



# EFFS News

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## CIRCULATION

*To representatives and correspondents of federated societies:*

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Dear Colleagues and Friends,

This 21<sup>st</sup> issue of the EFFS News summarizes the main developments regarding the life of our European Federation for Freshwater Sciences.

Although much in this News is no longer new to the National Representatives, I wish to summarize what we have done in these first months of 2012 as a memorandum to be distributed to the members of our Societies.

### **New Members**

A new national organization has been formally enrolled in our EFFS. The **Finnish Limnological Society** (Suomen Limnologinen Yhdistys - SLY) is the fourteenth member of our Federation and we warmly welcome the Finnish colleagues, who are presently represented in our board by Heidi Holmroos and Anne Liljendahl. Both Heidi and Anne belong to the Lake Ecosystem Dynamics Research Group of the University of Helsinki.

On behalf of the Board of National Representatives of the EFFS, I am glad to welcome onboard the members of the Finnish Limnological Society and their representatives.

### **Web Site**

As it was announced in the last EFFS News, Springer made a donation to our Federation to realize our website. I am pleased to inform you that the website is now online and you can reach it at [www.freshwatersciences.eu](http://www.freshwatersciences.eu).

In this context, I cannot neglect to express our thanks to Martine van Bezooijen, at Springer, who supported our request for a donation and made possible the realisation of the new website. On February 22<sup>nd</sup>, Martine passed away and quite unexpectedly, as a consequence of a thrombosis caused by a fracture. Many of us will remember her at the SEFS, sitting at the Springer booth, always smiling and being available to chat or to receive

suggestions. The last message I received from Martine was “I look forward to seeing the website online soon!”. Unfortunately her wish was not to be fulfilled. I am very grateful to Martine for her unfailing friendship, which was the base for the help and the support she gave us in the realization of our website.

The website contains a page where news dealing with freshwater sciences may be disseminated and another for the advertisement of jobs and/or vacancies. The site also contains a blog where it is possible to post messages and to network with other members. All these facilities may be easily used by our community: the success of our website will now depend on the users and I hope that our members will consider it a good service to share information and get in touch.

## SEFS

The 8<sup>th</sup> Symposium for European Freshwater Sciences will take place in Münster (Germany), July 1-5, 2013.

Elisabeth Meyer, the leader of the Organizing Committee, already registered the new SEFS website at the address [www.sefs2013.de](http://www.sefs2013.de) and soon we will start receiving news of our next Symposium.

## Student Prize

Based on the many suggestions and proposals made by the Representatives, a document containing the rules of the EFFS Award for the best PhD thesis in Freshwater Sciences is now ready to be distributed:

### **Rules of the EFFS Award for the best PhD Dissertation in Freshwater Sciences**

1. The European Federation for Freshwater Sciences (EFFS) launches the *EFFS Award for the best PhD Dissertation in Freshwater Sciences*, which will recognize outstanding scientific and intellectual work in the field of Freshwater Sciences performed by Early Career Researchers in Europe.
2. Applicants for this Award will include all authors of doctoral theses submitted in Europe in the field of Freshwater Sciences. Applicants should be members of an Association related to Freshwater Sciences and affiliated to the European

Federation for Freshwater Sciences (EFFS). The PhD dissertation can be written in any European language.

3. Applicants should submit their application form to their reference Association. PhD dissertations must be accompanied by an extended abstract in English not longer than 5 printed pages single spaced, and containing a maximum of 4 figures. The extended abstract must be signed by the supervisor(s) along with the list of publications related to the PhD work.
4. Federated Associations will perform a pre-selection according to common rules and time schedule for selection, and using evaluation criteria similar to those for Marie Curie fellowship proposals. E.g. PhD dissertation will be evaluated according to their scientific/technological quality (score 0–20), originality (0–20), methodological approach (0–20), relevance and potential scientific impact of the work carried out (0–20).
5. For this call, the PhD thesis must have been defended during the years 2011–2012.
6. Each Association can submit a maximum of two selected PhD dissertations for the final evaluation. This number is increased to four for those Associations collecting members from more than one European country (e.g. AIL collects both Spanish and Portuguese members and the number of dissertations can thus be 4). In any case, no more than four dissertations can be presented by each association.
7. The final evaluation will be carried out by an international Jury. Members of the Jury are identified among the members of the Board of Representatives at EFFS. The evaluation criteria are based on the evaluation reports submitted by national associations, and by the attribution of the scores specified in 4 (above) to the extended English abstract in English (point 3).
8. The Award will consider one main and two subsidiary prizes:
  - The main prize will consist of a **Diploma** and a **grant to attend the next Symposium for European Freshwater Sciences (SEFS)**, including registration fee, travel and lodging. During this meeting, the winning author will be required to give a **dedicated Plenary Lecture** on his/her PhD dissertation topic.
  - The winners of the subsidiary prizes will receive a Diploma and a grant covering the registration fee to **attend the next Symposium for European Freshwater Sciences (SEFS)**.

9. Recipients of the Awards will be informed at least three months before the opening day of SEFS.
  
10. An awards ceremony will take place just before the dedicated Plenary Lecture. In addition to the Plenary Lecture – given by the main prize winner – the three winning theses will be exhibited during the next SEFS meeting in a section of the venue dedicated to the association of European Fresh and Young Researchers (EFYR). The exhibition will include at least one hard copy of the theses (we will also encourage the distribution of e-copies) and a poster explaining the contents of each winning thesis. Hard copies, electronic copies (if any), and posters must be provided by the authors themselves. Electronic copies will be eventually posted on the EFFS website ([www.freshwatersciences.eu](http://www.freshwatersciences.eu)).

The above quoted call is also published online in the NEWS page of the EFFS website.

Finally, I wish to thank you all for your continued co-operation and feedback!

All my warmest and best wishes  
Luigi Naselli-Flores  
EFFS Convener

PS

According to our constitution, each federated organization is entitled to be represented by two members in the Federation, and it is up to the organization to appoint its representatives. Please check the enclosed list of Representatives and inform me if any change is required.

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