

ERA Chair at J. Heyrovský Institute of Physical chemistry CAS – The institutional approach towards ERA

General information

Acronym: J. Heyrovský Chair

Programme: Horizon 2020

Funding Scheme: Coordination and support action

Topic: WIDESPREAD-03-2017 - ERA Chairs

Coordinator: J. Heyrovský Institute of Physical Chemistry

Grant agreement ID: 810310

EU contribution: 2.483.750 €

Institute contribution: 385.000 €

Start date: 1 July 2018

End date: 31 December 2023



Main objectives

MO 1: Increase of scientific excellence

MO 2: Structural changes

MO 3: International visibility of the Heyrovský Institute

MO 4: Improvement of HR and capacities

MO 5: Sustainability of introduced changes

- Based on SWOT analysis
- Creating synergies
- In accordance with the Institute`s strategic goals



Expected project impact

- Introduction of new high-quality research
- New Institute's department structure
- Strengthening collaborative spirit in the Heyrovský Institute
- Further internationalization of the Heyrovský Institute
- Establishing a professional way of presenting the Institute to the public
- Success in competitive international funding
- Strengthening role of ethical principles in science

First steps of project implementation

- Selection and recruitment of ERA-Chair holder, start in May 2018
- Establishment of Project Advisory Board:
 - Prof Dr Timo JACOB, Ulm University, Germany - PAB chair
 - Prof Dr Ulrike DIEBOLD, Vienna University of Technology, Austria
 - Prof Dr Joachim HEBERLE, Free University of Berlin, Germany
 - Prof Philipp KUKURA, University of Oxford, United Kingdom
 - Prof Peter RAPTA, Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, Slovakia

Appointment of ERA-Chair holder

- 10 international applicants, non application from Europe
- Personal interviews in Prague
- Appointed ERA-Chair holder: **RNDr. Štefan VAJDA, CSc., Dr. habil.**
- Start 1 January 2019
- ERA-Chair holder, Head of Department, Member of Extended Collegium of Director
- Advising to the management
- Proactive approach before start of work contract

Establishment of research team

- Challenging task
- Realized in several phases
- Open, transparent, merit-based recruitment
- Over 120 applications
- Strong emphasize on scientific excellence
- Excellent international team of scientists
- Lessons learned – new methodology, new hiring process

Department of Nanocatalysis

- Defining development strategy
- Intense communication with other departments of the Institute
- Formulation of joint research activities
- Research program in Nanocatalysis
- Reconstruction of laboratory spaces
- Unique research devices provided by Argonne National Laboratories
- Inauguration of laboratories of nanocatalysis

National and international visibility

- International standing and visibility within international scientific community
- ERA-Chair holder - ambassador of the Institute in international activities
- Scientific papers in prestigious peer-reviewed journals
- Scientific events organized, co-organized and attended
- Popularization of science to general public
- Educational activities, attracting students: Seminar of students, winter school, summer school, mentoring, lab visits...

Developing ERA capacities

- International standing and visibility within international scientific community
- ERA-Chair holder - ambassador of the Institute in international activities
- Scientific papers in prestigious peer-reviewed journals
- Scientific events organized, co-organized and attended
- Popularization of science towards general public
- Educational activities, attracting young researchers: Seminar of students, winter school, summer school, mentoring, lab visits...

Thank you for your attention

For more information please visit:
<http://www.heyrovsky-chair.eu/>

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