

Rules and Conditions for Awarding the Paul Ehrlich European PhD in Medicinal Chemistry (Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD) Label to PhD Graduates in Medicinal Chemistry

The members of the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network (hereinafter referred to as "Network") have agreed on the following rules and conditions for awarding the Paul Ehrlich European PhD in Medicinal Chemistry Label which will become active on 1 January 2010.

§1 The Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network

The Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network was established in November 2009 in Palermo, Italy as a collaboration among several European universities (see attached list of member institutions) with the aim of fostering the education and research training of post-graduate students in Medicinal Chemistry towards PhD Degree.

Membership is open to all European universities, provided they accept the "*Rules and Conditions for Awarding the Paul Ehrlich European PhD in Medicinal Chemistry Label to Ph Graduates in Medicinal Chemistry*" as set out in this document and sign the accession letter. Industrial partners may participate as corporate members. Non-European academic institutions may join the network as associate members.

§2 Coordination of the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network

The Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network is coordinated by a *Network Coordinator* who is a professor involved in PhD programme in medicinal chemistry at his/her university which is called a *Coordinating University*.

The Network Coordinator and the coordinating university are elected for a period of three years in a Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network meeting as defined in §6 below. The Network Coordinator is elected among coordinators of member institutions.

A five membered *Board* is elected among coordinators of member institutions for a period of 3 years. The main task of the Board is the development of strategies for sustainable development and function of the Network.

As a rule, the President of the Organizing Committee of a Network Meeting, becomes a sixth member of the Board until the next meeting.

§3 Aim of the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network

The aim of the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network is to provide an in-depth research training and mobility of PhD students in the area of Medicinal Chemistry at European level. The Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD certificate testifies that the student has (i) undertaken international research training and (ii) has completed and published a piece of research at an internationally competitive level. The Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD certificate is complementary to the local PhD degree obtained from the student's home university, is in no way in collision with national regulations and represents an added-value to a national PhD degree.

§4 Application for the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Label

- (1) Application for the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD label is open to all doctoral students in medicinal chemistry at institutions that are members of the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network provided that they have the approval of their supervisor and coordinator.
- (2) Doctoral students may apply for the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD label at the Network Coordinator. The application form is available for downloading at the Network website www.MedChem Euro-PhD.net.
- (3) The maximum number of applicants is set to two per member institution per cycle.

§5 Conditions for Award of the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Certificate

- (1) The candidates must have successfully completed a PhD thesis on a subject relevant to the field of Medicinal Chemistry according to the established local regulations of their home university (Alma Mater).
- (2) The candidate must be the author of at least two original research papers already published or accepted for publication in international peer-reviewed scientific journals that are included in the Science Citation Index and possess an impact factor higher than 1.00. The candidate should normally be the first author of these publications. Exceptionally, when the candidate's contribution to the published work was essential, but due to local common practice the candidate was not listed as the first author, this circumstance should be explained by candidate's supervisor in a letter to the Network Coordinator.
- (3) The candidate must demonstrate international research mobility and experience during his/her PhD study by having worked for at least 3 months (this timespan may be divided into two shorter periods) at a research institution, which is preferably a member, associate member or corporate member of the Network, outside the country of the candidate's home university.

For this period

- a) the candidate must be supervised by a scientist at the host institution ("host supervisor") in addition to the residing supervisor of the home university ("home supervisor");
- b) the candidate must submit a report describing the aim of the study, the methods used, the results and discussion of the major results. The report must be approved by (i) the home supervisor, (ii) the host supervisor, and (iii) an external referee who is a member of another Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network institution and is nominated by the Network Board.
- c) the candidate must provide a statement from the host university specifying the host institution, the names of home and host supervisors, and the dates and duration of the candidate's research activity abroad.

Clause (b) is not applicable when the work performed at the host research institution has been already published in an international peer-reviewed scientific journal specified under (2) above. The candidate should normally be the author, and the home- and host supervisor should be co-authors of the respective publication(s).

- (4) To demonstrate in-depth scientific training and education in addition to that requested by national regulations, the candidate must attend at least two approved postgraduate courses and one Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network meeting and give there minimum one presentation of his/her scientific results.
- (5) The PhD thesis should be written in English, unless this is prevented by local regulations. Should this be the case, a comprehensive summary in English should be submitted.
- (6) The Commission for evaluation of the PhD thesis should include a member from a foreign institution which is a member, associate member or corporate member of the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network
- (7) After the award of the PhD title at the home university, the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD candidate must give a podium presentation of his research at a meeting organised by the MedChem Euro-PhD Network (see below).

§6 Postgraduate Courses and Meetings

- (1) The Postgraduate Courses which the candidates must attend to qualify for the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Certificate must deal with a Medicinal Chemistry topics, be at a post-graduate level and have at least 20 hours (included are lectures and student presentations) of duration. Courses are approved by the Network Board. A list of approved courses will be published on the website www.MedChem Euro-PhD.net
- (2) The Network meetings which the candidates must attend to qualify for the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD label are (i) organized by academic institutions which are members of the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network, (ii) at least 20 hours (included are lectures and student presentations) of duration and (iii) include Euro-PhD candidates research presentations.
- (3) Each Network meeting must (i) be announced to the Network members at least 2 months in advance and (ii) be open to doctoral students of all members of the Network. On completion of the meeting, the organisers must provide a certificate of attendance or participation to candidates. To qualify for a certificate of participation, candidates must contribute with a presentation of their research at the Meeting.

§7 Award of Euro-PhD Certificate

- (1) The Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD certificate will be awarded by the Network Coordinator on behalf of the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network.
- (2) The Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD certificate will include a supplement summarising the conditions for the award. The certificate will be signed by the Network Coordinator, the doctoral thesis supervisor and the host supervisor.
- (3) The certificate will be presented to the candidate by the Network Coordinator and the doctoral thesis supervisor or their authorized representatives. The Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD awarding ceremony will normally be at a Network meeting after the candidate has given the podium presentation on the thesis as described in § 5(7) above.

§8 Financial Issues

Each member institution takes part in Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network with its own resources. The costs of the research activities will be covered by the institution where such activities take place.

The resources to cover costs for elaboration of Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD certificates will be provided by the Network coordinator. The Network Coordinator will perform his service on a voluntary basis.

The Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network meetings will be financed by registration fees paid by the participants.

Each Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network member institution will provide support to PhD students to mobilize financial resources from national and European mobility funds.

The website will be secured by the Network Coordinator.

The Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network will apply for financial support to student mobility from European mobility funds.

Palermo, 18 November 2009