



Nordic Centre of Excellence
The Nordic Welfare State – Historical Foundations and Future Challenges

Mobility fellowships for PhD Students

The Nordic Centre of Excellence: The Nordic Welfare State – Historical Foundations and Future Challenges (NordWel) announces mobility fellowships for PhD students working within the research themes of the Centre. NordWel is a multi-disciplinary, cross-national research network of seven partner units in Nordic universities. It is financed by NordForsk's Nordic Centre of Excellence (NCoE) Programme on Welfare Research. The Centre is organized around five theme groups gathering researchers from different disciplines of historical and social research:

- 1) Religion, Lutheranism and the Nordic Welfare State Model
- 2) The National Welfare State: Citizenship and Democracy
- 3) Epistemic Communities: Knowledge and Social Interests in the Making of the Nordic Welfare
- 4) The Value Systems and Legitimacy in the Nordic Welfare State Model
- 5) The Normative Charges of Work: The Labour Market and the Welfare State

Research Agenda of NordWel

In the Centre the welfare state is understood as the locus of many intertwining changes. Researchers of the Centre attempt to reach beyond research settings in which “the Nordic model” would be seen merely as a target for new challenges or as a mode of responding to them. Instead, challenges and responses are conceived of as dynamics of change in the welfare states.

For the research on the dynamics of change, the multilayered historicity of the welfare state is a crucial point of departure. How have different historical layers developed and mediated through mentalities, traditions, values and institutions, and how are they present in the rules, norms and practices of the Nordic welfare states? How do historical experiences and institutions influence the ways in which current transformations are conceived of and dealt with? In NordWel, these questions are examined in connection with a wide range of empirical research topics.

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PhD Student Fellowships

The PhD student mobility fellowship covers a 2 – 6 months visit in one of the institutions participating in the Centre. Information on participating institutions can be found on NordWel's web page. NordForsk guidelines presuppose cross-border mobility, i.e. the visited institution must be in another country than the applicant's home institution.

The fellowship covers a full-time salary in line with the rules of the recruiting institution and country.¹

The PhD students with mobility fellowship will be incorporated into the research training activities of the host institution and they will be appointed a local supervisor. They are asked to report the results of their visit in a short report within one month after the end of the visit.

Currently open positions

The current PhD student mobility fellowships are available for NordWel members from the participating institutions in Finland, Norway, Sweden and Iceland.² We invite applications for fellowships in the time period between **1 January 2012 – 30 November 2012** in any of the NordWel research groups at the following institutions: *University of Helsinki, University of Jyväskylä, Stockholm University³, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim/University of Copenhagen/Lund University⁴, University of Southern Denmark, Odense and University of Iceland.* In your application you are welcome to list more than one partner institution you would like to apply to. In that case you are kindly asked to list the institutions in order of preference.

How to apply

Applications must be submitted by an electronic application form (<https://elomake.helsinki.fi/lomakkeet/29625/lomake.html>). Applicants are to state the motivation for their application in the application form and to attach a research plan, curriculum vitae and a letter from the supervisor of their thesis.

¹ In this connection, those PhD students who are regularly employed by their home institutions have an opportunity to apply for, instead of salaried mobility fellowship, a corresponding mobility grant which will cover the extra travel and accommodation costs incurred by the visit.

² Students of the partner organisations doing research within the fields of research of the Centre but not participating in NordWel are encouraged to contact Coordinator Heidi Haggrén.

³ Institute for Futures Studies is not included.

⁴ Gender and welfare research network coordinated in the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim. See: <http://blogs.helsinki.fi/nord-wel/organisation/partners/ntnu/>. Fellowships can be granted to any of these three universities.

**INVITATION FOR
APPLICATIONS**

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The application is addressed to the Nordic Centre of Excellence: The Nordic Welfare State – Historical Foundations and Future Challenges (NordWel). **The deadline for applications is 28 October 2011.**

For further information contact Coordinator Heidi Haggrén, [heidi.haggren\(at\)helsinki.fi](mailto:heidi.haggren(at)helsinki.fi),
tel. + 358 9 191 24958.

NordWel's home page: <http://blogs.helsinki.fi/nord-wel/>

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Administration Office