

Universal Scientific Education and Research Network (USERN): a New Horizon for Science

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Our ancestors created the science to flourish humanity and nurture the life of every living soul in the world, disregarding of their nationality, race, gender, religion and political views. But the question remains, can everyone in the world benefit from and have a share in scientific developments in the current scientific world? Our ancestors created the science as a pipe to blow happiness to mankind life. But shall we ask this question: How much of the scientific efforts in today's scientific world genuinely leads to mankind happiness and how much is deviated toward destructive weapons and military purposes? Is the current flow from novel ideas to scientific outputs, the optimal and most straightforward pathway? Does every scientist in the world has access to research facilities proper for his education, according to his interests and based on research subjects that are a step forward towards the answer to key questions in each scientific area? There has been and there is still a “notch” between scientific resources, equipped labs and funding resources and novel ideas and breakthrough proposals. Research priorities change constantly by political and monetary issues and the true meaning of research for public good and benefit for the destitute has long been lost. These hardships by no doubt have

set back the exponential progress which was expected to happen in science of the 21st century (1). Indeed there are some issues in science nowadays, produced as a result of confining science with not only geographical borders, but also with separation of different branches of science as a result. So, networking could be considered as a solution to resolve the problem of harsh borders between different branches of science. Closer collaboration between scientists today could be an alternate to the previous paradigm of ancient worlds “Hakim” who had to excel in all of their contemporary knowledge (1).

The Universal Scientific Education and Research Network (USERN) is established as a solution to divert the notice of the scientific world governance to its true inheritances, the scientists, and to manage this resource in the most humane and scientific way possible (1). The USERN is an ambition leading to an idea, an idea transformed to a plan and a plan both developed and honed in the course of several, mind challenging discussions. USERN was then born on January 21st 2015; and after a year of planning, was officially announced on Dec 31st in the 1st Meeting of top one percent scientists (Figure 1) (2-5).



Figure 1. First joint consultative meeting of world top 1% most cited scientists in Iran; Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Dec 31st, 2015

(Photo at roof top of central building; by M. Keyhan)

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Members of the advisory board provide an intermediary level of communication between staff of USERN in any of the directory committee and the executive board who comprise elected representatives for each area of science from the own body of the

advisory board.

Governance body in USERN consists of Advisory board, Executive board and President, while management body consists of executive director and staff (Figure 2).

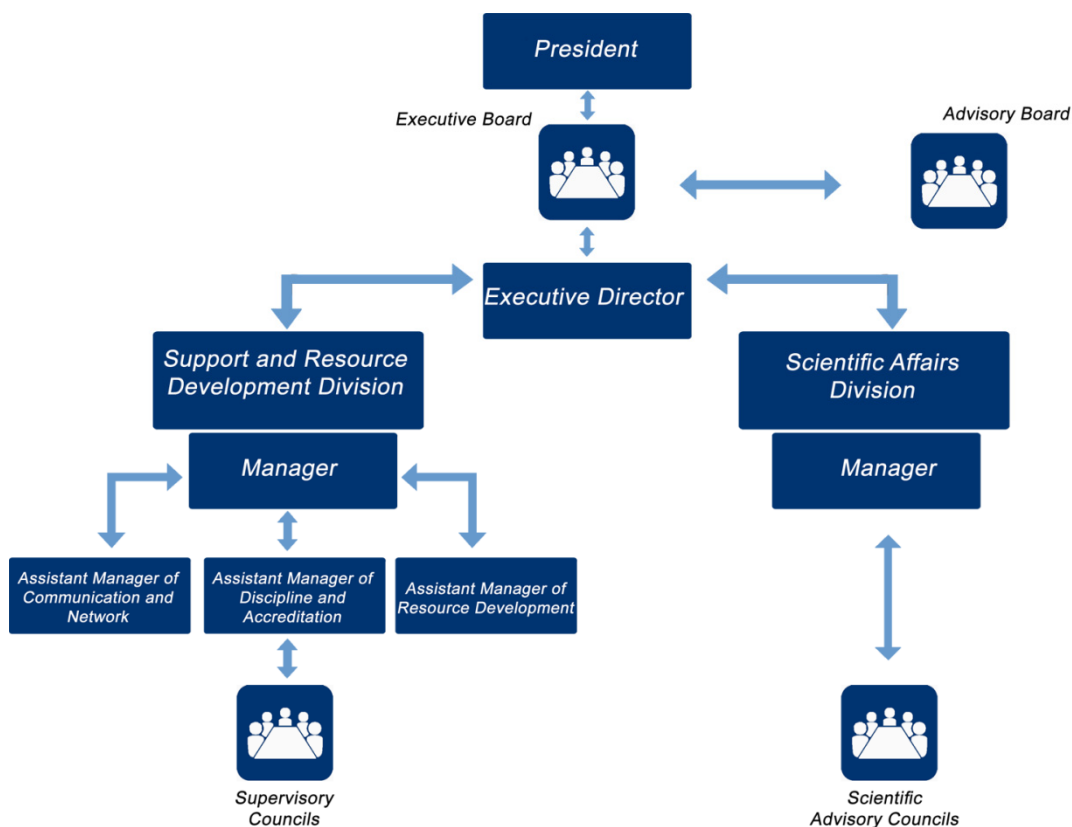


Figure 2. Organizing chart of Universal Scientific Education and Research Network (USERN)

The Advisory board members are in charge of providing non-binding strategic advice to both executive board and staff and dissolving disputes in the network. Advisory board members have the privilege of attending all USERN Executive board meetings and advise the Executive board on policy matters. Members of Executive board; representatives of each committee of major branches of science determine the overall policy and direction of the network and provide strategic direction. On the other hand, the Management body in USERN consists of the executive director and staff. Executive director has day-to-day responsibilities for the network, including carrying out the goals and policies of USERN. The executive director will attend all board meetings, report on the progress of the network and answer questions of the board members

The advisory board shall have unlimited number of

members who are outstanding in their field of study and met the eligibility requirements determined by the executive board, with the current eligibility criteria being one of the top 1% scientists of the world introduced by highlycited.com (Thomson Reuters). Advisory board can advise the Executive Board on policy matters and its members have the privilege of attending all USERN executive board meetings and participating in discussion. Each member of the advisory board has the responsibility to refresh the structural body of USERN by adjusting day-to-day policies of the network in accordance to current flow of their area of expertise. Meanwhile the executive board is responsible for overall policy and direction of the network, exercising oversight, and providing strategic direction. The executive board has the right to and is responsible to make decisions for all issues of the

network, whether it's a suggestion from the advisory board members, executive board members or executive director.

The USERN is an international organization exclusively dedicated to advancement of authentic, ethical and professional scientific research and education and consequently advancement of science for non-military purposes and public good. The mission of USERN is simply providing an infrastructure to connect and share ideas, facilities, human, financial and educational resources considering their scope and their grades and establish their collaboration and allocate resources to ideas with the most importance for improvement of human life. The USERN envisions a reliable network of universally validated resources including ideas, facilities, human, financial and educational resources to launch and facilitate authentic, ethical and professional scientific research intended to improve human life (1). USERN organization works under two major divisions: Scientific affairs division and Support and resource development division.

The USERN network will also hold a series of workshops and panel next November 8th-10th, as the USERN Congress and the Festival for awarding the USERN Prize 2016 (for junior scientists) on the last day of the congress, November 10th which is named by the UN as the World Science Day for Peace and Development. Arbitration and Proof checking profile of the applicants and their proposed work for the Prize would be performed by the top scientists as the advisory board of the Prize (1).

It is to be hoped that the USERN would be considered as a second house for every scientists which determines the overall policy according to which research endeavors and scientific acts would be conducted to reach the most efficient way to respond the day-to-day demands and the gap in knowledge in that field. Young Scientists would be linked to top scientists via USERN and conduct research projects and educational programs or take part in such programs under such framework. Seniors and top scientists would take a role in upbringing young scientists and constructing their own Scientific Pedigree in the near future (1).

References

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