Danish Research Funding Opportunities Open to International Researchers

Max Weber Programme
Academic Careers Observatory
Workshop, European University Institute

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Head of Secretariat Lars Christensen,
Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation
The Danish Political Context for R&D

- Globalisation Strategy of the Danish Government "Progress, Innovation and Cohesion Strategy for Denmark in the Global Economy"
  - Commits public R&D expenses to reach 1 % of GDP by 2010
  - Backed by 115 R&D-initiatives and political agreement on funding (bio. euro)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Appr. Act</td>
<td>1.485</td>
<td>1.637</td>
<td>1.740</td>
<td>1.923</td>
<td>2.123</td>
<td>??</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- from Glo. Strategy</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>617</td>
<td>658</td>
<td>698</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Danish Advisory and Funding System for Research and Innovation
The Danish Councils for Independent Research (DCIR)

- Supports and promotes independent research, including individual postdoctoral grants
- Supports and promotes Danish research in a broad sense
- Up 20% of the applicants are non-Danish citizens – most are administered by Danish institutions
- The Board for the Councils for Independent Research prioritises and young researchers and internationalisation, incl. postdoctoral grants to researchers with a PhD degree from abroad
Two Research Councils of relevance

• The Danish Research Council for the Humanities (DRCH):
  Musicology; art history; architecture; media science; ICT in the humanities; comparative literature; dramaturgy; linguistics; philology; history; archaeology; anthropology; ethnography; ethnology; folkloristics; eskimology; philosophy; history of ideas and science; theology; comparative religion; educational theory and practice; psychology and other related humanities disciplines

• The Danish Social Science Research Council (DSSRC):
  Economics, sociology, political science and law, as well as the societal aspects of a number of interdisciplinary areas (e.g. development studies, gender studies and cultural geography)
Funding function – the basics

• Research quality and researcher qualifications as the only evaluation criteria
• Open competition between all applications. No pots for instruments incl. Postdoctoral grants

• Biannual application deadline – 2 March and 1 Sept. 2009 for postdoctoral grants
• From application to decision – max 3 months

• The Councils are permanent multidisciplinary review panels
• Collective decision making
Funding scheme for postdoctoral grants

• Postdoctoral grants are aimed at maintaining and developing research competence. They also seek to promote national and international mobility among research environments and between research environments and the business community. The grants are awarded to researchers in connection with their individual completion of specific research projects at research institutions in Denmark or abroad.
Funding scheme for postdoctoral grants

- **Applicant requirements**
  - Grants are primarily awarded to researchers in the initial phases of their careers.
  - PhD Students may apply but the project cannot commence before the PhD degree has been obtained.

- **Project period**
  - Grants are given for 1-3 years.
Funding scheme for postdoctoral grants

- Project description
  - Must not exceed 5 A4 pages (12,000 keystrokes)
  - Must contain
    - The project's potential
    - Problem formulation
    - Theoretical foundation
    - Project method
    - Project Outcome
Funding scheme for postdoctoral grants

- **Budget**
  - funding to cover (all) expenses that are directly referable to the proposed project and which are relevant and necessary in order to carry out the project.
  - Scientific/academic salaries, technical/administrative salaries, operating costs (e.g. data collection, research stays abroad) and overhead (44 %)
Key Figures for DRCH for postdoctorals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Amount (mio. euro)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applications</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>34,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>49 (9 from foreign inst.)</td>
<td>10,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success rate in %</td>
<td>31,2 %</td>
<td>29,2 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Total DRCH Budget for 2009: 22,1 mio. euro
Key Figures for DSSRC for postdoctorals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Amount (mio. euro)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applications</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>18,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>18 (5 from foreign inst.)</td>
<td>4,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Succesrate in %</td>
<td>25,0 %</td>
<td>25,7 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Total DSSRC Budget for 2009: 16,2 mio. euro
DCIR’s "Young Researchers Award"

- The awards to highly talented young researchers who have not reached the age of 35 at the time of application
- The award is 27,000 euro for research-related expenses
- Award holders have an additional obligation as regards promotion of your project and must be available for interviews and press coverage
- The funding awarded DRCH gave 4 awards in 2008 and DSSRC 3 awards – many with PhD degrees from abroad
Other Opportunities

- Get integrated in a larger research group who has or applies for funding
- Positions at universities (www.workindenmark.dk)
Thank you

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