


PERSONAL INFORMATION

Catherine Franche

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WORK EXPERIENCE

01/02/2006–Present

Executive Director

Non-profit Association **Ecsite - European Network of science centres, museums and science engagement organisations**, Brussels (Belgium)

Strategic development of the association in collaboration with its Board of Trustees.

Financials: budget establishment and monitoring, compliance with relevant regulations, long-term financial perspectives. 2018 Budget: €2.259.000

Team: recruitment of personnel, evaluation, coaching and supervision. 10 permanent staff members.

Governance: close work with Members, Board of Trustees and Committees. Legal compliance.

Projects and special activities: development of new and ongoing initiatives, including the largest science engagement conference in Europe with 1200 professional science communicators.

www.ecsite.eu

01/01/1996–01/01/2006

Professional Development coordinator

Office de Coopération et d'Information Muséographique (**OCIM**), Dijon (France)

OCIM is part of the University of Burgundy and is supervised by the French Ministry of Research.

Development of national and international seminars, trainings, symposiums for professionals of the science, technical and industrial centres and museums.

Representation on national and international committees.

01/06/1992–01/06/1996

Executive Director

Société des musées québécois, Montreal (Canada)

As an Executive Director (1994), development and implementation of the action plan. Collaboration with Quebec and Canada's Cultural and Heritage Ministries for the elaboration of a museums' policy.

As a Professional Development coordinator (1992-1994), funding and development of the training programme and of analytical tools to assess training needs.

As a consultant (1995-1996): organisation of study trips. Publications.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Since 2018

Member of the Programme Council of the Copernicus Science Centre
Warsaw, Poland.

01/01/2016–01/01/2018

Member of the H2020 Advisory Group for Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions
European Commission, Brussels (Belgium)

Provide consistent and consolidated advice to the Commission services during the preparation of the Horizon 2020 work programme, regarding the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions on relevant objectives and scientific, technological and innovation priorities by way of opinions, recommendations or reports.

2015-2017

Member of the Conseil scientifique of the Muséum national d'histoire naturelle
Paris, France

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- 01/09/1992–01/08/1996 **MBA in Management of Cultural Organisations** EQF level 7
 HEC (Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales), Montreal (Canada)
 Strategic Management and Marketing skills, generic aspects for all types of organisations and others specific to cultural organisations.
- 01/09/1990–01/06/1991 **Certificate in Business Management** EQF level 4
 HEC (Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales), Montreal (Canada)
 Basics in accounting, marketing and management.

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue French

Foreign language(s)

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
Spanish	B1	B1	A2	A2	A1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user - B1 and B2: Independent user - C1 and C2: Proficient user

Communication skills

As the head of a European network gathering about 350 organisations, I have developed high skills in communication in a multi-cultural and multi-linguistic environment. I regularly speak to audiences of over 1000 professionals and am known for delivering compelling speeches.
 I have a clear, concise and logical approach to written communication, with an ability to think from the receiver's point of view.
 See below Speaking engagements

Organisational / managerial skills

Under my leadership, in 10 years the organisation has grown from a Conference of 700 professionals to about 1200 from 60 countries, from a budget of €750,000 to €2,260,000, from a team of 2 to now 10 committed staff members, with a European and International notoriety.
 Branding and communication, governance and financial procedures have all been greatly professionalised.

Job-related skills

Implementation of legal and financial control procedures, responsible for the team's management.

Digital skills

SELF-ASSESSMENT				
Information processing	Communication	Content creation	Safety	Problem-solving
Independent user	Proficient user	Basic user	Basic user	Basic user

Speaking engagements, evaluation, workshops participation (selection)

- **Portugal Science Summit**, July 2018, Lisbon. Session speaker.
- **United Nations ECOSOC STI Forum**, speaker on the panel “Women in Innovation and Connectivity”, 15 May 2017, United Nations Head Quarters, New York, USA. Organised by Princess Nisreen El-Hashimite and Royal Academy of Science International Trust (RASIT).
- Speaker at the event honouring Prof. Mariano Gago, **European Parliament**, 29 June 2016. Organised by Portuguese Minister Heitor.
- **AAAS**, San Diego, USA. Invited expert by DG Research to symposium “Science meets Society: Walking the Talk”. February 2010.
- Workshop on the future of the Mobilisation and Mutual Learning (MML) instrument, Brussels, 17 and 18 April 2012 Brussels. Organised by **DG Research & Innovation**. Invited as private expert.
- **DG Research EU Prize for Science Communication** (formerly Descartes Prize for Science Communication). Evaluator. 2007
- Opening speeches at the **Ecsite Conference**, yearly since 2007.
- Member of the **International Programme Committee for the World Science Centres Congress** and Summits. Since 2006.

Other

Co-initiator and member of the **Euro-Mediterranean and Middle East Summer School** (EMME), a training programme for science centre leaders, co-developed by NAMES, the North Africa and Middle East Science centres network, and Ecsite, to build the capacities of professionals working in the field of science communication in the Euro-Mediterranean and Middle East regions. Since 2013

Organisation of an event at the **European Parliament “Science communicators advancing European knowledge society”**, 18 February 2009. Under the patronage of Philippe Busquin, Member of the European Parliament.

Participation in close to **50 EU-funded projects** under FP6, FP7 and H2020.