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td-net

Network for Transdisciplinary Research

Swiss Inter- and Transdisciplinarity Day

Exchange platform for interdisciplinary researchers – reflected practice
And award ceremony of the Swiss Academies Award for transdisciplinary research –
td-award 2013

Date, Time, Location

Monday, 21 October 2013, 9:00-16:00, Bern, Theatersaal National, Hirschengraben 24

Background

Inter- and transdisciplinary research is undertaken at many research institutions in Switzerland. Researchers in this area often only feel part of their disciplinary community and are less aware of the shared concerns and needs across a variety of fields. As a result there is no research community representing this form of research.

In 2006, the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) decided to introduce the funding scheme "Interdisciplinary projects", which takes account of the special needs of interdisciplinary research. A new evaluation body, the Specialised Committee Interdisciplinary Research (FA-ID), was established to evaluate interdisciplinary proposals. The Network for Transdisciplinary Research (td-net) of the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences is mandated to bring together trans- and interdisciplinary teaching staff and researchers in Switzerland and to help raise their profile.

The td-net and the SNSF are both of the opinion that it is necessary to establish a sense of community and to forge links with research funding institutions by fostering communication among researchers as well as between researchers and funding bodies so as to strengthen and advance inter- and transdisciplinary research in Switzerland.

On the occasion of the "Swiss Inter- and Transdisciplinarity Day", the winners of the *swiss-academies award for transdisciplinary research (td-award)* will be honoured. The prize is awarded in recognition of outstanding achievements in transdisciplinary research. It also aims to contribute to the scientific recognition of transdisciplinary research and create an incentive for young researchers to push the boundaries of transdisciplinary research.
(<http://www.transdisciplinarity.ch/e/Award/index.php>)

Aims of the conference

The conference aims to offer an environment in which transdisciplinary researchers can share experiences, get feedback, seek solutions and gain a new perspective on their research area. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss certain issues in small groups, such as the added-value and organisation of interdisciplinary collaborations or methodological questions. During the conference it might also be possible to identify specific needs of the community for attention of the research funding and evaluation bodies or to improve career opportunities. The focus lies on challenges, opportunities and limitations of inter- and transdisciplinary research and its evaluation across disciplinary boundaries.

Format

One-day event. Official language of the conference is English, attendance is free.

Registration and call for poster

When registering (online), all active researchers are invited to make a statement on their interdisciplinary work and indicate which aspects of inter- and transdisciplinary research (added-value, methods, organisation of interdisciplinary collaborations, career opportunities, institutional obstacles) they would like to discuss. It is also possible to suggest specific questions to be discussed.

In addition, participants can present an aspect of their interdisciplinary project on a poster. The structure of such a poster is predefined by the conference organisers. See website.

The ideas brought forward in the questionnaires and posters will structure the group discussion in the afternoon. Some parts will be provided on paper to document the community of inter- and transdisciplinary researchers.

Registration online:

www.transdisciplinarity.ch/e/Award/SwissITD_Day2013.php

Schedule

End-March	Registration form and poster submission online
Mid-June	Registration deadline for the conference
Mid August	Poster submission closes for registered persons

Programme

Duration: 9:00 - 16:00 (17:30)

09:00 – 09:15 **Opening** *A. Kalt* (SNSF), *P. Perrig-Chiello* (td-net)

09:15 – 09:45 **Theoretical framework:** “Analyzing Interdisciplinary Research: From Theory to Practice” *F. Darbellay*, Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch (IUKB)

09:45 – 12:00 **Reflected practice:** Four input presentations will reflect on interdisciplinary research projects. Key questions are the methodological application, if the interdisciplinary approach was able to generate the promised added-value and what (unexpected) difficulties the team had to overcome.

With contributions from:

Bara Ricou, Department of Anaesthesiology, Pharmacology, Cantonal Hospital Geneva | *Pierre-Yves Brandt*, Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Lausanne | *Arne Scheuermann*, Y Institute for Transdisciplinary Tuition, Bern University of the Arts | *Hong Yang*, System Analysis, Integrated Assessment and Modelling, Eawag

12:00 – 13:45 **td-award ceremony** with speech in honour of winners and apéro riche

13:45 – 15:00 **Small group sessions, discussions and networking**

15:00 – 16:00 **Panel discussion** (SNSF with members of FA ID, member of td-net, person from a research promotion service at a Swiss University and researchers)

16:00 – 16:15 **Closing words and outlook** (SNSF | td-net)

16:15 – 17:30 **Open networking**

Steering Committee

SNSF: Angelika Kalt and Patricia Jungo | td-net: Pasqualina Perrig-Chiello und Theres Paulsen

Organised by:

Swiss National Science Foundation and td-net of the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences

www.snf.ch | www.transdisciplinarity.ch