Funding and mobility

Money talks

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Where does the money come from?

- **Different backgrounds and situations**
- **General sources of funding**
  - University-funded positions
  - Funding of the research unit/project
  - Personal grants from foundations, CIMO, EU …
  - Part-time work inside and outside of the University
  - Research institutions (VTT, SYKE, …)
  - R&D related work place
  - Medical profession, education, etc.
  - Teaching duties
  - Other work, not related to research at all

RECOGNITION OF THE PROFESSION

- All researchers engaged in a research career should be recognised as professionals and be treated accordingly.

- This should commence at the beginning of their careers, namely at postgraduate level, and should include all levels, regardless of their classification at national level (e.g. employee, postgraduate student, doctoral candidate, postdoctoral fellow, civil servants).

- Early-Stage Researchers
  - Researchers in the first four years (full-time equivalent) of their research activity, including the period of research training.

In University of Oulu:
Doctoral researcher (väitöstutkija)

Link to Charter & Code of Conduct
Endorsed by the University of Oulu on 23.10.2012
Funding

Responsibilities of the supervisor related to funding

➢ Funding plan in the beginning of the studies
➢ Review and development of a successful research plan
➢ Recommendations for funding applications

Supervisor cannot always guarantee the funding

➢ You also need to be active
➢ A “good” opportunity to develop an important skill

The lack of funding

➢ Can be one reason to interrupt the doctoral training
Your skills portfolio: 
Applying for, and obtaining

1. Learn the *routine* to apply for funding
   - Update your applications and research plan continually
   - Ask for feedback from your supervisor(s) and others
   - Utilise the funder’s representatives, if possible (*what exactly are they looking for?*)
   - Go and look at the funder’s website:
     - *Who* got funding last year?
     - *How much* did they get?
     - *What* did they get it for?
Your skills portfolio: Applying for, and obtaining

2. Part of researcher training
- A transferable skill that is useful here, now and in the future
  - In any field/sector
  - Developing your idea
  - Selling your idea
    - internally and externally
  - Planning & Writing
  - Budgeting & Implementation
How to make a successful funding application?

- Follow the instructions carefully
  - Structure, forms, attachments
  - Requested information
  - Submission deadline

- Use your creativity to develop an innovative plan
  - Within the scope of the funder
  - Following field-specific conventions/traditions

- A good plan
  - Describes the future
  - Realistically evaluates the impact
  - Places the expected results in a broad context
Funding

- Discussion with your neighbour 5 minutes

"Elevator pitch"

- What is innovative in your doctoral research?
- How will it affect the world?
Help to find research funding?

- Graduate school Funding page
  - [http://www.oulu.fi/uniogs/funding](http://www.oulu.fi/uniogs/funding)
  - [http://www.oulu.fi/tutkijakoulu(rahoitus](http://www.oulu.fi/tutkijakoulu(rahoitus)
- Research Support Services - Patio (requires access to intranet!)
  - Utilise their database of research funding instruments
- **Aurora** (of particular interest)
- Learn the cycles of funding in your field!
  ...and
- Learn to prepare yourself for the calls *well before* the deadline
Main message

- Lots of funding available
- Know how to search
- Know how to write
- Always consider the logic of evaluator
- Be active, apply again!

- E.g. The Finnish Cultural Foundation encourages the experts to emphasize their personal views in making their evaluations. For the applicant, this means that a negative grant decision one year can become a positive one the following year because different people will be evaluating the applications.
Example: Jenny and Antti Wihuri application

- **Application consists of the following pages:**
  - Applicant
  - Application
  - Reasoning (Work plan, research plan or project plan. Schedule, budget, financial plan)
  - Other funding
  - Attachments (work plan, CV, publications)
  - Commitment

- **In “Application”:** brief description of the use of the grant.
  - E.g. “Name of the post-doctoral research”
  - E.g. “For writing a screenplay about social exclusion”

- **In “Reasoning”:** the **purpose** of the applied grant in a **short and understandable manner**. Also state **how** and in what **time frame** you intend to execute your plan and what are the main **costs** and financial structure of your project. If possible please also present **why receiving funding is important** and why you are capable of executing the project. **Note that the person reading your summary might not be an expert of your field.**
Funding & Mobility
Mobility should be encouraged

**Salzburg Principles for Doctoral Training (2005)**

9. Increasing mobility
   - Doctoral programmes should seek to offer geographical as well as interdisciplinary and intersectoral mobility and international collaboration within an integrated framework of cooperation between universities and other partners.

**Seven Principles for Innovative Doctoral Training (2011)**

3. Interdisciplinary Research Options
   - Open research environment and culture to ensure that any appropriate opportunities for cross-fertilisation between disciplines can foster the necessary breadth and interdisciplinary approach.

4. Exposure to industry and other relevant employment sectors
   - In the widest sense.

5. International networking
   - Collaborative research, co-tutelle, dual and joint degrees.
Mobility

The pleasure of a global-based career choice
Mobility

- An essential activity for all research professionals: Start early, stay ahead.
  - Keeping up to date with the state-of-the-art
  - Visibility
- Dissemination of the results of your research
- In some fields, conference papers are counted as publications for your doctoral degree
- In other fields, you get study credits for conferences
  - Networking & Relationship-building
- Future & on-going collaboration
Funding for mobility?

- **UniOGS Travel Grants**
  - Targeted for research visits, conferences, courses, workshops and trips for data collection
  - Two application deadlines:
    - **15.5.2020** (for trips taking place in next fall semester, i.e. August-December)
    - **15.11.2020** (for trips taking place in next spring semester, i.e. January-May)
  - Funding for trips which take place during summer (June-July) can be applied in both calls

- **Foundations**
  - Search databases (Aurora, ...)

- **University, CIMO, EU...**