Dear Members of the Dual Career ~ Spouse Network,

Finally, the nice weather found its way to Denmark. Copenhagen in May is a fantastic place to experience with a sunny 20°C. May is also the month where there are organised plenty of great festivals. We would like to give you an overview of many possibilities to experience culture, music, sport and design.

On the 3rd of May, you can enjoy the Copenhagen Architecture Festival. There are many film screenings, talks, walks, debates, master classes, workshops, conferences and major international exhibitions. This year, the overall theme is Home.

On the 4th of May the Royal Arena will be transformed into an ice skating rink, when the the 2018 IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship takes place. This is one of the world’s biggest sports events where many famous NHL players will battle for the world title.

On the 10th of May and lasting the whole summer, we suggest you take a trip to Hundested. The Sand Sculpture Festival presents ten giant sand sculptures, created by the best international sand artists. It is at a unique location right on the harbour. The site offers a huge children's area, where the whole family can enjoy themselves with various activities.

On the 11th & 12th of May, more than 80 of the world’s finest and most innovative brewers are present at Mikkeller Beer Celebration. The represented breweries are very diverse, and you can get your favourite fluid served by everything from a heavy metal trio from Chicago to an upcoming Chinese brewery.

On 13 May, 12,000 runners will participate in one of the world’s fastest growing marathon events. Copenhagen Marathon has been a tradition since 1980 and this year both start and finishing line will be at Islands Brygge.

On the 26th & 27th of May, the new Bloom Festival is celebrating nature and science in Copenhagen. Denmark has a proud history within science, counting several bright heads such as Tycho Brahe, Ole Rømer, H.C. Ørsted and Niels Bohr. Honouring this tradition, Bloom Festival wants to revive the general interest in natural sciences by bringing things out from the labs for everyone to experience. The festival takes place at the green fields of Søndermarken in Frederiksberg, and is free for everyone that wants to broaden their horizon.

So a lot to experience this month, and of course don’t forget to visit us in International House 😊.

Mark de Vos & Mary K. Kobia

May, more than any other month of the year, wants us to feel most alive

Fennel Hudson
Spotlight: Pursuing a career in teaching!

How long did it take for you to find a job in DK? It took me about 2 years to find my current job. In this period I was also a freelance translator and I stayed at home with my daughter who was around 1 year old.

What has been most challenging about your job search? I think the most challenging and depressing was getting no job interviews and the feeling that I was not even given a chance or good enough to be given one.

What surprised you the most about the Danish job interview? I knew quite a lot about Danes, so I actually wasn’t surprised by anything. The interviews were conducted in a rather laid-back fashion, but that was something I expected since Danish culture is not so formal compared to the Polish work places.

How did you keep your motivation when things didn’t turn out the way you expected? My wife gave me a lot of support at that time. I kept on trying to get a job and it was very difficult, as things didn’t go well at all. I got also a lot of support from Mary Kobia at ISM, who helped me with writing the cover letter and CV and gave me some tips on how I can search for a job in Denmark.

I also think the meetings organised through the Dual Career Services at the University of Copenhagen are very relevant and meaningful. These services help people a lot.

What are you most excited about doing in your new job? In my new job I love working with people from all over the world and experience different cultures. I like hearing their stories since I am immigrant myself. I think teaching them Danish is meaningful and I hope I can help them a little bit.

What is your best advice to someone new who is job seeking? You have to be patient, though it’s very stressful not having a job and being in a new country at the same time. My other advice would be networking, which is hard in a very beginning, but it’s very important to establish a good network.

My best job search advice is “be yourself”, though it’s difficult, especially when you really want to get a job or you have been out of the labour market for a long time.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 6 May
  Meeting time: 11:30 hrs.
  Tour of the Botanical Garden. ISM invites you to join our Tour of the Botanical Garden, a beautiful oasis within Copenhagen. The garden is used for research and educational purposes, as well as a place of recreation. The tour will take place both inside and outside the greenhouse and will focus on exotic flora and the sprouting plants of spring! - [Registration](#)

- 1 June
  10:00 - 13:00 hrs.
  What to expect the first 100 days in your job? Dos and don’ts! Starting a new job can be overwhelming! Between meeting new colleagues, mastering new skills, understanding Danish working culture, and tackling new responsibilities, your first three months might leave you feeling challenged and exhausted. Get tips on inspiration on how you can make the most of the first 100 days in a new job! - [Registration](#)