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**Reminders**

**Upcoming MecaNano events**

- **Online Symposium on Experimental and Simulation Challenges (WG2) on February 15, 2024.** Please submit your abstract before **January 22nd** by filling in [this form](#).
- **Workshop on Machine Learning (WG4) on February 22-23, 2024** in Louvain-La-Neuve, BE. Deadline for abstract submission is **January 15th**. More info [here!](#)
- Abstract submission for the **2nd General Meeting of MecaNano on May 1-3, 2024** in Vienna, is open until **March 5th**. More info [here!](#)
- Abstracts accepted until **January 31st** for the **MecaNano session LMP May 29-31, 2024** in Prague, CZ.
- Submit an abstract to the **MecaNano session C05 at MSE 2024! Sept. 24-26, 2024** in Darmstadt, DE. Abstract submission deadline **January 31st**.
- Abstracts for **ECI Nanomechanical Testing IX** due **Mar. 31st** (oral) **May 15th** (poster). MecaNano will be there!

**Other interesting events**

- **Nanobrücken 2024** will take place on **March 19-21, 2024** in Lyon, France. Click [here](#) for more information.
- **EMMC19** will have a symposium "Experimental Nanomechanics" May 29-31, 2024 in Madrid, Spain. More info [here](#)

**Job offers:** Check the job opportunities [here](#) (you first need to register on the [MecaNano website](#)).

**Happy New Year from the MecaNano communication group!**

To kick off the year on a positive note, you will find in this newsletter some good news and upcoming events from the MecaNano network! And remember, if you want to be part of this network, **please apply to one or more working group (WG) by following [this link](#)** (It is a prerequisite to be eligible for a grant or a refund in case of joining a MecaNano's event). Enjoy!

**Topical workshop on Machine Learning**

A 2-day event related to MecaNano's WG4 'Machine Learning' will be held on **February 22nd-23rd, 2024** at **Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium**. This workshop organized by WG4 will bring together those members of the MecaNano community who are currently working or want to work in the field of Machine Learning (ML)

The community is rather diverse and has a large range of ML experience. Many members already use this technique routinely while others do not have hands-on experience with ML, but would be interested to exploit its powerful capacities on their research data. Thus, the meeting is designed to meet everyone's needs! Four one-hour tutorials are planned to provide in-depth case studies through examples of using ML on experimental and modelling data. In addition, contributed talks and posters will give insights into various successful applications of ML. During the meeting four 1-hour selected comprehensive tutorials will be given by experienced scholars who will provide a broad overview of how to use machine learning in the framework of MecaNano and beyond, through selected research problems.

We emphasize that in accordance with the concept of the meeting, we not only accept abstracts on already established applications of ML, but also on promising ideas of future applications. **Deadline for abstract submission is January 15th.**

**This event is free of charge to MecaNano Members, but participants must register before February 11th, 2024.** Anyone interested to ML is welcome to attend even without submitting an abstract. Click [here](#) to register.

**MecaNano Save the Date**

**Local Material Properties** MecaNano session May 28th, 2024 in Prague, Czech Republic - **Travel funds available** more info on p. 2 !

**MecaNano Winter School** November 11th-13th, 2024 in Aachen, Germany. More details soon!

**ECI Tutorial** at the Nanomechanical Testing in Materials Research and Development IX - tentative date October 6th, 2024, Messina (Sicily), Italy. More info soon! [Conference details here](#)

## A Crash Course in Research Data Management with MecaNano

The MecaNano WG3 held their first workshop on research data management (RDM) in at RWTH Aachen Gästehaus at the end of September (26th-27th). Ulrich Kerzel and Volker Hofmann organized the two-day event full of presentations, active discussions, and tasty cakes to introduce or further advance participants' knowledge about RDM within the material sciences. The workshop had about 25 participants representing 15 of the MecaNano countries. The talks from a variety of speakers included topics on why we need RDM, how to structure data and use ontologies, available RDM platforms, FAIR data, and how to start to think about implementing RDM at one's home institute.

The two-day workshop was a great introduction into RDM, its importance for the future, and how to start FAIR data policies. Every participant could take away new information no matter what level in the RDM chain they were at before the workshop.

The in-person workshop was followed by a virtual event with zoom held on 1. December. Katharina Grünwald

gave a presentation and introduction on creating a research data management plan. The presentation will be made available in early 2024. Several presentations from the in-person event are now available at the [MecaNano website](#) to members (Sub-page Users – Repository). *Please note, the MecaNano webpage uses a different login than the e-COST MecaNano.*



MecaNano WG3's first workshop on research data management

## Don't Forget! MecaNano's Second General Meeting in Vienna

Following the great success of the first MecaNano's general meeting in Madrid, the second general meeting of this COST Action will be held between **May 1st-3rd, 2024 in Vienna, Austria** at the Technical University of Vienna (TU Wien). The aim of this meeting is to bring together all stakeholders of the MecaNano community in order to discuss scientific progress in our fields and plan common activities. This meeting is a good opportunity to meet your counterparts of the small-scale mechanical characterization community.

Oral and poster contributions related to all topics covered by MecaNano are welcomed:

- Mechanical size effects and nanoscale deformation mechanisms
- Experimental and simulation investigations, including nanoindentation, nanomechanical testing, ad-

vanced characterization methods, atomistics and meso-scale simulations, finite elements, crystalline, amorphous or hybrid materials...

- Management of research data in materials science
- Machine learning applications related to the topics above

**Abstract submission for oral presentations** is opened until **March 5th, 2024**. **Submission for poster presentation** will remain open until **March, 27th**. For more information and abstract submission [click here!](#) Contributed presentations will be 15 min long including questions and answers. Poster size is A0 (portrait orientation is preferred).

**This event is free of charge for MecaNano Members.** We are looking forward to your participation!

## Travel refund for MecaNano workshop in Prague / LMP conference, May 29-31, 2024

MecaNano is organizing a workshop with lab tour on the morning of Wednesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> in Prague, right before the beginning of the [LMP conference](#) ( May 29-31, 2024). MecaNano has travel funds available to support a number of MecaNano members willing to attend the event. If you are interested in participating to the MecaNano workshop and LMP conference, please register to the LMP conference website (if not yet done) **and** inform Jaroslav Cech by e-mail ([jaroslav.cech@fjfi.cvut.cz](mailto:jaroslav.cech@fjfi.cvut.cz)) **before January 31** that

you are requesting a MecaNano travel refund. Decisions on funding will be made in the weeks following the end of the call. As the MecaNano event takes place only on one day, note that COST will only provide daily allowance for the duration of the pre-conference workshop and not for the whole LMP conference duration. This does not impact the transportation, which may well take place after the end of the conference.

## Online-Symposium on Experimental and Simulation Challenges in MecaNano

MecaNano's WG2 is pleased to invite you to submit an abstract to the **1st online-Symposium on Experimental and Simulation Challenges** in MecaNano, that will be held **on February 15th, 2024 from 9am to 12 pm CET**. The symposium will include highlight presentations from Dr. Barbara Putz (Montanuniversität Leoben / EMPA Thun) and Dr. Jonathan Amodeo (CNRS, France).

Please **submit your abstract** until **January 22nd, 2024** by filling in [this form](#). Time slots for online presentations (zoom platform) will be of 15 min, including 5 min discussion.

In the case of many applications, we are considering the possibility of organizing a second symposium shortly after the first. Don't wait to apply!

## ECI: Nanomechanical Testing in Materials Research and Development IX

The next **ECI: Nanomechanical Testing in Materials Research and Development IX** **October 6th-11th, 2024 in Messina (Sicily), Italy**. Oral presentation abstract due **March 31st, 2024**, Poster presentation abstracts due **May 15th, 2024**. More [info](#) here.

The conference starts on Sunday October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 with a **MecaNano Sponsored tutorial!**

More information in the coming weeks. Mark your calendars!

## ITC conference grant application

ITC conference grants are for young researchers (under 40 years old) and innovators to attend a high-level conference and present their work as a poster or oral presentation. To be eligible you must be affiliated with a legal entity in a COST Inclusiveness Target Country (ITC) or Near Neighbour Country (NNC), as defined by the [COST action strategy](#). The applicants must also be **members of the MecaNano COST Action** (click [here](#) to apply) and the **presented work must be relevant to the action's scientific objectives**.

The maximum grant is €2,000 for face-to-face conferences and €500 for virtual conference. The grant can provide a contribution to travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses, registration fees, and other relevant costs such as printing of the scientific poster.

Be aware that the grant will be paid **after the end of the conference and the approval of all required documentation**. These documents must be submitted by the

grantee within 30 days from the end date of the conference. It includes a report on the outcomes of a presentation and participation in the conference, a certificate of attendance, the program of the conference or book of abstracts / proceedings indicating the presentation (oral or poster) of the grantee and a copy of the given presentation (oral or poster). More information about ITC grant application, eligibility rules, and information on evaluation of applications can be found [here](#).

The conference dates period for this call is **from April 15th, 2024 to October 1st, 2024**. The conference can start and end any time during this period. Applications will be accepted between January 15th and **March 10th 2024**. Results will be notified at the beginning of April. For ITC grant application, please [click here](#).

If you are looking for a conference to attend, check out where MecaNano will be in 2024 on the first page of this newsletter!

## STSM grant application

Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) allow scientists to conduct short research visits to a research institution or laboratory in another COST Country. The purpose of these missions is to strengthen existing networks and foster collaboration, to learn a new technique, to have access to equipment, data and/or methods that are not available at their institution, and to contribute to the scientific objectives of MecaNano.

**The applicants must be members of the MecaNano action** (click [here](#) to apply). **The mission must be in line with the topics of the MecaNano action and take place in a country different from the applicant's institution.**

The maximum grant for STSM is €4,000 but the applicants are strongly encouraged to provide realistic claims in line with the duration and location of the STSM. Be

aware that the action can not fund salaries.

Payment of the grant will be made **after the mission and upon approval of an end-of-mission scientific report**, which must be submitted by the applicant within 30 days of the end date of the STSM. The entire procedure for STSM grant application, as well as the eligibility rules and information on evaluation of applications can be found [here](#).

The mission period for this call is **from April 10th, 2024 to October 1st, 2024**. The STSM can start and end any time during the mission period. Applications are being **accepted from January 15th to March 10th, 2024**. Results will be notified at the beginning of April. For STSM grant application, please [click here](#).

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**This is the end of our newsletter. We hope you enjoyed it! If you want us to advertise a MecaNano sponsored event, a research breakthrough, or any other topic related to MecaNano, do not hesitate to send us the information at [info@mecanano.com](mailto:info@mecanano.com), so that we can add it to the next newsletter, the MecaNano website or spread the information to the MecaNano diffusion list (please use the templates on the [website](#) - user - repository). Greetings from WG5!**