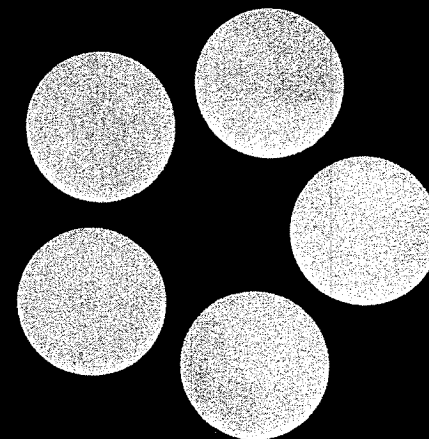
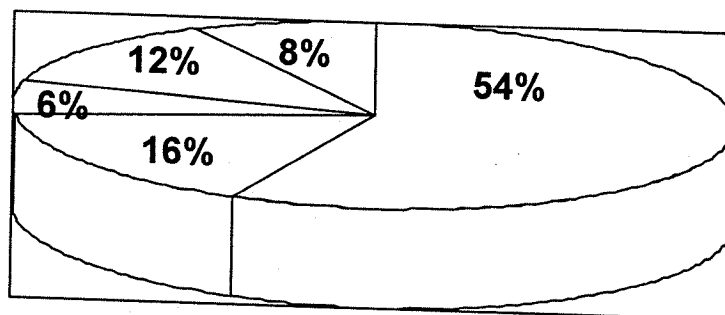


THE DANISH COUNCILS FOR INDEPENDENT RESEARCH





## The governmental R&D grants divided into main sectors, 2007



- ☐ Universities
- ☐ Research councils
- ☐ International activities
- ☐ Research institutions
- ☐ Other major grant pools
- ☐ Misc.

Total budget: 12,2 mia. kr. (app. €1.6 billion)



## The Danish Research Funding Agencies and Research Policy Organisations, 2008

Basic Research

Strategic Research

Innovation

The Danish Council for Research Policy

The Danish National Research Foundation

€42.1m

The Danish Councils for Independent Research

€155m

The Danish Scientific Research Councils

The Danish Council for Strategic Research

€109.7m

Programme Commissions

The Danish National Advanced Technology Foundation

€36.5m

The Danish Council for Technology And Innovation

€113.7m

The Danish Research Coordination Committee  
The Danish Research Training Committee



# The Danish Councils for Independent Research

**Board**

**The Danish Research Council for the Humanities**

**The Danish Natural Science Research Council**

**The Danish Social Science Research Council**

**The Danish Medical Research Council**

**The Danish Research Council for Technology and Production Sciences**

**88 members of the scientific research councils**  
**9 members of the board**



## **The competences of DFF**

**The principal functions of The Danish Councils for Independent Research:  
to serve as an advisory and funding body**

**The Danish Councils for Independent Research provide**

- research-related advice within all scientific areas
- assessment of quality and allocation of research funds for researcher-driven research



# **The structure of DFF**

## **The division of tasks between the Board and the research councils**

### **The scientific research councils**

- have grant funding competence
- provide research-related advice
- participate in international research collaboration

### **The Board**

- divides basic grants between the scientific research councils
- has at its disposal up to 20 % of the funds for special initiatives
- handles the advisory function



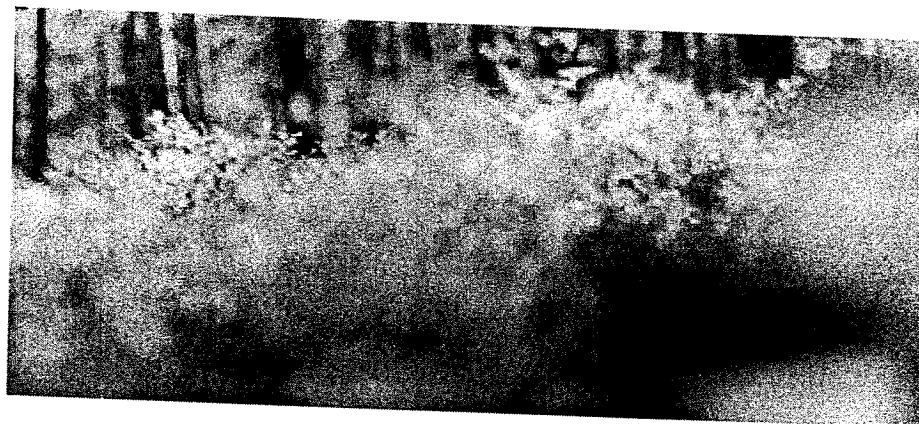
## **What is independent research?**

- Researcher-driven research + bottom-up research
- The first link in the food chain of research
- The foundation for strategic investments in the future
- Basic research and applied research
- The liberty to create new research results



*"Independent research, in which individual researchers draw on their qualifications and expertise to realise own ideas, is the very foundation for all research."*

(Jens Christian Djurhuus, DFF's Annual Report 2007)



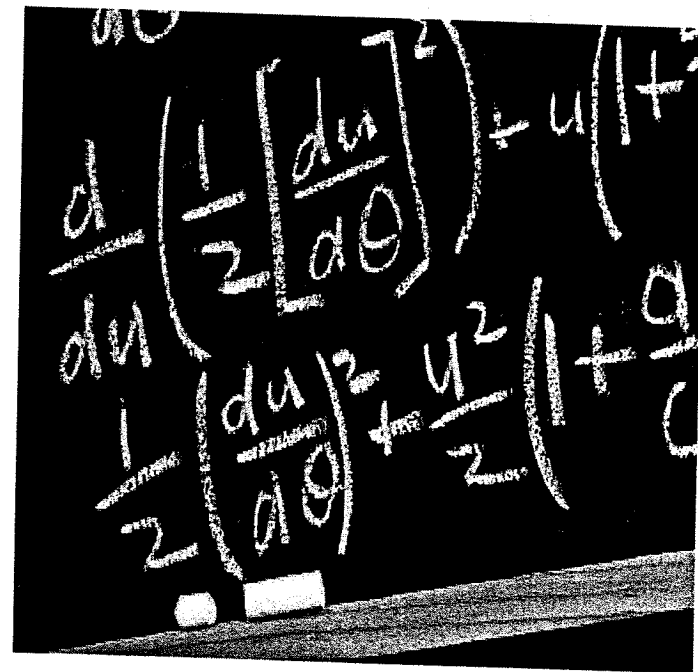
*"The Danish Councils for Independent Research create the best possible conditions for independent research by insisting that the part of research we fund must have originated inside the researchers' own heads. It is their ideas that have the potential to create the new insights."*

(Kirsten Drotner, DFF's Annual Report 2007)



## Funding function – the five scientific research councils

- Purpose:
  - Assessment of quality, prioritisation and distribution of research funds
- Funding instruments:
  - Research projects, dissemination, infrastructure, internationalisation and mobility
- Calls:
  - Twice a year, the scientific research councils launch calls with application deadline 1 March and 1 September





## Funding function - DFF's special initiatives, 2008

- Young female heads of research
- Young elite researchers
- Internationalisation
  - START, foreign postdoctoral grants, research stays abroad





## DFF's research political objectives

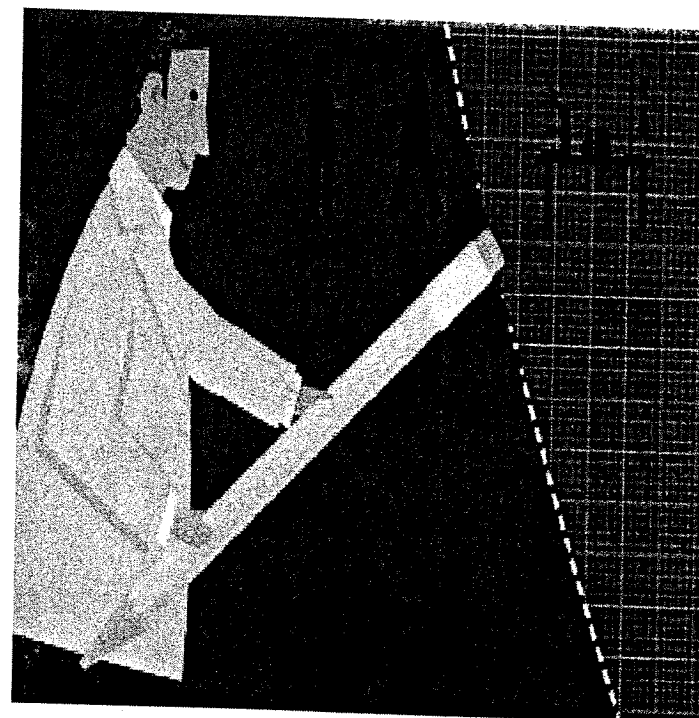
- The present funding percentage of DFF is 17 % of the amount applied for
- DFF considers a funding percentage of 33 % to be the optimal utilisation of resources
- DFF strives to obtain a share of 12 % of the FoU-funds





## DFF's research political objectives

- Assurance of the growth layer of research through a strengthening of the postdoctoral level
- Recruitment and retention of female heads of research
- Assurance of independent research funds for cross-council applications





## **DFF's research political objectives**

- Academically broad and qualified counselling for the Minister and the Danish Parliament
- Nuanced contributions to the research political debate



## DFF and international cooperation

### Strategy for DFF's international collaboration

The plan envisages the following 5 target areas:

- Global research cooperation
- Operational and bilateral research cooperation
- Participation in international infrastructures
- European research cooperation
- Nordic research cooperation



## **ERA-NETs in DFF**

### **8 ERA-NETs in the Danish Councils for Independent Research:**

- BONUS for the Baltic Sea Science
- ECORD-NET European Consortium for Ocean Research Drilling
- ERA-IB Industrial Biotechnology
- ERA-PG European Research Area Plant Genomics
- EURO-POLAR The European Polar Consortium
- HERA Humanities in the European Research Area
- WoodWisdom Net Networking and integration of national programmes in the area of wood material science and engineering
- NORFACE New Opportunities for Research Funding Cooperation in Europe