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STIFTELSEN för
STRATEGISK FORSKNING

Travel grants for scientific workshop in Korea

Introduction

Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research (SSF) and National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF) have together identified potential positive synergies with a common research programme between Sweden and Korea, considering the innovative strength and complementarities of the research areas in both countries¹.

SSF and NRF have decided to investigate the interest among the scientific community to embark in Swedish-Korean research projects. The first step in this process is to announce travel grants for a **scientific workshop in Korea, June 11 – June 13, 2013**. The purpose of the workshop is to present samples of high level research from both countries to each other and thereby facilitate development of new ideas for common research endeavors among scientist from both countries.

If the workshop turns out well, SSF and NRF will follow up with an open call for collaborative research proposals. The level of the grants is not decided but it is likely that approximately three sizeable grants per main research field (below) will be issued.

There is no link between receiving a travel grant and the following collaborative research grant, as the latter will be a call open for competition. We encourage the persons receiving the travel grants to act as “ambassadors” in their home environments, informing about Korean research and about this programme. This will increase the probabilities that the call for research proposals will be launched and that it will be sufficiently competitive, which is a prerequisite for future programmes like this.

Fields

SSF and NRF have decided that the following areas will be the focus for the workshop and for the following call for research proposals.

Biomedical Engineering:

- Bioimaging
- Biosensors
- Bioinformatics

Materials Sciences:

- Surfaces, layers and thin films
- Low-dimensional materials and nanomaterials
- Metals and alloys

ICST:

- Systems architecture and systems technology
- Embedded and autonomous systems
- Electronics and photonics

Eligibility and selection

This call for travel grants is open to scientists, with a research position of at least assistant professor at a Swedish university or the equivalent at a Swedish research institute.

SSF will select five scientists per main area above (i.e. 15 in total) based on the level of academic and entrepreneurial achievements as well previous experience of collaboration with Korean research groups specifically or Asian research groups in general.

Selected scientists will receive a travel grant of SEK 30 000 to cover travels, hotel and allowance for the workshop. Overhead costs are not applicable for this grant.

Applications

Applications must include the following:

- Description of the research fields you are active in (at least one of the above mentioned).
- Motivation for why you want to participate at this workshop.
- Description of previous research collaborations with Korean groups/scientists. If no such collaboration exists – state your previous collaboration with other Asian groups/scientists.
- Description of how you will disseminate the experience from the workshop in your home environment.
- CV
- 15 selected publications, patents, or similar. Please also state your number of publications, citations, H-index, number of patents, etc.

Applications are submitted via the Foundation's application portal at <http://apply.stratresearch.se>, **no later than 14.00 hours, March 26, 2013**. Please log into the portal in good time before the application deadline in order to get a complete picture of all data required.

Contact person at SSF: joakim.amorim@stratresearch.se.

ⁱ See also report from Swedish government agency "Growth analysis": *Forskningspolitik och internationalisering – Sydkorea- Landrapport, Tillväxtanalys*, Report no.: WP/PM 2011:40, Dnr.: 2011/118