



PROGRAMME OF EXCELLENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN

19 JANUARY 2007

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In 2007, the University will establish a number of Projects of Excellence in research in existing and new academic fields.

Project funding criteria include:

- Potential to become an outstanding and leading project within its field
- Academic excellence of applicant(s)

Other significant criteria are projects' relevance to university curricula and to society and commerce in general, and their prospects of attracting external research funding.

The annual budget of the Programme of Excellence is DKK 65-75 million (~ €8.8 million - €10.1 million).

Funding will be awarded based on initial evaluation at the faculty level, consisting of an academic and (as far as possible) international assessment of applications, and a subsequent evaluation of the applications by an interdisciplinary advisory panel under the Rectorate.

Programme of Excellence funding will be given to researchers at the University of Copenhagen, and to researchers from other institutions provided they are employed by the University while carrying out the research project. Inter-faculty applications are welcome.

Applications should be sent to the Dean(s) of the relevant Faculty(ies) who will conduct the academic evaluation. The Dean(s) will forward to the Rector the best applications and a description of the project's relevance to the Faculty's long-term research planning.

Applicants can request funding up to DKK 5 million (€675,000) a year for up to 5 years. Funding for equipment may account for up to 20% of the total applied for.

Applications

The deadline for applications to the Faculties is 1 June 2007. Applications must be submitted by email to the Dean of the Faculty where the principle investigator or project manager is or will be employed (*see Deans email address list*). Applications for inter-faculty research projects must be submitted to each of the relevant faculty deans.

Application must be in English and contain the following information.

- 1) First page including:
 - a) Project title,
 - b) Name, title and full contact details of the principle investigator or project manager,
 - c) Names of the Faculty or Faculties to which the application is submitted,
 - d) Names, title and full contact details of up to 4 potential evaluators external to the University of Copenhagen.

- 2) A project description of max. 10 pages including:
 - a) Project aims and visions,
 - b) Research plan including description of how research will be organized and scheduled,
 - c) Description of project potential for producing outstanding and leading research results in its field,
 - d) Description of project relevance to university curricula, society and commerce,
 - e) Description of potential, long-term synergistic effects of inter-faculty and inter-disciplinary applications,
 - f) Description of how project results will be communicated to the public,
 - g) Provisional plans to attract external funding,
 - h) Requesting letters of support from collaborators.

- 3) Principal investigator or academic project manager CV – min. 2 pages, including experience in research management.

- 4) Principal investigator or academic project manager publication list since 2001, and maximum 10 relevant publications from before 2001.

- 5) CVs of other project researchers (maximum 1 page) and a list of their 10 most relevant publications.
- 6) Detailed project budget
- 7) Summary paragraph of project aims and visions for external communication in case the project is funded.

Assessment procedure

Faculty panels will perform the academic assessments. While the assessment process will be anonymous, Danish regulations require that applicants be given the names of assessment panel members and that applicants may point out possible conflicts of interest. In the case of inter-faculty research projects, the relevant faculties will together appoint the assessment panel.

Upon completion of assessments, applicants will have two weeks to make any comments. All applications judged to be suited to the Programme of Excellence can be recommended by the Deans to the Rector. Applications, assessments, and the recommendation of the Deans should be sent no later than 14 September to the Rector. The Rector will then organize an overall assessment via an advisory panel. This panel will be interdisciplinary and consist of representatives from the research community. Based on the panel's advice, the Rector will decide which projects receive funding during November, 2007.