Eudaimonia call for research projects in the strategic focus area Understanding humans in change

The University of Oulu has formed a new strategy that strengthens its role as a high-level international science and innovation university that contributes to solving global challenges through the selected focus areas. Tackling the identified global challenges requires multidisciplinary approaches and research excellence. The University of Oulu supports the strategy through evaluation of its research, as well as regular open calls and external evaluation of projects supported by the university’s focus area centres and institutes.

Eudaimonia – Centre for Research in Human Sciences was founded at the University of Oulu in 2013 to promote multi- and crossdisciplinary research based in human sciences.

Eudaimonia is now calling for NEW RESEARCH PROJECTS for the period of 1/2018-12/2021.

The research projects should address the following global challenge recognized in the strategy:

UNDERSTANDING HUMANS IN CHANGE.

In this strategic focus area researchers explore change in humans, interactions, communities and cultures, in the contemporary world and over long periods of time. They identify and explain reasons, processes and practices involved in these changes, show how humans adapt to them and prefigure the effects they will have on humanity in the future.

The proposed research projects should represent well-focused research of high international quality within this focus area. The project leader(s) should be recognized within human sciences.

The project leaders should have high-quality scientific publications as well as demonstrated ability to gain notable external funding for research. The project groups should be multidisciplinary in nature and include experts from two or more fields of human or other sciences. The researchers must work in the University of Oulu, and the project leader(s) has or negotiates an affiliation with the faculties or regional units of the university.
Researchers working within the theme of this call are welcome to submit an application as instructed below. We accept only one application per researcher.

The selected projects will be targeted for strategic support in the form of Ph.D. student and post-doctoral positions (max. 2 Ph.D. students and 1 postdoc researcher / project).

The positions will be filled according to the procedures approved by the university’s rectors.

Application documents listed below should be combined in the order shown and submitted as a single combined pdf-file. The file should be named last-nameFirstname-EUDAapplication and sent electronically by 20 January 2017, to the Registry of the University of Oulu (kirjaamo(at)oulu.fi) before 3 p.m. local time.

The applications should include:

1) Cover page with (i) contact information of the applicant (Name, degree and job title, Unit, Faculty/Institute and email and mailing address); (ii) the title of the project; (iii) the fields of research of the project within human sciences; (iv) 5 keywords

2) Research proposal (max. 12 pages) organized following the Academy of Finland (http://www.aka.fi/en/funding/how-to-apply/appendices-required/research-plan-guidelines/) guidelines with the following additional clarifications:
   • If the applied positions would complement an existing and funded project, the plan must include the project’s existing budget and specify how the project would benefit from the new strategically supported (see above) positions.
   • If the positions are applied for a project that does not yet have funding, the plan must include a budget plan that outlines how other possible costs besides the strategic support for Ph.D. students and postdoc researchers will be covered.

3) Short curriculum vitae of the project leader(s) in accordance with the guidelines of the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity (http://www.tenk.fi/en), the length being no more than four pages.

4) List of publications of the project group’s members from 2011 onwards (papers submitted by the date of the application included)

5) List of the top five publications, relevant for the proposed project, of the project group’s members from 2011 onwards

6) List of PhD theses produced under the supervision of the project group’s members from 2011 onwards

7) Suggestions of 2-3 potential evaluators with no conflict of interest towards the applicant.
Selection procedure:

An independent international scientific evaluation committee nominated by the Rector of the University of Oulu will evaluate the applications on the basis of criteria similar to those used by the Academy of Finland. These include scientific merit and position in research field, novelty and feasibility of the research plan, training of researchers, and the significance and impact of the planned research. The final decisions will be made by the Rectorate of the University of Oulu according to the suggestions of the evaluation committee. The positions will be directed to the projects in the ranking order based on the external evaluation process.

For further information, please contact Vice Rector (Research) of the University of Oulu, Prof. Taina Pihlajaniemi, Tel. +358 294 48 5800 or +358 400 586 920, email: taina.pihlajaniemi(at)oulu.fi.

or Research Director of the University of Oulu, Dr. Sinikka Eskelinen, Tel. +358 294 48 4106 or +358 40 1800 855, email: sinikka.eskelinen(at)oulu.fi.

In technical questions of the application, please contact the research coordinator, Dr. Aija Ryyppö, Strategic Research Services, Tel: +358 (0)294 48 4161 or +358 (0)50 591 7188, email: aija.ryyppo(at)oulu.fi