Call for applications for scholarships at CITRIS

With the purpose of developing and sharing knowledge of the highest quality on higher education, research and innovation, the Danish Agency for Science and Higher Education (DAFSHE) has entered into a partnership agreement with the Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society (CITRIS) and the Banatao Institute within the University of California.

1. Grant type
As part of the partnership agreement DAFSHE has acquired “Visiting Slots” for a total duration of 48 “Visitor months” (scholarship) at CITRIS. Thus DAFSHE invites PhD students, faculty members, and scientists employed by a Danish University or a Danish public research institution to submit applications for the following:

- Visiting Scholarship of a duration of 3-6 months

within the period from 1st March 2019 to 31st December 2020

1.1. Visiting Scholarship at CITRIS
The membership fee acquired by DAFSHE will cover the expenses of visiting researchers at University of California for a duration of 3-6 months. These expenses cover research facilities, bench fees, visa cost, access to labs, contributions to workshops, meetings, conferences, etc. Fellows from Denmark will accordingly fund their own lodging and living expenses, whilst assuming responsibility for their own salaries, benefits, health insurances, preparations for visa applications, etc.

1.2. Travel grant
In addition to the “Visitor months”, a Visiting Scholar has the possibility of receiving a prepaid travel grant of DKK 15,000 (c.f. the application form). The travel grant can be used to help cover expenses for travel from Denmark to the CITRIS research facility and for accommodation and daily expenses for food and local transport in connection with the visit at CITRIS.

The travel grant is prepaid and the recipient is not required to provide DAFSHE with a financial account but only documentation for travel costs. DAFSHE will report the payment to tax authorities as a tax-free travel grant according to current rules. In this regard, the recipient may be required to keep receipts concerning expenditures in relation to travel from Denmark to the CITRIS research facility as documentation for the tax authorities. Expenses that are not covered by the travel grant are taxable in consideration of applicable current rules.
2. Assessment criteria

The present call is open to PhD students, faculty members, and scientists employed at a Danish university or a Danish public research institution. Applications can be within any field related to CITRIS but there is a special focus on the following fields:

- Telehealth and digital/precision health
- Drones and robots
- Smart and renewable energy
- Entrepreneurship and commercialization

In the assessment of the received applications, importance will be attached to the following criteria:

- The alignment of scientific focus of the research project with those of CITRIS.
- The quality and intellectual merit of the research project proposed.
- The value added by collaborating with a counterpart from the University of California.
- Potential for future scientific collaboration.
- The applicant’s experience in international scientific collaboration.
- Given CITRIS’s core mission, the identification of the “societal pull” of the collaboration.

Applicants will be evaluated by DAFSHE and CITRIS on the basis of the assessment criteria.

It should be stressed that the purpose of the partnership program is research collaboration, not education or training for the Danish visitor. In particular, a CITRIS faculty host is intended to be a research partner of the visitor, and is not expected to provide basic education or training in how to conduct research. A visitor’s degree of participation in the program is expected to be commensurate with that of CITRIS’ core researchers.

3. Requirements and procedures for applications

Applications must be submitted in English using the electronic application form, which is available on https://ufm.dk/forskning-og-innovation/tillskud-til-forskning-og-innovation/e-ansogningssystemer.

Applicants can apply for a “Visiting Slot” at CITRIS at University of California in the period from February 15 2019 to December 31 2020.

Previous visiting scholars have often visited for 3-4 months and feedback has shown that the most suitable time to visit the university is during the busy academic year, i.e. either from February 1st-June 1st or from September 1st to January 1st.

The Visiting Scholar must have a member of the CITRIS research group acting as an official host at the University of California. In general, the host will be a member of the CITRIS research group with whom the visitor wishes to collaborate. Although visitors may change their CITRIS host at any time (subject to the agreement of all parties concerned) an initial host must be identified and appointed by CITRIS prior to the visitor’s arrival.
The identification of the host is done by the Visiting Scholar. Applicants are expected to contact professors themselves to find a host. Neither DAFSHE nor CITRIS can provide assistance in matching applicants and CITRIS faculty members.

The applications will be reviewed by an appointed evaluation committee at CITRIS and granted by DAFSHE.

Depending on the quality of the applications received, DAFSHE and the evaluation committee at CITRIS reserve the right to allocate only parts of the Visiting Slots. With regards to an optimal use of the acquired 48 “Visitor months”, DAFSHE and the evaluation committee at CITRIS furthermore reserve the right to grant Visiting Scholarships of shorter duration than initially applied for. However, this procedure will be conducted in dialogue with the applicant(s).

Upon completion of the visit at CITRIS, the grant holder is required to submit a short debriefing report to DAFSHE using the form in e-grant along with documentation for the stay (boarding pass), and a letter from the hosting scientist at CITRIS.

4. Submission of applications
The application should be short and concise and must as a minimum include:
• Name of applicant
• Occupation/position
• Information on bank account
• Private address
• Intended period for the visit and amount of travel grant applied for
• Project title
• Motivation for applying for Visiting Scholarship
• Project description
• Description of the relevance of the collaboration with CITRIS
• Potential for future collaboration

Furthermore, the following appendices must be included in the application:

• Short CVs of the applicant and the collaboration partner (max. 2 pages each) at the University of California.
• Expression of interest from a faculty member or CITRIS research group who will act as an official host at University of California. The expression of interest must be written on official paper and signed by the member who will act as host.
• The application must be co-signed by the head of department at the Danish university or research institution using the fixed template which can be downloaded in the e-application system.

It is the applicant’s responsibility that the application contains the requested information and appendices. As a rule, DAFSHE does not collect additional information for use in the assessment of the application. Equally, as a rule, forwarded material and other documentation enclosed with the application apart from the above-mentioned appendices will not be considered in the assessment of the application.

5. Deadline
The call will be open for applications until 1st December 2019. The granting of visiting months and travel grants for accepted candidates are assigned according to a
first-come-first-served principle. This means that all applications that meet the criteria for funding under this program cf. the evaluation criteria in the call, will receive funding up until the months in the “Visiting Slots” have been occupied or the funding allocated for travel grants have been used.

Applicants will be notified shortly after the decision.

DAFSHE reserves the right to close the call for further applications before deadline if the “Visitor months” have been occupied or the funding for a travel grant has been used.

6. Further information
The program will be administrated by DAFSHE. For further information please contact:

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