Dear Members of the Dual Career ~ Spouse Network,

Happy 2018 to all of you!

We hope you had a wonderful Xmas and you had a good time with your friends and family! For sure, our batteries are reloaded again and we are looking forward to organising plenty of workshops and events for you in 2018.

We start with the first Spouse Lunch of the year with useful information about alternative job search methods.

All the dedicated IDCN volunteers are busy working on the next event in February and we suggest you become an IDCN member if you haven’t signed up yet. For the hard core jobseekers amongst you: do remember to contact us for personalised advise on your CV, cover letter or a possible job interview.

Please do also remember to keep on discovering Denmark. Here are some good tips for what you could consider doing in January:

- The Winter swimmers - the "Icebreakers" - host the annual Skagen Winter Swimming Festival (25-28 Jan) at the tip of the European continent. The Festival welcomes any true Viking and guarantees ice cold sea dips, hot drinks, a close encounter with the unique nature of Skagen.

- The Art Fair Herning (26-28 Jan) is one of the biggest of its kind with some of Denmark’s leading art galleries, who bring hundreds of compositions from international, national and new talented artists.

- Copenhagen Fashion Week (30 Jan – 3 Feb) is the biggest fashion event in Northern Europe and has developed into an internationally renowned event aimed not only at fashion industry insiders. A simultaneous Copenhagen Fashion Festival takes place, which turns Copenhagen into a mecca for fashion hungry citizens, visitors and fashion professionals. The festival includes cool street parties, extraordinary exhibitions, shopping events, trend shows, and mini concerts.

So plenty of exciting events to consider in this new year. We hope to see you soon!!

Mark de Vos & Mary K. Kobia

Let our New Year’s resolution be this: we will be there for one another as fellow members of humanity, in the finest sense of the word.

Goran Persson
Spotlight: Pursuing a career in industry!

How long did it take for you to find a job in DK? I spent my first few weeks in Copenhagen getting settled in and then it took me around four weeks of job searching to get invited for an interview.

What has been most challenging about your job search? For me the most challenging aspects of finding a job in Denmark was learning how to tailor my CV and cover letter to the Danish job market, as well as figuring out what level and types of jobs I should be applying for. Mary at ISM was able to help me to quickly overcome these obstacles by offering a one-to-one session where we discussed my work experience and went over my CV and cover letters in detail.

Mary’s positivity and supportive attitude during our session helped me to regain the confidence which I had lost after a difficult job search in the US, and gave me real hope that I had strong job prospects in Denmark.

What advice do you have to give to other spouses? My key piece of advice to other job seekers would be that it is better to get into the job market sooner, even if you are somewhat overqualified for a position. At my interview, I was asked if it would bother me doing an administrative role after having previously worked in managerial roles. I was able to assure the interview panel that this would be a fantastic job opportunity for two key reasons: 1) it will give me a great foundation knowledge of the processes and stakeholders involved in clinical trial facilitation, and 2) if I work hard and prove myself then I believe I should quickly be able to secure a promotion to an International Trial Manager position.

What is your best networking tip? My best networking tip is to take advantage of the contacts that you have. When I moved to Copenhagen I reached out to an old university friend and she made it clear that she was really keen to help me with my job search. She informed me as soon as she heard news of a position opening up at her company which meant I was one of the first to apply. This is the job I got!

What are you most excited about doing in your new job? I am really excited that I will be working within clinical trials because this is an interesting and valuable field in which I can see myself pursuing a long-term career. On top of this, Novo Nordisk has a stellar reputation and I believe it will be a great company to work for.

WELCOME TO NEW SPOUSES

- Céline Bétermin
  France
- Jessica Fiebig
  Germany
- Kun Wang
  China
- Leticia Missagia de Marco
  Italy
- Margaret Belmont
  USA
- Michael Sica-Lieber
  USA
- Muhammad Tayyib Naseem
  Pakistan
- Nasira Karim
  Bangladesh
- Ranjitha Ramakrishnan
  India
- Patrycja Mordalska
  Poland
- Peter Gotsch
  Germany
- Pier Lorenzo
  Italy
- Sanne Vermaelen
  Belgium
- Theodora Kostoula
  Greece
- Yu Han
  China

Please visit our website for more information on upcoming events for 2018 www.ism.ku.dk