



MBG Research Committee meeting - Tuesday 30 May 2023, 13:30-15:00

Location: 1872-447

Attendants: Torben Heick Jensen (THJ), Erik Østergaard Jensen (EOJ), Anne Færch Nielsen (AFN), Mikkel Heide Schierup (MHS), Claus Oxvig (CO), Esben Lorentzen (EL), Jens Stougaard (JS), Jørgen Kjems (JK), Poul Nissen (PN), Inge Danielsen (ID)

Not attending: Rune Hartmann (RH), Tinna Stevnsner (TVS), Daan van Aalten (DvA)

Agenda:

1. Approval of the agenda

2. Approval of minutes from the previous committee meeting

3. Announcements

- a. The MBG-BiRC Young Investigator Symposium flyer is ready for distribution. This year's online symposium will take place 2-4 Oct, the application deadline is 31 Aug.

4. New from the Research Committee at NAT

- a. David Egholm will step down as vice dean for research at NAT in August. A job posting for a new vice dean for research will be announced in autumn 2023.

5. Success rates for research applications

- a. DFF: Five Project 1 grants have been awarded to researchers at MBG. This makes the success rate a bit lower than last year but on par with previous years.
- b. NNF career grants: Researchers from MBG have been awarded two Hallas-Møller Emerging Investigator grants, one Ascending Investigator grant and one Distinguished Investigator grant.
- c. NNF Challenge Programme 2023: Two center applications from MBG researchers have been funded.

6. Upcoming funding deadlines (*Anne Færch Nielsen*)

- a. DNRF process plan: The faculty and the Research Support Office have organized a pitch session for center ideas in Aug/Sep 2023. MBG can also offer local pitches for center ideas that are not yet ready in August. The committee discussed the value of early feedback vs flexibility for last-minute ideas.
- b. Villum Young Investigator – deadline 8 June, two applications from MBG
- c. Lundbeck fellow – deadline 31 August

7. Success criteria at foundations:

- a. NNF Bioscience and Basic Biomedicine: JK presented NNF's newly launched website to visualise success rates across all their funding instruments (<https://novonordiskfonden.dk/en/facts-and-figures/>) and described the handling



process for applications within the scientific committee. The committee is focused on the science and the applicant, there are no quotas for geography or distribution between the Danish universities. Mobility and a strong project are important criteria, and the in-person interviews contribute strongly to the final decision.

- b. ERC (JS, JK and THJ shared their experience from serving on ERC panels): The project matters more than the CV (both for Starting Grant and Synergy Grant). JS: having a really good research idea is required to get to the interview stage. The project must have a new, catchy element. Ok to suggest risky projects as long as you include a mitigation plan. The ERC committees see relatively few Danish applications; JK shared his positive experience in hiring a company to coordinate EU applications for consortia.

8. AOB

- a. A call for a professor in protein science at MBG will be posted in autumn 2023.

9. Next committee meeting

- a. September 2023