



## CONCLUSIONS

### UNICA EU Research Liaison Officers Meeting

University of Vienna,  
29-30 November 2007

The meeting was eminently organised by the University of Vienna and gathered 24 EU Research Liaison Officers from 15 UNICA universities. A main aim of the network is to create a platform for sharing information and best-practice. Much focus during the meeting was thus on providing the participants with opportunities to get to know each other. This was achieved by mainly two different activities: during the second day Dr. Poul Petersen from University of Copenhagen, Mrs. Kristina Orbán Meunier from Stockholm University, Mrs. Staska Mrak Jamnik from University of Ljubljana and Mrs Antonella Cammisa from Sapienza Università di Roma presented their respective offices and how they work strategically to increase their universities participation in the Framework Programme. This was a highly appreciated part of the agenda and induced much discussions and share of best practice. Also during the second day, the participants met in groups to share experiences from the first round of applications and contract negotiations that have been concluded in FP7. For the working groups the Research Officers that are specialised in financial matters met together in one group, whereas the Research Officers who deal with general FP issues were divided into three separate groups. The outcome of the working groups was that the group dealing with exclusively financial matters will jointly send a letter to the DG Research with some financial questions that they have identified together. The other three groups will jointly prepare a document with remarks and suggestions for improvement that have been observed in respect to the FP7 application and negotiations procedures. This document will be forwarded to the Austrian and Swedish NCP's for input to the Commission. A third, very nice activity for getting to know each other, was a great dinner generously offered by the University of Vienna.

The agenda also included interesting presentations from speakers invited from organisations external to UNICA: Myer Morron from EPF Consulting presented the new financial and administrative regulations in FP7, Dr. Sabine Herlitschka who is National Contact Point in Austria and gave a presentation entitled "The role of National Contact Points, Austria" and Dr. John Smith from the European University Association gave a presentation of the EUA Research Policy. The University of Vienna was presented by Professor Arthur Mettinger, president of UNICA as well as Vice-Rector of University of Vienna, and by Professor Heinz Engel, Vice-Rector for Research and Career Development at University of Vienna.

The University of Cyprus tentatively offered to host the coming network meeting. An organisation committee was established consisting of Lucas Zinner, University of Vienna, Xenia Constantinou, University of Cyprus, Rosemary Strevinioti, University of Cyprus and Kristina Orbán Meunier, Stockholm University.

*Mikael Gröning  
University of Stockholm*