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JOB POSTING
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
AARHUS INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES

The university is seeking an internationally accomplished academic and administrative executive director of Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies (AIAS) at Aarhus University (AU). Aarhus is a thriving Scandinavian city known for its culture, knowledge-based industries, vibrant student environment, and exceptional natural surroundings, within a country marked by a high quality of life, flexible and secure social structure, and a tradition of research and innovation.

During the last decade, AU has consolidated its position as one of the world’s top-ranked universities with a high research impact, state-of-the-art research infrastructures, and several research groups belonging to the absolute world elite. AU is widely acknowledged for its outstanding pioneering work within basic research, as illustrated by research awards such as the 1997 Nobel Prize in Chemistry and the 2010 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences. Since 2007, 20 European Research Council (ERC) grants have been awarded to researchers at AU, representing more than a third of ERC grants in Denmark. In addition, AU is committed to providing opportunities for highly qualified early career researchers through a dedicated focus on talent development.

The mission of AIAS is to support highest caliber research at AU by attracting talented, highly qualified fellows worldwide and within all research disciplines, providing ideal opportunities to further develop their research, and ensuring fellows’ participation in collaboration and exchange with researchers and research groups at AU. AIAS provides a physical home and programmatic framework for excellent researchers who come to AU from outside Denmark for shorter or longer periods.

Competencies
The university is seeking an accomplished academic and administrative leader who will take the Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies through its inaugural phase and build it into an established and globally visible intellectual landmark for research excellence and talent development. The executive director must have a commitment to talent development and a passion for the research enterprise that constitutes the core of AU.

Area of responsibility
The executive director creates a strategy for the institute, and develops programs to promote joint development and exchange of ideas and research results. The executive director maintains connections to AU’s research environments, oversees recruitment processes, manages a significant operating budget, and supervises a team of administrators. Fundraising and board development are also part of the responsibilities of the executive director. The executive director represents AIAS to a variety of constituencies internal and external to the university.

Employment conditions
The executive director will be hired in accordance with the agreement for academics in Denmark between the Danish Ministry of Finance and the Danish Confederation of Professional Associations (AC).

The executive director will be hired on a fixed term contract for a period of up to 6 years with an option of extension by up to 3 years.

The total salary including allowances and pension is expected to be around 165,000 USD a year before taxes (current level).

Appointment procedure
Applications must be received no later than 12 p.m. CET on September 3, 2012 and should be submitted online via Aarhus University’s website, www.au.dk/en/stillinger/adm/tap/, where more details are available regarding job and person profile.

For further information, please see www.aias.au.dk, or contact Professor Jørgen Frøkiær, Vice-chair of the Board of Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies, by email at jf@ki.au.dk.

Aarhus University has signed the charter for more women in management, and encourages both men and women to apply for the position.

Aarhus University offers an inspiring education and research environment for 40,000 students and 11,000 members of staff, ensuring results of a high international standard. The budgeted turnover for 2012 amounts to DKK 6.2 billion. The university’s strategy and development contract are available at www.au.dk/en.
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For recruitment in science, there’s only one *Science*.

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Born in 1564, Galileo Galilei once contemplated a career in the priesthood. It’s perhaps fortunate for science that upon the urging of his father, he instead decided to enroll at the University of Pisa. His career in science began with medicine and from there he subsequently went on to become a philosopher, physicist, mathematician, and astronomer, for which he is perhaps best known. His astronomical observations and subsequent improvements to telescopes built his reputation as a leading scientist of his time, but also led him to probe subject matter counter to prevailing dogma. His expressed views on the Earth’s movement around the sun caused him to be declared suspect of heresy, which for some time led to a ban on the reprinting of his works.

Galileo’s career changed science for all of us and he was without doubt a leading light in the scientific revolution, which is perhaps why Albert Einstein called him the father of modern science.

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