued at 15 M CAD, to establish an institute for advanced studies. At the time, the gift was the largest donation by an individual in UBC's history and it has since generated over 140 M CAD in value, establishing the Peter Wall Endowment as UBC's largest-ever donor-funded endowment.

Peter Wall's love of UBC and academic community motivated him to donate what was, at the time, one-third of his wealth. This gift, which established the Peter Wall Institute Institute for Advanced Studies, has supported over 100 international visiting scholars, almost 100 Wall Scholars and reached more than 10,000 people through the Wall Exchange Public Speakers Program.

En savoir plus: https://tinyurl.com/bdds9d5n

MEXIQUE

Participation du Conacyt à la conférence de la Commission économique pour l'Amérique Latine et les caraïbes sur la science et la technologie

Le Conseil national pour la science et la technologie (Conacyt) a participé à la réunion du comité exécutif de la Conférence sur la science, l'innovation et les technologies de l'information CEPAL en vue d'une prochaine conférence prévue en 2023.

La Conférence sur la science et la technologie est un organe subsidiaire de la CEPALC, qui réunit les plus hautes autorités promouvant la science, la technologie et l'innovation dans chaque pays d'Amérique Latine et dont le rôle est de promouvoir le développement et l'amélioration des politiques nationales en matière de science.

Volonté d'affirmer le rôle crucial de la science au Mexique indépendamment des décisions gouvernementales. Renforcer les liens de coopération scientifique entre le Mexique et d'autres pays d'Amérique latine et des caraïbes.
Lors de cet évènement la directrice générale du CONACYT Dr María Elena Álvarez Buylla Roces, a déclaré que « les thèmes de l'**intelligence artificielle**, de l'**éco-innovation** et du **genre** sont transversaux et indispensables aux actions publiques du Conacyt au même titre que le droit à la science et ses avantages pour la société.

En savoir plus : https://tinyurl.com/2wmjun4u

L'Académie des sciences du Mexique récompense un de ses chercheurs du Tec de Monterrey

©Credit: TEC website

Daniel Jacobo Velázquez, chercheur au Tec de Monterrey vient de remporter le prix 2022 des jeunes chercheurs scientifiques dans le domaine des sciences de la vie et de la terre. Cette distinction lui a été décerné par l'Académie des sciences du Mexique. Créé en 1961, ce prix est considéré comme la distinction la plus honorifique décernée par l'Académie des sciences du Mexique à des chercheurs de moins de 40 ans. Daniel Jacobo a donc reçu le prix pour ses études sur l'élucidation des mécanismes physiologiques et moléculaires qui induisent la génération de métabolites secondaires dans les fruits et légumes. Le processus soumet ces aliments à des conditions de stress post-récolte afin qu'ils génèrent des super antioxydants susceptibles de prévenir diverses maladies chroniques dégénératives.
Les recherches de ce professeur de bio-ingénierie à l'École d'ingénierie et de sciences du Tec, ont donné lieu à plus de 90 articles scientifiques, qui ont été cités plus de 2 800 fois dans des revues internationales.

En savoir plus : https://tinyurl.com/4y745tfb

Le Directeur du Tec de Monterrey s'exprime sur l'importance de la recherche et de l'enseignement supérieur dans les sciences de l'environnement

Selon le directeur du Tec de Monterrey David Garza, au moins 20 % des cours proposés par le Tec sont en accord avec les objectifs de développement durable de l'ONU. En effet, depuis 2019, les efforts du Tec se sont accrus en collaborant avec d'autres établissements internationaux au Canada et en Turquie sur le programme de développement 2030 de l'ONU.
Ce point a été soutenu par Zeynep Gürhan, directrice de l'université Koc en Turquie, ainsi que par Suzanne Fortier Présidente de l'université McGill au Canada. En janvier 2022, à la demande de la direction du TEC un rapport sur les initiatives de développement durable avait été créé dans le but de mesurer l'impact de l'université sur tous ses campus grâce à plus de 800 initiatives impulsées par l'établissement. Grâce à ce rapport, le Tec de Monterrey a pu élaborer une stratégie tournée vers l'avenir pour ses activités, à savoir le plan de durabilité et de changement climatique 2025, désormais appelé "Route bleue". Le directeur du Tec a affirmé que ce type de stratégie a non seulement contribué à améliorer l'impact de l'institution dans le pays et la région, mais a également été un élément essentiel pour ouvrir l'établissement à d'autres secteurs.

En savoir plus : https://tinyurl.com/2a9eemwy

Le directeur du MIT nano présente les nanotechnologies du futur à l'institut Tec de Monterrey

©Credit : Tecnologico de Monterrey website

Le directeur de MIT.nano, M. Bulovic a donné une conférence dans le cadre des nanotechnologies du futur intitulée « The future of advanced materials for sustainability ».

Ce colloque a réuni des représentants d'universités et d'entreprises, dans le but de créer un espace de dialogue entre les chercheurs scientifiques et les entreprises du secteur privé, afin de répondre aux enjeux globaux en terme de science, d'innovation et de technologie. Le directeur du MIT.nano s'est également exprimé sur la nécessité d'un partenariat transparent entre chercheurs et industriels mexicains et américains.

En savoir plus : https://tinyurl.com/4yst4925

Inauguration du séminaire international sur les villes durables Tec de Monterey

©Credit: Ambassade de France à Mexico

Un an après la création du Consulat général de France à Monterrey, l'Ambassadeur Jean-Pierre Asvazadourian a rencontré les autorités municipales et de l'Etat du Nuevo León ainsi que les partenaires de la région afin d'approfondir leurs échanges et d'explorer de nouveaux domaines de coopération, notamment la ville durable.

Huit mois après la signature de l'accord pour la formation des enseignants de 16 lycées entre le Tecnológico de Monterrey et l'ambassade de France, l'ambassadeur Asvazadourian et le recteur et directeur général du TEC, David Garza Salazar, ont souligné la pertinence de cet accord franco-mexicain, qui favorise aussi la coopération universitaire.

Cet événement a réuni des représentants de gouvernements, d'universités et d'entreprises, dans le but de créer un espace de dialogue entre la France et le Mexique sur les défis - gouvernance, innovation, mobilité, gestion des ressources auxquels sont confrontées les villes et les possibilités d'améliorer la qualité de vie urbaine.

"Les défis mondiaux se reflètent au niveau local, et je pense qu'il est crucial qu'une des tables rondes de ce symposium soit consacrée au "regard sur les questions de l'eau et de l'air". Le développement durable des villes est un élément central de la lutte contre le réchauffement climatique. Réfléchir ensemble à la ville du futur, c'est participer à la mise en œuvre de l'Accord de Paris, auquel la France est tant attachée et dont elle est garante", a déclaré l'Ambassadeur.

En savoir plus : https://tinyurl.com/29xufrr4

Le Conacyt et le Cimav organisent un congrès sur la gestion de l'eau et les solutions possibles

Afin de relever les principaux défis liés à la gestion de l'eau au Mexique, le CONACYT et le CIMAV par l'intermédiaire du Programme Stratégique National de l'Eau (Pronaces Agua) ont conjointement organisé le congrès « L'eau pour le bien commun : plaidoyer, recherche et défis ». Ce congrès a réuni des représentants de la communauté universitaire et scientifique ainsi que des organisations sociales afin d'instaurer un dialogue de réflexions critiques sur la crise sans précédent que connaît le pays et chercher des solutions dans l'intérêt général.

Le congrès "L'eau pour le bien commun : plaidoyer, recherche et défis" vise à répondre à deux questions essentielles : pourquoi les problèmes liés à l'eau se sont accumulés plus vite que les solutions, au point d'atteindre une crise qui semble sans issue ; et en quoi les problèmes nationaux liés à l'eau devraient être abordés pour apporter une meilleure solution plus rapide et plus équitable.

En savoir plus : https://tinyurl.com/4zb9xxyd

Moment critique pour le monde de la recherche scientifique au Mexique

©Credit: PIXABAY

Deux ans avant la fin de l'administration du président Andrés Manuel Lopez, de nombreux scientifiques du pays accusent le gouvernement de ne pas avoir tenu ses engagements en matière de recherche scientifique. Le collectif ProCienciaMx dénonce un manque cruel de budget, une modification des règles par les autorités sans consultation préalable ainsi que de fausses critiques et accusations à leur encontre, tous ces motifs bafouent la Constitution mexicaine.

L'organisation civile, constituée d'un réseau de scientifiques et de chercheurs de tout le pays, explique que loin des promesses faites par l'administration d'AMLO lors de sa prise de fonction, l'activité scientifique a repris en janvier 2022 dans une situation critique et n'a pas connu d'évolution positive depuis.

La situation se manifeste notamment par de lourdes coupes budgétaires, une porosité institutionnelle et un mépris sans précédent pour la recherche scientifique et technologique.

Pour inverser cette tendance, le collectif de chercheurs ProCienciaMx propose d'établir un dialogue national sur le système scientifique et technologique du pays, en particulier sur les actions et les changements entrepris par l'actuel gouvernement d'AMLO, ainsi que les répercussions engendrées dans le domaine de la science.

En savoir plus : https://tinyurl.com/2u5y2eda

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