

Promoting Women in Science

Dunja MLADENIĆ

J. Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Central European Centre for Women and Youth in Science aims at promoting gender equality in research and development and young scientists in the Central European region www.cec-wys.org. Funded by the European Commission, the Centre is the first regional centre to advance the position of women scientists and of young scientists in Central Europe. Building on report produced by a group of EC experts on the position of women in science in Central and Eastern European countries (Enlarge Women in Science East, Enwise), the project focused on promoting equal opportunities in research and development in four Central European countries and examining and improving the position of young people in science. Besides creating a user-friendly information-laden website, the Centre established a database of women experts from the Central European region with a view to increasing the participation of women scientists in European research and the European Commission's expert database.

Part of the activities includes promotion of women in science in Slovenia through a travelling exhibition of Slovenian Women in ICT and its virtual counterpart available at kt.ijs.si/dunja/CEC-WYS/SloveniaICTPhD/. Brochures were developed promoting research and personal experience of women with PhD from Slovenian Universities in Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Mathematics, as well as a corresponding virtual exhibition <http://kt.ijs.si/dunja/CEC-WYS/SlovenianWomenPhD/>. These triggered further activities on promoting women in science connected to promotion of women in ICT participating in Europe project on establishing a Europe-wide Distributed Institute which pioneer principled methods of pattern analysis, statistical modelling and computational learning <http://kt.ijs.si/dunja/pascal/WomenInPascal/CVs.htm>. Promotion of women in science is also partially addressed by WS Debate project on stimulation of policy and public debate on the situation and perspectives of women in science <http://wsdebate.tetalap.hu/>.