ESF MOF on Science in Society Relationships

Chapter 4

Recommendations

Increasing interaction with society in order to achieve a better society and increased quality of research and innovation

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Researchers are normal people with exceptionally exciting jobs!
Chapter 4: Recommendations

General trends

• Loss of confidence in authorities incl researchers
• Information overload
• Increased mobility yields openness to non-scientific perspectives
Chapter 4: Recommendations

Conclusions - statements

• Science is for the benefit of Society
• Public Engagement is for the benefit of Science
• Two-way dialogue Science – Society is necessary
• ALL sciences must be involved
• Change of attitudes crucial:
  SiS essential part of science
• Researchers must be rewarded
• Patience and urgency
• Respect diversity
Chapter 4: Recommendations

Key recommendations to Member Organisations

• Make SiS part of science policy and strategy – expressed in Mission Statements, written and spoken
• Better SiS practices needed
• Coordinate efforts for better impact
  - A Common Agreement on SiS by ESF/ScienceEurope MOs
  - Exchange of experiences and best practices
  - Develop systems for measuring SiS and their impact
  - Establish a joint group for national and international SiS
• Reward researchers and institutions
  - Make SiS an intrinsic part of research funding
  - Introduce evaluation methods and indicators
Chapter 4: Recommendations
Key recommendations to Member Organisations

Make SiS part of science policy and strategy – expressed in Mission Statements, written and spoken
Include SiS actively in operations
Influence Macro and Micro level Actors

• Inclusive: All sciences
• Recognition: Individuals and Institutions must be rewarded
• Structure: SiS incorporated in MOs operations
• Variety: Listen to different actors in society and formulate target groups clearly
• Inclusive: Involve all individuals, groups, institutions
Better SiS practices needed
Key recommendations for Funding Agencies

• Survey current situation. Does it fit with SiS mission statement?
• Identify activities of researchers, consider audience, impact, quality, cost…
• Identify ways to increase and enhance researcher participation in SiS relations
• Identify gaps in funding, capacities and expertise where extra funding or support could improve the situation.
Chapter 4: Recommendations

Better SiS practices needed
Key recommendations for Research Institutes

• Survey current situation. Does it fit with SiS mission statement? Identify activities of researchers, consider audience, impact, quality, cost...
• Identify ways to increase and enhance researcher participation in SiS relations
• Identify gaps in funding, capacities and expertise, and plan to provide necessary funding, training or support
• Develop training for stakeholders, researchers, university presidents and publics of different kinds
Chapter 4: Recommendations
Key recommendations to Member Organisations

Coordinate efforts for better impact

• A Common Agreement on SiS by MOs of ESF/ScienceEurope (and others)
• Exchange of experiences and best practices
• Develop systems for measuring SiS and their impact
• Establish a joint group for national and international SiS
Chapter 4: Recommendations
Key recommendations to Member Organisations

Reward Researchers and Institutions

• Make SiS an intrinsic part of research funding
  • SiS requirements at grant application stage and in reports
  • Use SiS as a differentiator
  • Begin to collect data on SiS
  • Allocate money for SiS in grant awards
  • Allocate money for SiS-promoting activities

• Introduce evaluation methods and indicators
  • Activities – time spent
  • Resources – budget and human resources
  • Income
  • Develop impact measurements
  • Indicators should be simple, transparent, easy to collect, generally accepted
Chapter 4: Recommendations
Key recommendations to Member Organisations

The ongoing

Process

in and among the MOs and with the surrounding society is the most important achievement

What did we miss?