Dear Members of the Dual Career ~ Spouse Network,

October is the month where autumn is kicking in, but fortunately we still enjoy plenty of sunny after-summer-days at the moment.

Autumn is actually a good time to visit the beautiful Danish forests and gardens. Here some inspiration where to go in and around Copenhagen.

October is also the month of several, maybe not specific Danish, parties and happenings.

In more locations in Copenhagen people will enjoy the Oktoberfest. Halloween is also celebrated, especially for children (we organise a kids Halloween party at ISM). In our 2015 October newsletter you can read more about the fact that this party dates back a long time in Denmark.

If you are in the mood experiencing a very Danish tradition, we suggest you join us on our visit to a Danish Folk High School and the Louisiana Museum.

The Danish folk high schools offer non-formal adult education. Most students are between 18 and 24 years old and the length of a typical stay is 4 months. You sleep, eat, study and spend your spare time at the school. There are no academic requirements for admittance and there are no exams - but you will get a diploma as a proof of your attendance.

The concept of "Non-formal adult education" is associated with N.F.S. Grundtvig, a Danish philosopher, poet, educational thinker and clergyman, (born in 1783 - died in 1872), and his thoughts concerning free educational opportunities. The concept arose in the 19th century and is one of the cornerstone of the Danish educational system.

Hopefully you got plenty of good idea's to keep you busy in October. Remember to also book us for a 1:1 if you need help with your job search.

Mark de Vos & Mary K. Kobia

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“For man is not an ape, destined first to ape the other animals and then himself until the world’s end”

N.F.S Grundtvig
Spotlight: Finding my dream job in Academia

We met up with David Pattison from Australia with a DPhil in Chemistry. He shares his personal story of finding a job in Denmark within Academia at UCPH.

How long did it take to find a job in DK? I started looking for positions as soon as I arrived in Denmark, and had already been making some informal contacts and enquiries here before I arrived. I would say I was actively searching for work for about 2-3 months as I was also helping the family settle in Copenhagen at the same time.

What is your best advice to someone going for a job interview? When I was called up for interview, I really felt that I was as prepared as I ever could be.

Where did you find support? The Spouse Network Lunches and the IDCN sessions provided me with a great source of information about finding work in Denmark and also I started to develop a support network through these groups.

However, I did find that while these were useful sessions, it was often quite demoralizing and daunting hearing about all these things I would need to do to find a job, many of which took me completely out of the area where I felt comfortable. One of my main sources of support was through the various parent groups ("Walk and Talk", "Cycling Tour", "Dads Group") at my children’s new school (Copenhagen International School), so I met several Mums and Dads that could provide different perspectives and advice on expat life in Copenhagen.

What is the best thing that I did to have a "mock interview" preparation session with Mary from ISM’s Dual Career Services.

What is the best advice to other spouses? My advice would be to make sure that you do not isolate yourself while looking for work and make sure that you have some way of relaxing and enjoying yourself. It is too easy to become fixated on the job seeking process and not look at the wider picture of learning to live in Denmark. I was finding that I sometimes felt guilty when I wasn’t putting my efforts in to trying to get a job, but without the occasional sightseeing, bike rides, walks and Danish pastries I would have gone crazy.

UPCOMING EVENTS

IDCN EVENTS & INTERNATIONAL SPOUSE CAREER LUNCHES

⇒ October 17th
10:00 - 13:00 hrs.

“Meet-N-Greet” Maersk!
How does a HR professional work and how to approach one in Denmark? What are the dos and don’ts?

⇒ November 14th
13:00 - 15:30 hrs.

How to be an effective public speaker?
Public speaking is a very important muscle that needs to be trained! It serves not only in professional environments but in all walks of life. Feel free to attend this informal and cozy event and ask any questions you may have in connection with your performance. – Registration

⇒ November 24th
09:00 - 13:30 hrs.

What career journeys are there at a university within academia and administration?
What are the options and possibilities? IDCN Partner Event hosted by the University of Copenhagen (UCPH).- Registration

⇒ December 12th
10:00 - 13:00 hrs.

Meeting and getting advice from an HR professional from Dong Energy.
How does a HR professional work and how to approach one? - Registration

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

WELCOME TO NEW SPOUSES

- Alex Frias
  UK
- Brian DeVree
  US
- Jie Xu
  China
- Lasse IIm
  Germany
- Laura Cesa
  US
- Lu Zhang
  China
- Marwa Ahmed
  Egypt
- Mohammadreza Sadri
  Iran
- Rachel Palmquist
  US
- Rafaela Loudianou
  Italy
- Regina Holler
  Germany
- Sujay Thangaraj
  India
- Suhua Guan
  China
- Tobias Schneider
  Germany
- Yanwen Tang
  China
- Yu Han
  China