

## **INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP**

# **"THE ACCESS OF WOMEN TO SCIENCE"**

Women play vital roles in every facet of modern society. In numerous areas of scientific and technological development, women have historically been responsible for crucial advances, yet they remain severely under-represented in all major scientific areas.


There have been improvements in access for women to science over the last two decades, but many female students at school and University still find the prospect of a career in science to be profoundly unappealing. It is essential that the barriers that discourage women from studying science and choosing it as a career are identified and overcome.

As part of a Comenius3-funded project, the Hands-on Science (H-Sci) network is promoting an international discussion forum on the access of women to science. The forum will bring together scientists, teachers and students, politicians, representatives of women's rights groups, those who are active in devising national education policies, and delegates from the industrial sector and employers. The forum will be practical in outlook, with a strong emphasis on identifying problems and considering how they should be tackled. Its aim is to develop realistic and far-reaching proposals that will be effective in attracting women into science and increasing the proportion of them who remain active in the subject (<http://hsci.no.sapo.pt/WOMENSCIENCE.html>).

The H-Sci network ([www.hsci.info](http://www.hsci.info)) exists to promote the development of science and scientific literacy. It encourages a generalized use of innovative hands-on experimental approaches to science and technology in-school teaching. In raising the profile and attractiveness of science in education, we aim also to increase the desirability of a career in science for all.

As Coordinator of the Hands-on Science network it is my pleasure to invite and welcome you to the "Access of Women to Science" International Workshop in Cologne, Germany, June 3 to 5, 2004.

Universidade do Minho, Portugal, 6 January 2004.



Manuel Filipe Pereira da Cunha Martins Costa



Education and Culture

**Socrates**  
Comenius

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

Proposals are invited for oral presentations and for workshop sessions.

Papers and workshops may address, among other issues, school education, hands-on learning of science, science & technology and scientific literacy, scientific research on gender issues, science and gender policy, gender bias in the presentation and teaching of science, work and employment, professional development and examples of community involvement. Proposals for additional workshops are encouraged.

Proposals for workshops, abstract submissions and enquiries about the forum content should be sent to Manuel F. M. Costa, Universidade do Minho, Departamento de Física, Campus de Gualtar, 4710-057 Braga, Portugal, Tel. +351253604334, Fax +351 253678981, email [mfcosta@fisica.uminho.pt](mailto:mfcosta@fisica.uminho.pt).

All accepted submissions and workshop conclusions will be published in CD format.

**Deadline for submission of abstracts: April 6, 2004**

**Notification of acceptance: April 16, 2004**

**Deadline for pre-registration: April 30, 2004**

**Final program available: May 10, 2004**

### Oral Presentations

Oral presentations may be between 10 and 40 minutes in duration. An abstract of approximately 300 words describing the main points and conclusions of the presentation must be submitted by April 6, 2004. It should include a front page with the title of the presentation, authors, presenting author, affiliation, proposed length of the presentation and special requests.

### Workshop Sessions

It is planned to allocate between one and two hours for each workshop. However, proposals for longer workshops will be considered. An abstract of no more than 500 words, outlining the workshop objectives, format, content, and how the planned workshop meets the conference theme, must be submitted by April 6, 2004.

**Conference fees** (to include CD of the Forum Proceedings, welcome reception, lunch and coffee breaks)

Regular delegate: - 150€ (200€ after May 1).

School teachers: - 50€ (Fees may be reduced or waived on request if a communication is to be presented)

*For further information and registration please contact the Local Organization ([unSubroweit@t-online.de](mailto:unSubroweit@t-online.de)), the Chair ([mfcosta@fisica.uminho.pt](mailto:mfcosta@fisica.uminho.pt)) or visit the forum' website at <http://hsci.no.sapo.pt/WOMENSCIENCE.html>.*



Education and Culture

**Socrates**  
Comenius

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.