

## **EuroWistdom:**

### **TV Drama and the World of Science – a European Initiative**

#### **A new opportunity for experienced TV writers and producers**

- **Science and TV Drama – an up and coming Genre**

Euros 7,000 are on offer for TV writers or producer-writer teams to help develop ideas for new TV drama series or feature length TV films on a theme involving contemporary science and technology. The copyright on all new ideas remains with the writer or producer/writer team.

- **On Offer – an entrée to the world of science and technology**

Six support packages are now available as part of a European level initiative to harness the potential of science and technology for new television drama across Europe. Much of modern life is now dependent on advances in science and technology. Whatever the subject, from Stem Cell research to tourism space travel, from cloning to global warming, the latest scientific advice will be available to writers and producers keen to explore new scenarios. The challenge may be to tease out the real scientific stories behind the News headlines, or to seize the dramatic opportunities provided by the effects on daily life of advances in science and technology.

- **A Chance for New Characters – “Women”**

EuroPAWS has been promoting the best of European TV drama through its annual festival and awards for several years. This new initiative, which is geared to the early stages of creating new TV drama, seeks also to give prominence to women as modern scientists or engineers. The ideas supported in this 2006/7 project should include at least one woman scientist or engineer in a leading role. This may be how many writers would cast their characters anyway. But the rationale of this new funding is to help writers identify good female role models as well as new science or technology based stories.

- **How to get Science Support and Financial Backing**

If you are interested in developing a new TV Drama script involving science, just contact the EuroPAWS Office to register your interest, by e-mail please (co-ordinates below). Just send your name and co-ordinates, and one paragraph outlining your interest – which may be a particular idea or simply a general interest in the potential of science for TV drama.

The project website [www.eurowistdom.eu](http://www.eurowistdom.eu) will contain all information on the project, with regular updates. There are also information packs available from the EuroPAWS Office. The six Research and Development (R and D) projects of 7,000 Euros are open to any TV writer in regular TV drama work – or a successful producer and writer working together. The EuroPAWS office will help you find science advice and support

to work up the story – the Euroscience network is one of the project partners with science specialists across Europe. The deadlines for a formal proposal and for development of the idea if an R and D grant is awarded are in the Information Packs/Website.

This is not a competition; EuroPAWS will work with you to help develop the idea. But because this is a publicly funded scheme an international jury will make the final decision on which 6 projects should receive support. We expect to collaborate with about twelve writers or producer/writer teams so that everyone will have about a 50 % chance of funding. The role of the jury is simply to ensure a level playing field and that the main criteria of good drama, good science and interesting female character(s) are met.

You are probably busy, but this is a great opportunity to draw on the vast network of science and technology advice across Europe, so we hope to hear from you if you meet the registration criteria.

## Further information and contact address

- **Science and Technology Ideas and People**

Although the News brings us many science related stories daily, it is often hard to get behind the headlines. It can be even harder to hear from the scientists directly. So this Project will be holding three science soirees to project stories in science and charismatic women scientists and engineers. For people who cannot attend the events in Berlin, Paris and Ljubljana, a DVD will be prepared and will be available to any writer or producer registered in the project. Further details on the Science Soirees and the DVDs will appear on the project website or can be obtained via the EuroPAWS office, details below.

- **Partners**

The following organisations support the project EuroWistdom :

Ad Futura, Slovenia  
Euroscience, France  
Euro-Mei, Belgium  
Femtec, Germany  
Omni Communications, England

- **Contact**

**EuroPAWS:**  
pawsomni@btconnect.com  
Tel.: 0044(0)20 7483 4545 (answerphone)

Please use English, French or German for communications.

[www.europaws.org](http://www.europaws.org)