

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT

WINTER 2023

MADS GRÆSBØLL CHRISTENSEN



AALBORG UNIVERSITY
DENMARK

Agenda

- State of the department
- Financial update
- Plans for 2024
- Elections
- AAU Kommunikation
- Continuing education
- Highlights
- Other news



State of the Department

- Positive accreditation of AAU recommended
- Annual target in terms of our budgets and new grants met!
- Successful Research Group Event 2023
- Application for Center of Excellence submitted
- Two new programs in Copenhagen approved by executive board (M.Sc. in Computer Engineering, B.Eng. In Cyber Security)
- Rafal Wisniewski appointed Deputy Head of Dept. for Research
- John-Josef Leth appointed Head of Section for Automation & Control
- Distinguished Professor Thomas Parisini hired
- Adjunct Professor Serigos Theodoridis appointed



Financial Update

- The target for 2024 is that our finances are in balance
- Compared to 2023, our situation is (improved 4.6 mio DKK) due to the new research indicator, growth in Copenhagen
- We have received 1.2 mio DKK from the strategy funds
- There is money for new positions in both Copenhagen and Aalborg
- Money allocated for improving labs, study environment
- Increased budget for operational expenses of sections
- We are reliant on ~20% relief of senior staff (Assistant/Assoc/Full Prof.)



Plans for 2024

- Call for applications for assistant prof in Copenhagen open
- Call for applications in Aalborg to follow soon
- Budget: 4 new Assistant Prof. in Copenhagen, 2 in Aalborg
- Improve lab facilities and study environment in Copenhagen
- Event for young researchers in Spring
- Research group event in Fall
- Focus on project budgeting+planing and hiring procedures



Elections

- We need to appoint:
 - 3 VIP for the academic council
 - 2 VIP for the department board
 - Please contact HoD if interested!
- The committees are essential to the department and the university.



AAU Kommunikation

- Our communication services have been centralized
- There is now a dedicated department for handling all communication, AAU Kommunikation
- Strategic communication plan by the dept. and the faculty
- At university level, we are working on a student recruitment strategy
- If you have news about people, research projects, student projects, etc., write komelektro@adm.aau.dk.
- AAU Kommunikation will reach out periodically to the research groups for news.



Continuing Education (EVU)

- Strategy: go for individual courses (duration 3-5 days), one per section, minimum 15 participants to run
- Process:
 - Call for proposals
 - Review of proposals
 - Development of business plan for each proposal (w/Jette Andersen)
- Models: 1) external organizer; 2) targeted customers; 3) open course
- Strategic funding: 25kDKK upfront for each selected proposal, 25kDKK when scheduled
- Profit goes to organizers (e.g., ~14kDKK per day with IDA as organizer)



Highlights

- Shuai Zhang received funding for Ecosurf6G InnoExplorer project
- Anders la Cour-Harbo received InnoBooster grant for Vixos
- Shreyas Srinivasa received funding Selene InnoExplorer project
- Cyber Security student Gustav Bonvang received IDA Connect award
- CyberSkills project extended by Industriens Fond
- American Ambassador visited our campus in Copenhagen
- EU project on 6G, called 6G-Goals, lead by CEA-LETI (France) granted, dealing with Semantic and Goal-oriented communications



Highlights

- EU project on 6G, called 6G-XCEL, cooperation between EU and US institutions on use of AI techniques in 6G systems granted
- Annual workshop “Future of communications II” (Villum Investigator Grant WATER), held by CNT on Dec 12 2023
- Rasmus Olesen has received funding for Eurostar project ReDistXAI, on explainable AI in smart grids.
- EU project ICONIC about 1) cybersecurity security, 2) wind estimation techniques with LIDAR and 3) stochastic model predictive control for wind turbines started.



Other News

- Dialog meeting with rector on January 11, 2024!
- Renovation of offices in Copenhagen done!
- Planning of renovations of FRB7 ongoing
- Ongoing work on national reform of M.Sc. programs.



Questions?



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