

IS IT A LOTTERY? IMPROVING GENDER FAIRNESS IN RESEARCH FUNDING

Conference of the GRANteD Research Project
February 24th 2020 | 09:30 – 17:30
Sensengasse 1 | Haus der Forschung | 1090 Vienna

9:30	Arrival
10:00	Opening address: Klement Tockner, president FWF Welcome: Anne Pepin (tbc), EC representative Wolfgang Polt, JOANNEUM RESEARCH
10:15	Introduction: »The GRANteD project: How gender bias in research funding is analysed« Helene Schiffbänker, JOANNEUM RESEARCH, Coordinator »Studying gender bias in grant allocations: the ERC case« Peter van den Besselaar, TMC
11:00	Coffee Break
11:15	Keynote 1: »Experimental approach: Using lottery in allocating funding« Ulrike Bischler, VW Foundation
12:00	Elevator Pitches: Alternative approaches for allocating grants (FWF, NWO)
12:10	World Cafe 1: Selection process – peer review
13:30	Lunch Break
14:30	Keynote 2: »Academics as superheroes: How the exceptionally masculine occupational stereotype in academia affects women (and men)« Ruth van Veelen, Utrecht University
15:20	Coffee Break
15:45	Elevator Pitches: Existing tools for addressing gender bias (FFG, Vienna Business Agency, Eindhoven University of Technology)
16:00	World Cafe 2: Gender bias in peer review processes
17:15	Wrap up & Outlook
17:30	Networking – Snacks & Refreshments

The GRANteD Stakeholder Conference

This conference is an activity within GRANteD, an ongoing H2020 research project analysing potential gender bias in grant allocation and the impact of grants on female and male grantees' careers. It brings together research funders, gender experts, science policy scholars, researchers and other people interested in a fair research funding system. As grants and competitive research funding become increasingly relevant for researchers' careers, a fair allocation of grants is essential to select the most excellent female and male researchers. For allocating grants, the peer review system is a widely used form, yet it has been criticised for various limitations, gender (un-) fairness being one of them. In this conference we talk about challenges in grant allocation, referring to knowledge about factors that might cause gender bias as well as to measures and approaches to mitigate bias.

Presenting GRANteD

The GRANteD Stakeholder conference starts with a presentation of the GRANteD project: Where does gender bias in grant allocation possibly occur and how is it studied? In a second presentation the analytical approach is outlined, based on previous research on gender bias done in the context of the ERC.

Keynotes

The Keynotes introduce relevant topics on peer review and gender: The lottery experiment as an innovative approach to substitute peer review is presented, as well as enlightening research findings on the relevance of gender stereotypes in academia.

Elevator pitches

Hereby innovative approaches for allocating grants and innovative measures for mitigating gender bias are presented in a very brief format, aiming to stimulate the discussions on the world cafés.

World Cafes

They offer an opportunity for all participants to contribute themselves and to learn from others. This is the place to reflect on what has already been presented and to discuss aspects in more detail. Also further measures that already have been or soon will be implemented can be addressed. The aim is to share experiences and learnings and to get ideas and inspiration for policy implementation and for the fine-tuning of the GRANteD research design.

World Cafe 1: Selection process – peer review

T (table)1: What are the advantages of existing peer review processes?
What are strengths of peer review in research funding?

T2: What are disadvantages/challenges?

T3: Which measures are currently in place that contribute to fairer peer review processes?

T4: The future of Peer Review: how to advance and redesign it

World Cafe 2: Gender bias in peer review processes

T1: Where does gender bias occur?
What are the sources of gender bias in peer review?

T2: What measures for addressing gender bias in research funding are currently in place?
What are their strengths and weaknesses?

T3: What are your experiences with gender bias trainings? What are their strengths and weaknesses?
Under which conditions are they working well?

T4: Future ideas how to tackle gender bias in research funding?

Project coordinator: JOANNEUM RESEARCH



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