

Individual post-doctoral project

17-month post-doctoral position, starting 1st September 2015:

Analysis of the changing conditions and characteristics of academic work and careers

Location: Department of Education, Copenhagen Campus, Aarhus University, Denmark

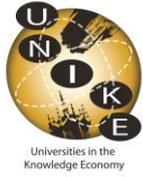
Supervisor: Professor Susan Wright

The Department of Education, University of Aarhus invites applications for a 17-month post-doctoral fellowship funded under a European Commission, Initial Training Network Marie Curie award. The broader project in which the post is located is Universities in Knowledge Economies (UNIKE), which examines the changing roles and scope of universities in emerging global knowledge economies and regions. The project includes 14 other fellows at six partner Universities – the other members besides Aarhus are Ljubljana, Lyon, Porto, Bristol and Roehampton – and 19 Associated Partners mainly in the Asia-Pacific Rim.

There might be the possibility of a subsequent contract for undergraduate and postgraduate teaching in the Department of Education.

Objective: The post-doctoral fellow's own contribution to the UNIKE project will be a research project concerning the changing conditions of academic work and career development. This project could consider changes across generations and difference by gender, and can approach this issue from any theoretical perspective. In terms of regional focus, the project could consider the impact on, and new opportunities for, academic work, careers, and professional practices posed by the creation of a European Higher Education and Research Area; or it could make comparisons between these changing conditions in selected countries in the European Higher Education and Research Area and the Asia-Pacific Rim. The fellow's research project can focus on any aspect of this topic from new forms of governance and institutionalisation to new modes of knowledge production, changing employment patterns and expectations about academic mobility, networking, partnerships, research productivity and impact, and teaching and quality assurance – or how these combine in a restructuring of career paths and the academic profession.

Research proposal: The application must include a 5-page proposal for a post-doctoral research project that will meet the above research objective. The proposal must include a research plan and time plan and must also make clear how the postdoctoral research takes advantage of, and builds upon the applicant's doctoral work.



Secondment and/or research visit: The UNIKE project's 19 Associated Partners offer to host research visits and act as resource persons in their specialised areas. Applicants are welcome to indicate in their research proposal which of the Associated Partners would be relevant to their research and how they would seek to benefit from them if they were appointed.

UNIKE-wide responsibilities: Beside the above research project, the post-doctoral fellow will also devote one fifth of her/his time (averaging one day a week) to a specific role in the management of the UNIKE programme. This will entail close communication with Susan Wright, the Project Coordinator, and her team. The post-doctoral fellow's role is to assist the Project Coordinator in bringing the UNIKE project to a successful conclusion. Specifically, this means helping to prepare book proposals and publications arising from UNIKE that highlight the programme's results; co-writing an application for a Erasmus Mundus PhD programme; and helping to organise the final conference, which will take place in Copenhagen in 2016.

Expertise: Applicants must hold a PhD in a relevant area of study, with a strong theoretical background in anthropology, sociology, organizational studies, political economy, politics or cultural studies as these are related to higher education. The appointee will be expected to demonstrate an ability to be self-organized and to work with doctoral fellows and in teams. An understanding of editing and publishing processes, although not necessary, would be an advantage.

Research Environment: The post-doc fellow will be located in the Department of Education in Copenhagen, and within that, in the research programme EPOKE (Education, Policy and Organisation in the Knowledge Economy).

The Department of Education at Aarhus University is the largest centre for research and teaching in the fields of education, didactics and learning in Denmark, with approximately 250 full-time researchers, including 80 PhD students, and approximately 5000 Bachelor's and Master's degree students. The department's activities are characterised by a high degree of interdisciplinarity and close interaction with society, including businesses, organisations, government agencies and institutions, both in Denmark and abroad.

For more information on the department's research and educational profile, please visit:

<http://edu.au.dk/en/>

EPOKE is an interdisciplinary research group of 15 people, including four UNIKE fellows, and 2 PhD fellows associated with the UNIKE programme. There are projects on university reform, academic conditions, rankings, doctoral education, joint campuses, internationalisation of higher education, higher education and employability, and how academics and students engage with globalisation, mobility and concepts of space and place in knowledge production, Research fields include Denmark, Germany, UK, India, Nepal, East Africa, New Zealand, China and U.S.A.

More information about EPOKE is at <http://edu.au.dk/en/research/research-areas/epoke/>



Contacts for further information:

The UNIKE project's website is <http://unike.au.dk/>

The Project Description of UNIKE is available at

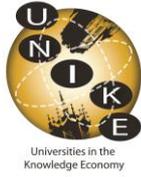
http://unike.au.dk/fileadmin/www.unike.au.dk/April14_Project_Description_for_Management_Purposes_newfrontpage.pdf

For questions about the project, please contact Susan Wright, University of Aarhus (suwr@edu.au.dk).

The Department of Education's website is at <http://edu.au.dk/en/>

Note that the Department of Education (DPU) is located in Copenhagen. Information on living in Copenhagen http://studies.ku.dk/housing/finding_housing_on_your_own/

For questions about working at Aarhus University visit <http://ias.au.dk/international-academic-staff-ias/>.



Application procedure for post-doctoral projects

The deadline for applications is **15 May 2015 at 17:00 CET**. Applications should be sent to **UNIKE@au.dk**

Applicants should send the following:

- A. A statement of your interest in UNIKE and what you would contribute to the UNIKE project as a whole, including your most relevant previous experience and any specific skills required by the individual project.
- B. 5-page project proposal for the post-doctoral project
- C. Curriculum Vitae and a statement that you meet the EU definition of a post-doctoral researcher (see below)
- D. List of publications
- E. Scanned copies of your academic transcripts and degree certificates (with authorised translations into English if they are in another language).
- F. Example of written work in English (optional)
- G. Visa status for Denmark and a statement that you meet the EU mobility requirements (see below).
- H. Two academic references, stating the nature of their relationship with you and testifying to your academic abilities and personal attributes

The documents should be in the format pdf or odf. Please title each of the files in your application with the appropriate letter and your name (e.g. A_Kathrin_Gramsche, B_Kathrin_Gramsche, C_Kathrin_Gramsche, etc.)

Selection criteria

Applicants are asked to demonstrate the following in their application and in an interview:

1. A doctoral degree in a relevant discipline
2. Thorough theoretical and substantive grounding in relevant subjects and ability and courage for innovative thinking
3. Ability and commitment to publish and disseminate research work.
4. Ability to work independently and organise yourself and your work.
5. Ability to work with other people (with supervisor and in groups)
6. Competence in written and spoken English
7. Good communication skills, both written and oral.
8. Other specific knowledge, skills and aptitudes included in the relevant project description.

Any offer of a position will be conditional on the applicant providing evidence that they meet the language proficiency requirements of the university where they will be employed.



The selection procedure makes a conscious effort to give equal consideration to applicants of either gender and any sexuality, and to treat equally candidates of any ethnicity or religion and from anywhere in the world.

EU requirements

Applicants for post-doctoral positions must have been awarded a PhD degree and, from the date when they obtained a degree which entitled them to embark on a doctorate, up to the time of their recruitment to this position, must have more than four years' but less than five years' full-time equivalent research experience.

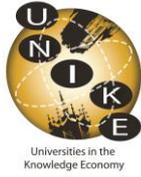
At the time of their recruitment, researchers must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies etc) in the country of the recruiting institution for more than 12 months in the last 3 years. This does not include compulsory national service, short holidays, or work for an international organisation.

Job description

1. Undertake an independent research project, with academic supervision, including a secondment and/or research visits to associated partners, as agreed in a detailed 'Individual scientific, training and career plan', which is to be written within 6 months of the commencement of the appointment.
2. Complete the research project in 17 months.
3. Gain management experience by undertaking a UNIKE-wide role as detailed in the relevant project description (averaging one day per week).
4. Attend and participate in all the UNIKE workshops, summer/winter schools and conferences that are held during your period of employment, help organise one of these events, and give a presentation at a minimum of one of these events.
5. Contribute to the formation and activities of a work package team led by the post/doctoral researchers by participating in webinars, wikis etc (e.g. to discuss literature, interview associated partners with relevant knowledge, share research and fieldwork plans, comment on each others' draft chapters and papers).
6. Give a paper at one international conference and submit two articles to international peer reviewed journals. Contribute to a chapter in an edited volume resulting from the UNIKE project.
7. Disseminate research to a wide academic and general public by writing in other genres, including one individually or jointly written blog, one newspaper feature article and a multimedia release; by knowledge transfer in a form suited to a secondment partner where relevant (e.g. presentation, report, press release); and by presenting research results as a Marie Curie Ambassador to another university or school or the Erasmus Mundus Students and Alumni Association.
8. Other duties as specified in the relevant project description.

Remuneration

The post-doctoral researcher will be an employee of Aarhus University and will be given a full-time contract for 17 months.



The salary for a post-doctoral researcher is set in accordance within the regulations of the Marie Curie Initial Training Network within the European Commission's 7th Framework Programme and the labour laws of the relevant country.

In addition to the salary, funds have been allocated to cover the travel, accommodation and subsistence costs of attending the remaining UNIKE workshops. UNIKE funds are also allocated to cover research costs and research visits to Associated Partners, including in the Asia-Pacific Rim.

Starting date

The selected post-doctoral researcher must begin their contract at Aarhus University no later than 1st September 2015.

Contacts

For enquiries about the overall UNIKE project and the individual position please contact UNIKE Administrator Kathrin Gramsch kagra@edu.au.dk or UNIKE Coordinator Professor Susan Wright suwr@edu.au.dk