

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT

FALL 2023

MADS GRÆSBØLL CHRISTENSEN



AALBORG UNIVERSITY
DENMARK

Agenda

- Why these meetings?
- State of the department
- Growth in Copenhagen
- Recruitment strategy
- Highlights
- Other news



Why these meetings?

- The university is a bottom-up organization and communication is key
- These meetings aim to:
 - Increase transparency
 - Engender discussions
 - Shape the culture
- Three times a year



State of the Department

- We perform extremely well on external turnover and in industrial collaboration!
- ~31% cost on all external turnover. Project overhead+charging own time critical
- We run high-quality educational programs with high employability
- Mid-term changes to budgets
- AAU faces smaller cohorts in North Jutland
- Increased expenses (rent, study admin, cyber security, etc.)
- Long-term plans to reduce housing costs
- We have hired three new Assistant Professors: 1) Peng Mei, 2) Shashi Raj Pandey, 3) Yan Kyaw Tun. Welcome 😊



Growth in Copenhagen

- Long-term plan is to grow to ~400 students by 2030
- Recruitment will focus on Assistant Professor level
- Plans to open one or more new positions in Copenhagen to handle growth+retirements
- New programs proposed:
 - M.Sc. in Computer Engineering
 - B.Eng. In Cyber Security
- Possibility for relocation from Aalborg to Copenhagen



Recruitment Strategy

- Project employees handled by PIs and section heads.
- The Assistant Professor level is critical for our future
- Broad calls for Assistant Professors where the assessment will be based on
 - Excellence
 - Complementarity
 - Independence
 - Strategic value
 - Teaching value
- Onboarding meeting with HoD
- We expect all our scientific staff to be active in 1) research, 2) teaching, 3) collaboration, 4) service



Highlights

- 5G-Robot IFD project is making a demo today with more than 40 people from industry
- Gilberto Berardinelli received DFF PhD grant
- Jakob Stoustrup received an ESA grant for a postdoc working on guidance, navigation and control of launchers.
- Rafal Wisniewski received a Horizon Europe project ICONIC on safe operation of wind turbines.
- Rafal Wisniewski received (yet another) DFF grant!
- Mengting Li received Villum international postdoc for women in science
- CNT received two EU grants on 6G (6G-GOALS and 6G-XCEL)
- Petar Popovski has been knighted!



Highlights

- Petar Popovski delivered keynotes at IEEE PIMRC and IEEE MeditCom
- Edlira Dushku elected Member of the Young Academy of Technology, Science, and Innovation
- Daniel Michelsanti received the “Best Young Italian Researcher in Denmark” award for his work conducted at Aalborg University and Oticon.
- Zheng-Hua Tan et al. received International Speech Communication Association (ISCA) Best Research Paper Award for their paper “[rVAD](#): An Unsupervised Segment-Based Robust Voice Activity Detection Method”.
- Morten Kolbæk, Dong Yu, Zheng-Hua Tan, and Jesper Jensen, received the 2022 IEEE SPS Best Paper Award for the paper “Multitalker Speech Separation with Utterance-Level Permutation Invariant Training of Deep Recurrent Neural Networks”.



Other News

- Long-term plans for our buildings:
 - TECH Lab
 - ES will be in FRB7A+B
 - Copenhagen campus plans
- Up-coming elections:
 - Academic council, study board, Ph.D. committee, department committee
 - Run for election and vote 😊
- Ongoing work on national reform of M.Sc. programs
- Deputy HoD of Research to be appointed



Questions?



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