ON THE LINKS BELOW WE HAVE GATHERED INFORMATION TO HELP AND INSPIRE YOU IN YOUR STAY IN DENMARK

- Distortion 31th May - 4th June
  Distortion turns the lovely city of Copenhagen into a party heaven. It's worth checking out this spectacular event!

- Medicon Valley Medtech Network Lunch Meeting in Lund
  A great place to network if you have the right background

- Denmark’s Top Attractions for Kids

Dear Members of the Dual Career ~ Spouse Network,

This newsletter is “we-got-a-job” special edition for the months of May and June. Therefore it is longer than normal and features personal success stories from some of “our” spouses who recently got jobs.

Please do read Ashley’s, Rahul’s and Ayesha’s Spotlight to become inspired and to get some good idea’s on how you can strategise your job search.

We are experiencing that a growing number of our spouses benefit tremendously from joining IDCN. They come closer to a job, create a bigger professional network or even get a job via IDCN. Therefore we suggest, (that you) besides being a Dual Career ~ Spouse Network member, also sign up (which is for free) with IDCN Copenhagen.

Do check out the IDCN Copenhagen website for upcoming events. If you didn’t sign up for the upcoming L’oreal event, don’t worry because an exciting IDCN event is coming up in September at EY!

During this month, we suggest you create or brush up your LinkedIn profile and contact the people in your network because the month of July is very quiet in Denmark and most people are enjoying their holidays. For any good input you just sign up for the next Spouse Lunch on Hands-on approach to LinkedIn on the 14th of June.

We are also on holiday during the month of July, so if you need any advise on your job search or feedback on your CV, make sure you get in contact with use during this month.

Good luck with your job search, do get inspired by this newsletter and all the upcoming events, but make sure you also reserve time to enjoy the fantastic Danish weather. Enjoy and see you soon or after the summer holidays.

Mark de Vos & Mary K. Kobia

The only way to do great work is to love what you do

Steve Jobs
Spotlight: Success stories - My story can be yours!

Relocating and living in another country can be both challenging and exciting. There are often many practical matters to figure out, including job search. One of the most important questions you might ask is: “How do I find a job in Denmark?”

During the last four years numerous of partners to international employees at UCPH have used ISMs Dual Career Services successfully. Over the years we’ve developed many new initiatives that make sure partners either find a job or the network they are looking for in Denmark. Meet Ashley Palmer, Rahul Oswal and Ayesha Hartlett, who share their personal story on how they found their jobs in Denmark.

How long have you been living in Denmark? I have been here for 7 months and it took me about 2 months to secure a job.

What has been most challenging about your job search? Narrowing my options was probably the most difficult aspect of the job search. I considered a range of possibilities including research positions in industry, postdocs and medical writer jobs. In the end, I realised that I would regret not pursuing writing - something I have yearning to do for quite some time.

What is your best advice to someone going for a job interview? I think it is important to have something “fun” to share. At one point, I spent 7 months working on small farms throughout New Zealand. Being able to share stories about herding sheep on 4-wheel ATVs serves as a nice contrast to a CV full of research experiences.

What is your best networking tip? Break out of your comfort zone! Joining the Danish Medical Writer Network and attending the spring meeting proved to be an enriching, fulfilling, and somewhat entertaining experience. As it turned out, I found my current job through this network. So the little steps today may lead to greater things tomorrow!

What advice would you give other job seekers? Attend ISM events to understand how the Danish labor market functions. These events were so helpful to me as a newcomer to Denmark.

And finally, be kind to yourself. Moving to a new country is difficult and finding out where and how you fit in is not always easy.

What are you most excited about doing in your new job? Everything! I am ridiculously excited about becoming a medical writer!

How long did it take for you to find a job in DK? It took about 1 year for me to find a job of my choice, matching my experience and qualifications.

What has been most challenging about your job search? The most challenging aspects of my job search were: to identify my skills that were in demand in Denmark and to learn Danish and scale it up to a level where I could make small conversations.

How has IDCN helped you? IDCN has helped me, both personally and professionally.

Professionally, I got a platform to volunteer and network with IDCN Corporate partners where I could ask questions and clarify my doubts by interacting with the professionals. This helped me in making an effective job-hunting strategy. As Vice President of IDCN I got the opportunity to address about 100 spouses and various corporate partners in Maersk and DTU events. This helped me in improving my public speaking skills.

I also got an opportunity to represent IDCN at “Best Practices Seminar” organized by the Confederation of Danish Industry (DI). This gave a tremendous boost to my self-confidence and strengthened my belief that sooner or later I will get a job.

Personally, IDCN gave me an opportunity to meet new people who were in my position and could understand my thought process and relate to it. We connected well and made some good friends for life. It helped me fill in the void that is created when you move to a new country and your friends and family.

What advice would you give other job seekers?

1) Be open and take initiatives to interact and connect with locals.

2) Be patient and positive. This might sound very clichéd but this is true. If you feel depressed, watch motivating videos, read inspiring stories and most importantly believe in yourself.

3) Create your network, involve yourself in volunteering opportunities. One never knows where his/her next job opportunity is coming from.

4) Most importantly take Danish lessons very seriously. This would help you to better integrate in Danish society.
Spotlight: My story can be yours!

How long did it take for you to find a job in DK? It took about 9 months to find a permanent job, but I started off in an internship for 2 months.

What has been most challenging about your job search? When I started my job search, I didn’t have a clear strategy, which made it difficult to focus my energies and measure any progress. After a couple of months figuring out what I want and how to go about it, the search process and experience improved significantly.

Why did you decide to volunteer for the IDCN? For professional reasons - I am passionate about diversity and the opportunity to build a professional network and get face time with key HR people. I’m also eager to help and motivate spouses like myself.

What has been the benefits through IDCN? This network has been a confidence builder like no other! I’ve taken this confidence into every engagement and coffee meeting. It has been great meeting like minded professionals to spar with, sharing our experiences and approaches to what works and what doesn’t.

What are you most excited about doing in your new job? Honestly, just working and knowing that I have found my purpose and that I am part of a society and contributing towards it. I look forward to meeting new people and forming friendships.

What advice would you give other job seekers?

1) Remember it’s a marathon, not a sprint.
2) Every day counts – get up, dress up and leave the house!
3) Know your strengths and gaps – use this to formulate a strategy and know what works for you.
4) Have a targeted approach - know what roles you are applying for and make list of companies you want to apply to.
5) Volunteer – keep looking for things to get involved in, don’t lose momentum.
6) Stand out – it’s all about your ENERGY. Homogenous culture doesn’t mean you can’t be yourself. They will remember someone with great positive energy!

Upcoming Events

International Staff Mobility (ISM) - International Career Spouse Lunch 10.00-13.00hrs
⇒ June 14th - Hands-on approach to LinkedIn - Registration

International Dual Career Spouse Network (IDCN)
⇒ June 9th - Sharing Beauty With All: Why Corporate Social Responsibility & and Ethics Matter

L’Oréal

For more information visit the IDCN website

Please visit our website for more information on upcoming events for 2017 www.ism.ku.dk