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ESERA Website:
<http://www.esera.org>

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This electronic newsletter is a service to the members of ESERA provided by the ESERA Executive.

Earlier issues of this newsletter can be found on the ESERA Website.

The deadline for messages to be included in the next issue of this newsletter is November 15, 2008.

ESERA Summer School 2008

The ESERA Summer School 2008 in York, UK was a very successful event. On behalf of ESERA, many thanks to the hosting institutions (the Universities of York, Leeds and Durham), the local organising committee (Robin Millar, Jim Ryder and Per Morten Kind, assisted by Sandra Wilmott) and the reviewers, coaches and students, for their time, energy and dedication.

ESERA Travel Awards 2009

ESERA is offering travel awards of up to € 500 each to doctoral students and post-doctoral researchers. The awards are designed to enable ESERA members to visit science education researchers in other, European, countries and can be used to pay for travel, accommodation and subsistence. The awards are competitive and applications will be judged by a panel of ESERA Executive members.

Expressions of interest should be sent to Justin Dillon: justin.dillon@kcl.ac.uk

Deadline for submissions: December 15, 2008.

New PhDs

The following abstracts of recently completed PhDs have been added to the ESERA Website. Congratulations to:

- René H.V. Westra – [Learning and teaching ecosystem behaviour in secondary education. Systems thinking and modelling in authentic practices](#)
- Claus Brell – [Effects of virtual and non-virtual media on physics learning. Laboratory study with real experiments, simulation and interactive screen experiments in optics \(grade 8\)](#)
- Maria Koroni – [Biological, social and psychological dimensions of childhood obesity](#)
- Silvija Markic – [Studies on freshman science student teachers' beliefs about science teaching and learning](#)
- Ozgul Keles – [Application and evaluation of ecological footprint as an environmental education tool towards sustainable life](#)
- Nicholas Denys Colclough – [Trainee teachers and ionising radiation: understandings, attitudes and risk assessments. A descriptive study in one institution.](#)

Job advertisements

Sometimes job advertisements appear in the News Section of the ESERA Website just after E-News has been distributed, so the deadline for applications will have passed before the next issue. So, if you are looking for a (new) job, you are advised to check the News Section of the ESERA Website regularly.

For more info go to the News Section of the ESERA Website (after October 15, 2008)

Get direct access to these abstracts by clicking on the title

International Year of Astronomy (IYA) 2009

In 2009 the world will celebrate the International Year of Astronomy to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Galileo's use of a telescope to study the night sky. 2009 is also the anniversary of many other important dates in the history of science, such as the publishing of Kepler's *Astronomia Nova*, Huygens' *Systema Saturnium*, and the first moon landing. Note also that October 10-14, 2008 will be World Space Week.

To sign up for information about IYA2009 activities worldwide, please contact Manuela Welzel: welzel@ph-heidelberg.de

For more info go to:

<http://www.astronomy2009.org>