Leonardo da Vinci Projects
“UNIPHARMA- GRADUATES

Fifty 24-weeks placements
in selected chemical, pharmaceutical
and biomedical research centers

Luciano Saso
School of Pharmacy

(luciano.saso@uniroma1.it)
Coordinated by SAPIENZA
Università di Roma
European Mobility Projects

- ERASMUS & ERASMUS PLACEMENTS
- ERASMUS MUNDUS (MSc & Ph.D.)
- Leonardo da Vinci (internships)
- Marie Curie (EURAXESS)
Leonardo da Vinci projects UNIPHARMA-GRADUATES: major Objectives

- to provide excellent scientific training to top Italian Master’s degree graduates in chemistry, pharmacy, biology and biotechnologies, encouraging them to pursue a scientific career applying for Ph.D. positions in some of the best European laboratories.
The UNIPHARMA-GRADUATES projects

- 6 mobility projects since 2004
(50 scholarships each, over 200,000 € each)

UNIPHARMA-GRADUATES (2005)
UNIPHARMA-GRADUATES-2 (2006)
UNIPHARMA-GRADUATES-3 (2007)
UNIPHARMA-GRADUATES-4 (2008)
UNIPHARMA-GRADUATES-5 (2009)

- Duration of each placement: 24 weeks
- Next start date: September 2009
Transnational partners

- MORE THAN 100 PLACEMENTS
- IN OVER 40 RESEARCH CENTERS
UK

- BABRAHAM INSTITUTE (CAMBRIDGE)
- UNILEVER PORT SUNLIGHT (LIVERPOOL)
- INSTITUTE OF FOOD RESEARCH (NORWICH)
Germany

- SANOFI-AVENTIS (FRANKFURT)
- BAYER CROPSCIENCE (MONHEIM and FRANKFURT)
- FORSCHUNGSZENTRUM KARLSRUHE
- FRAUNHOFER (HANNOVER and BERLIN)
- UFZ – CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH (LEIPZIG)
France

- INSTITUT COCHIN (PARIS)
- INSTITUT CURIE (PARIS)
- ECOLE NORMALE SUPERIEURE DE LYON
- HumProther Laboratory, Grenoble
- PIERRE-FABRE (CASTRES)
SWEDEN

KAROLINSKA INSTITUTET (STOCKHOLM)
SPAIN

BARCELONA: CENTER FOR GENOMIC REGULATION
## UNITS “Veterans”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UPG2</th>
<th>GRETA</th>
<th>DE PRATO</th>
<th>CTM BioTech LTD, Cambridge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UPG4</th>
<th>FRANCESCA</th>
<th>RAPINO</th>
<th>Centre for Genomic Regulation, Barcelona</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UPG4</th>
<th>ANTONIO</th>
<th>SPERANZA</th>
<th>UFZ – Centre for Environmental Research, Leipzig</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The placement procedure

1. Work programmes requested in advance to the hosting laboratories
2. Selective (min 105/110, max 27 years old, max 18 months after graduation, good knowledge of English) but well disseminated call for applications
3. Ranking of all applicants (320 applications in 2008)
4. 5 motivated choices requested to the top 50 candidates (who are allowed to get in touch with the former trainees by e-mail)
5. Final decision based on the scientific and technical skills of the candidate and his/her knowledge of English
The placement procedure

Best possible match between CVs and work programmes
The placement: WORK HARD…

COMPULSORY SCIENTIFIC REPORT

- Introduction
- Aim of the work
- Materials and Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- References
...AND PLAY HARD
Results: feedback from participants

- Would you recommend it? 93.5%
- Utility of the LdV placement 83.5%
- Overall efficiency of the hosting institution 82.6%
- Utility of the English course 59.6%
- Placement criteria and method 73%
- Clarity of the call for applications 78.3%
-
Results: feedback from transnational partners

- What is your opinion about his/her English language skills? 69
- Did he/she succeed to improve his/her English language skills during the placement? 75
- What is your opinion about his/her scientific preparation? 73
- Did his/her scientific preparation improve during the placement? 83
- What is your opinion about his/her technical skills? 71
- Did his/her technical skills improve during the placement? 84
- Did he/she adjust well to the new environment? 87
- What is your opinion about the motivation of the candidate? 85
- What is your overall evaluation of the trainee? 80
Results: career development

- PhD in Italy: 6%
- PhD abroad: 20%
- Application for a PhD: 6%
- Postgraduate formation: 7%
- Research position offered by the Hosting Centre: 17%
- Research position in a company: 10%
- Looking for a job: 27%
- Other activities: 7%
Other results

- Participation of candidates from the whole national territory

- High participation of women (78%)

- High profile of the candidates (most of them with degree thesis mark of 110/110)
Awards

- Shortlisted for the participation to the European Quality in Mobility (EQIM) Award 2006 in Graz
## Project presented at

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Italy</th>
<th>Other Cities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bari</td>
<td>Aachen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bologna</td>
<td>Amsterdam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cagliari</td>
<td>Barcelona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catania</td>
<td>Bristol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferrara</td>
<td>Cambridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firenze</td>
<td>Copenhagen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genoa</td>
<td>Frankfurt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Messina</td>
<td>Harlow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milan</td>
<td>Liverpool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rome</td>
<td>Lund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venice</td>
<td>Monheim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stevenage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stockholm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seoul</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dissemination

Publication of a complete guide in English

Web site

www.unipharmagraduates.it

>35000 contacts since November 2006
Acknowledgements

Mattea Capelli, Camelia Bucatariu and Antonella Cammisa
SAPIENZA- INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE

Laura Brossico
NOOPOLIS-ONLUS

Roberta Grisoni
NATIONAL LEONARDO AGENCY
Thank you for your attention!

luciano.saso@uniroma1.it