SEMINAR DAY
EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH: OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADIAN INSTITUTIONS

VANCOUVER. Fairmont Waterfront hotel. November 5, 2011
TORONTO. Ontario Investment and Trade Centre. November 8, 2011
Erasmus Mundus is a cooperation and mobility programme in the field of higher education that aims to enhance the quality of European higher education and to promote dialogue and understanding between people and cultures through cooperation with Third Countries. In addition, it contributes to the development of human resources and the international cooperation capacity of higher education institutions in Third Countries by increasing mobility between the European Union and these countries.

The Erasmus Mundus programme provides support to:
- higher education institutions that wish to implement joint programmes at the postgraduate level (Action 1) or to set-up inter-institutional cooperation partnerships between universities from Europe and targeted Third Countries (Action 2);
- individual students, researchers and university staff who wish to spend a study/research/teaching period within one of the above-mentioned joint programmes or cooperation partnerships (Action 1 and Action 2);
- any organisation active in the field of higher education that wishes to develop projects aimed at enhancing the attractiveness, profile, visibility and image of European higher education worldwide (Action 3).

**OBJECTIVES**

Erasmus Mundus 2009-2013 is a cooperation and mobility programme in the field of higher education for:
- the enhancement of quality in European higher education;
- the promotion of the European Union as a centre of excellence in learning around the world;
- the promotion of intercultural understanding through cooperation with Third Countries as well as for the development of Third Countries in the field of higher education.

**ACTION 1: JOINT PROGRAMMES INCLUDING SCHOLARSHIPS**

This Action will foster cooperation between higher education institutions and academic staff in Europe and Third Countries with a view to creating poles of excellence and providing highly trained human resources.

Joint programmes of outstanding academic quality are designed and implemented by a consortium of European universities from at least three different countries. Consortia may also include universities from other parts of the world. Scholarships/fellowships are open to higher education students and academics from all over the world. Programmes include obligatory study and research periods, in at least two universities, and award recognised double, multiple or joint degrees.

**ACTION 1 provides:**
- Support for high-quality joint masters courses (Action 1 A) and doctoral programmes (Action 1 B) offered by a consortium of European and possibly Third Country, higher education institutions. Other types of organisations involved with the content and outcomes of the joint programme can participate in the consortium.
- Scholarships/fellowships for Third Country and European students and doctoral candidates to follow these Erasmus Mundus joint masters courses and doctoral programmes.
- Short-term scholarships for Third Country and European academics to carry out research or teaching assignments as part of the joint masters programmes.

**ACTION 2: PARTNERSHIPS WITH THIRD COUNTRY HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MOBILITY**

Partnerships in the framework of Erasmus Mundus 2009-2013 are the basis for enhancing academic cooperation and exchanges of students and academics, contributing to the socio-economic development of non-EU countries targeted by the EU external cooperation policy. Consortia must include a minimum of five higher education institutions from at least three European countries and a number of higher education institutions from targeted third countries. Special attention is given to disadvantaged groups and populations in vulnerable situations.

**ACTION 2 provides:**
- Support for the establishment of cooperation partnerships between European higher education institutions and higher education institutions from targeted Third Countries with the objective of organising and implementing structured individual mobility arrangements between the European and Third Country partners.
- Scholarships of various lengths - depending on the priorities defined for the Third Country concerned, the level of studies or the particular arrangements agreed to within the partnership - for European and Third Country individuals (students, scholars, researchers, professionals).

Action 2 activities are funded by different financial instruments available through the External Relations Activities of the Union (i.e. the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument, the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance, the Development Cooperation and Economic Cooperation Policy Instrument, the European Development Fund and the Industrialised Countries Instrument). Because of the diversity in the policy objectives covered by these financial instruments, and the different needs and priorities of the Third Countries concerned, Action 2 implementation rules may vary considerably from one year to another and from one partner country to another.

The possibility of awarding scholarships to European individuals depends on the financial instrument used to fund the cooperation activities with the Third Country concerned. Applicants are invited to refer to the annual Call for Proposals for detailed information applicable to Action 2 cooperation activities with individual Third Countries.

**APPLICATION DEADLINES**

The following deadlines are provided for information only. Applicant candidates are invited to consult the relevant Call for proposals for a confirmation of the submission deadline.

**DEADLINES**

**ACTION 1**
- Action 1A - Joint Masters Courses (EMMC)
  - Deadline: 30 April
- Action 1B - Joint Doctorate Programmes (EMJD)
  - Deadline: submission of a summary sheet by 31 March

**ACTION 2**
- Partnerships
  - Deadline: 30 April

**ACTION 3**
- Promotion of European Higher Education
  - Deadline: 30 April

**ACTION 3: PROMOTION OF EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION**

Action 3 promotes European higher education through measures enhancing the attractiveness of Europe as an educational destination and a centre of excellence at the world level.

Action 3 projects should contribute to:
- the promotion and the raising of awareness regarding the European higher education sector as well as the relevant cooperation programmes and funding schemes;
- the dissemination of the programme’s results and examples of ‘good practice’;
- the use of these results at institutional and individual level.

This Action provides support for activities related to the international dimension of all aspects of higher education, such as promotion, accessibility, quality assurance, credit recognition, mutual recognition of qualifications, curriculum development and mobility.

Activities can be implemented by mixed networks of organisations active in the field of higher education composed of at least three participating organisations from European countries and one from Third Countries.
THE EUROPEAN UNION DELEGATION IN OTTAWA

is a fully fledged diplomatic mission, whose Head of Delegation, Ambassador Matthias Brinkmann, is formally accredited as the official representative of the EU to the Government of Canada. The Delegation promotes the EU’s positions in the areas of political, trade and economic affairs. It is also very active in public affairs and providing information to the Canadian public on EU policy, activities and EU-Canada cooperation.

For more on the EU’s mission in Canada visit http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/canada

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Examples of Erasmus Mundus Programs Involving Canadian Universities

FONASO. SUFONAMA. TRANSFOR-M

The Faculty of Forestry of the University of British Columbia is a partner in three European graduate studies programmes. Forest and Nature for Society (FONASO) is a three-year Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctoral Programme designed to educate the leaders of the future generation of researchers, teachers and top management staff working with sustainable forest and nature management, in both tropical and temperate regions, to ensure wider societal benefits. The Masters Course in Sustainable Forest and Nature Management (SUFONAMA) is an integrated programme aimed at educating graduates qualified to cope with the huge challenges in contemporary forest and nature management and adapt to future, yet unknown, issues. The Transatlantic Forestry Master (TRANSFOR-M) is a course-based Master’s programme in which students spend one year in Canada and one year in Europe, leading to dual degrees in forestry and/or resource and environmental management.

IDS-FUNMAT

IDS FunMat is an International Doctoral Programme in Functional materials funded by the ERASMUS MUNDUS Programme of the European Union.

International Doctoral School on Functional Materials (IDS-FunMat) This school offers scholarships for PhD projects in functional materials science, carried out in co-supervision between universities from two different countries among three European Universities (France, Belgium, Germany, Portugal) and one Canadian University (Waterloo, ON). In most projects an industry partner is also involved. The PhD candidates must spend at least six months in each university. The projects start around October and take three to four years.

Opportunities for Canadian Institutions:
• Setting up well-structured EU-Canada cooperation
• Strengthening cooperation with specific geographical regions and in specific fields of study
• Enhancing internationalization through a program of excellence
• Deepening shared research projects
• Sharing of a comparative dimension/approach
• Broadening networks
• Receiving top master’s- and PhD-level students
• Exchanges of students, PhD candidates and academics

The European Union finances each year a number of ERASMUS MUNDUS PhD scholarships, and in addition we have PhD projects funded by other sources. In the end, the students graduate from the two universities.

IMACS

An Erasmus Mundus Master course entirely devoted to clay minerals and their applications opened in September 2010. This “International Master in Advanced Clay Science” (IMACS) is an integrated master’s programme, supported by AIPEA (Association Internationale pour l’Étude des Argiles), and designed by five universities: the University of Poitiers in France (co-ordinator), the Technical University of Crete in Greece, the University of Aveiro in Portugal, the University of Ottawa in Canada, and the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS) in Brazil.

The IMACS provides a complete background in the main fields of clay science and technology, as well as an in-depth professional specialization in two of the following fields: (i) Environment, soil and geological systems; (ii) Geomaterials and civil engineering - assessment and processing; (iii) Advanced clays, nanomaterials; (iv) Healing minerals.

STUDENT EXCHANGE NETWORK IN AUDITORY COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE

The Erasmus Mundus Student Exchange Network in Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience supports graduate, postgraduate, and faculty exchanges between laboratories in Europe, Canada, and the United States that are studying diverse aspects of auditory perception. Projects at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, (one of four Canadian universities participating in the network) are investigating how music training affects auditory and cognitive development and how movement and sound are integrated within central auditory structures. Another project is investigating how hearing loss leads to changes in central auditory structures that express as abnormal loudness growth (reception) and tinnitus, a phantom ringing sound that affects quality of life for millions of individuals worldwide. Exchange students from the University of Leipzig and the University of Manchester are currently working on these projects at McMaster.
7TH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

The Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7) is the European Union’s main instrument for funding research in universities, government and businesses across Europe for 2007-2013. It is distinguished both by the level of support it provides for multidisciplinary research and research training and its openness to international participation on a self-funded basis.

FP7 has a budget of €53.2 billion over seven years or approximately €7.6 billion annually. It supports four broad types of research activity, from the most fundamental through to the point of commercialisation, conducted in universities and businesses.

COOPERATION (€32.4 billion over seven years): Supports research from the most fundamental through to the point of commercialisation carried out in large trans-national teams.

IDEAS (€7.5 billion over seven years): Supports basic research at the scientific frontiers in all disciplines and is administered by the independent, ‘arm’s length’, European Research Council.

PEOPLE (€6.7 billion over seven years): Supports the mobility and advanced research training of students, graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and researchers in all disciplines both in and outside Europe.

CAPACITIES (€6.1 billion over seven years): Supports research infrastructure in Europe.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADIANS

Participation in FP7 gives Canadians an opportunity to work on the biggest challenges with the best researchers in Europe, to join strong international networks and to share the costs, risks and benefits of international research. To date, more than 700 Canadians have joined consortia applying to FP7 and more than 200 are now part of funded FP7 projects (a success rate for projects with Canadian participants of 28.5 per cent—significantly above the average of 20 per cent).

FUNDED OPPORTUNITIES: COOPERATION

Canadian researchers are eligible for funding in COOPERATION projects if, at the time of application, they can successfully demonstrate to the peer review committee that their contribution is essential for overall project success and cannot be replicated in Europe.

FUNDED OPPORTUNITIES: PEOPLE

International Incoming Fellowship (IF)

An International Incoming Fellowship provides a Canadian postdoctoral or professional researcher with a salary as well as support for travel, accommodation and research expenses for one to two years of advanced training and research in Europe.

International Outgoing Fellowship: Marie Curie PEOPLE Project

Canadian Participants: Dr. Benjamin J. Blencowe, Principal Investigator

European Participant: Dr. Nuno Barbosa Morais, Senior Postdoctoral Fellow Department of Medical Research, University of Toronto

Dr. Nuno Barbosa Morais is a Senior Postdoctoral Fellow in computational biology at the University of Toronto’s Blencowe Lab. He holds a Marie Curie International Outgoing Fellowship and a Postdoctoral Fellowship from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

Dr. Barbosa Morais holds a PhD in Biomedical Sciences from the Institute of Molecular Medicine / University of Lisbon Medical School although much of his PhD research took place at the University of Cambridge. His PhD work involved bioinformatics studies on the complexity of splice site and gene expression. He was a postdoctoral member of the Computational Biology Group from the University of Cambridge from 2006 to 2010 and joined the Blencowe Lab in Aug 2010.

THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA CANADA PROJECT (ERA-Can)

ERA-Can is a joint initiative of the European Commission and seven Canadian organizations:

- Canada Foundation for Innovation
- Canadian Institutes for Health Research
- Federal Partners in Technology Transfer
- Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada
- National Research Council Canada
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

ERA-Can promotes Canada-EU research cooperation by providing information and assistance to Canadian researchers and Centres of Excellence and mobility to researchers in Canada through the Erasmus Mundus Programme.

Twenty-four French institutions are involved in the 29 Erasmus Mundus Master’s programmes selected in 2010 (10 as coordinators). Seven French institutions are involved in the nine Erasmus Mundus PhD programmes selected in 2010 (one as coordinator).

The Embassy of France ‘Invitations to France for Canadian Researchers / Missions to Canada for French research programme is an initiative of the Office of Science and Technology and aims to support Franco-Canadian collaboration in all scientific fields, from natural sciences to social sciences and the humanities. These mobility grants can be used as “seed money” programmes for researchers who want to apply for one of the European programmes for Higher Education and Research.

The Embassy of France scholarships programme is offered to Canadian drate students who want to study in a French higher education institution. Students completing a double or a joint degree in a French university (master’s or joint “cotutelle” PhD), including students registered in an Erasmus Mundus Master’s or PhD program have the priority.

For more information: www.ambafrance-ca.org

THE EUROPE-EDUCATION-FORMATION FRANCE agency is a public body (GIP) under the authority of three ministries (Higher Education and Research; National Education; Youth and Community Life; Women’s Rights, and Higher Education and Research). The agency is the unique body in charge of implementing the European Lifelong Learning Programme, Erasmus Mundus and Tempus in France. It manages nearly €600 million in grants for projects and mobility and has an operating budget of €65 million. The agency is directed by Antoine Godbert. It has 87 employees and is located in Bordeaux.

Examples of Projects Involving Canadian Researchers

Cloud4All – COOPERATION Project (Health Theme)

Canadian Participant: Dr. Jutta Treviranus

Director, Inclusive Design Research Centre (IDRC), OCAD University

As we move ever faster into a digital economy and society, there is a looming crisis for a growing number of marginalized individuals who face literacy challenges, disabilities and the problems of aging. The Cloud4All COOPERATION project addresses these challenges by tapping new technologies, and pooling resources, to find ways to deliver accessibility to every individual where they need it, when they need it and in a way that matches their unique requirements.

Cloud4All brings together a large multi-sector international research team including industry leaders and experts in emerging technologies to design, research, and develop the necessary software infrastructure, to pilot implementation and to do the evaluation needed to fully develop an innovative approach to digital inclusion pioneered by the Inclusive Design Research Centre at OCAD University. Known as Access4All, this technology was recently adopted as an ISO standard (ISO 24751) whose development had been identified as a White House Grand Challenge and a focus for the World Summit on the Information Society as well as the upcoming OECD, ISO, ITU and G3ICT conferences. It is included in the US FCC Broadband Plan, the NSF funding program on Cyberlearning and the European Commission FP7 and FP8 funding programs.

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www.era-can.ca
PROGRAMME

9:00am – 9:15am  
**Welcoming word.**

9:15am – 10:00am  
European Programmes for Higher Education. Opportunities for Canadian Institutions.  
The Erasmus Mundus programme.  
Hélène Pinaud, Higher Education Officer, Europe Education Formation France (2e2f) Agency.

10:00am – 10:30am  
**Case study 1**  
Erasmus Mundus PhD Program IDSFunMat.  
Prof. Eric Prouzet, University of Waterloo.

10:30am – 10:45am  
**BREAK**

10:45am – 11:15am  
**Case study 2**  
Erasmus Mundus Master’s Programme IMACS.  
Prof. Christian Detellier, University of Ottawa

11:15am – 11:45pm  
**Case study 3**  
Erasmus Mundus Action 2 Project “Student Exchange in Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience”,  
Prof. Larry Roberts, McMaster University.

11:45am – 12:00pm  
Erasmus Mundus Alumni Experience

12:00pm - 12:30pm  
Other Programmes: EU Centres of Excellence, EU Young Journalist Award,  
Jean Monnet Programme, Public Diplomacy Grant  
Terri-Ann Priel, Advisor, Political and Public Affairs, EU Delegation to Canada

12:30pm – 1:30pm  
**LUNCHEON**

1:30pm – 2:15pm  
European Programmes for Research. Opportunities for Canadian Institutions.  
Dr. Garth Williams, Director, ERA-Can (The European Research Area and Canada)

2:15pm – 3:00pm  
**Case study 1**  
Cloud4All – COOPERATION Project (Health Theme)  
Dr. Jutta Treviranus. Director, Inclusive Design Research Centre (IDRC), OCAD University

3:00pm – 3:15pm  
**BREAK**

3:15pm – 4:00pm  
**Case study 2**  
Marie Curie International Fellowships,  
Dr Nuno L. Barbosa Morais, University of Toronto

4:00pm – 4:15pm  
**Conclusions**

*Each presentation will be followed by a question and answer period.*