

ON THE LINKS BELOW WE HAVE GATHERED INFORMATION TO GET OUTSIDE AND ENJOY NATURE

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► [Hiking trips Zealand](#)

► [The Danish Nature Agency](#)

# Dual Career Newsletter



INTERNATIONAL STAFF MOBILITY

## Dear Members of the Dual Career ~ Spouse Network,

This is the time of the year where it is fantastic to take a stroll in the Danish forests. The trees have all colours of the rainbow and the sunbeams shining through the leaves create a mysterious atmosphere.

It also becomes colder, more rainy and people spend more time indoors. Simultaneously you hear more Danish people saying: "*Hvor er det hyggeligt*". But what do they actually mean with this?

Many internationals hear about "*hygge*" and "*hyggeligt*" in their first months in Denmark. Danes find it important to stress that no other country in the world knows this word. They say that the best translation in English is "cosy", "but it doesn't exactly mean the same". The Dutch word "*gezelligheid*", which exactly means the same, is obviously not known in Denmark yet.

Asking Danes what "*hyggeligt*" then means, results in long explanations about candlelight, nice music, good food, meeting with friends with drinks and snacks, sitting warm inside when it is cold and rainy outside, and much more cosy stuff.

Good to know, that if Danish people visit you and they say "*hvor er det hyggeligt*", that this is a great compliment either about your house or they mean that they really like your company.

If you already know the word or not, it is just a very good idea to copy and use this Danish word/habit and focus on having a "*hyggeligt*" time and sometimes telling each other how "*hyggeligt*" you have it together.

We are looking forward to "hygge" at our next event!

Mark de Vos & Mary K. Kobia



**NEW JOB  
CONGRATULATIONS!**

**Jutta Pribil**

From Germany, Master in Chemical Engineering (MBA)  
New Job: Project Manager at [Coloplast](#)

**Antía Martínez Pérez**

From Spain, Computer Science / Computer Engineering  
New Job: Client-facing Product Configuration Consultant at [Configit A/S](#)



## Spotlight: The Job Interview - A Spouse's Experiences

*What to expect and how to impress?*

*What surprised you the most about the Danish job interview?*

That most companies actually take several interviews and online tests to assess the right candidate. I have been working for German but global orientated

companies, and so far I mostly had only one interview and no tests.

*In your opinion, what is "the best" way to answer a difficult question?*

For me it's a difficult question when I have the feeling that they want to test me if I have a strong tendency in one or another direction. As long as I don't have a strong opinion on that issue I don't want to be categorised in a specific field. In these cases I replied "It depends.." and then I tried to give them specific examples in both cases.

*What is your advice to people going for a job interview?*

Being a foreigner there will always be some doubt on how long you might stay in Denmark. You must kill their doubt! I told them, that my husband has got a long-term position here, that we are both learning Danish and that

I would still have a job opportunity back home.

So I am not under terrible pressure to find a position here but our long-term perspective lies here in Denmark. It's not the 100% truth, but I had the feeling it helped to create trust in my willingness to stay with them for some years.

*What are you most excited about in your new job?*

I'm most excited about getting to know my new colleagues. And I am curious if English is truly the language I will be using and how much I will be involved in Danish communication!

*"ISM's career services helped me to get more 'aggressive' and appear much more convincing and professional in my application documents."*

I met with [Jutta Pribil](#) - KU spouse from Germany with a Master in Chemical Engineering (MBA), to talk about her job search in Denmark. After have been living in Copenhagen since September 2014 and job seeking since April 2015 Jutta's hard work finally led to getting a position as Project Manager at [Coloplast](#). In this article she shares her experiences going to job interviews - what to expect and how to impress?

*What has been most challenging about your job search?*

To actually get to the point and be invited for an interview. It was a bit of a learning curve, to contact the managers directly when seeking unsolicited. What a job add it's also important to apply pretty immediately, meaning 1 to 2 days after the vacancy has been announced. At first I didn't want to show myself too "aggressive".

## WELCOME TO NEW SPOUSES



- Hanneke Huberts  
Holland
- Marina Shatvoryan  
Armenia
- Nataliya Kandelaki  
Germany/Russia
- Piotr Mrówka  
Poland
- Stefanie Dreier  
Germany
- Stela Johnson  
USA
- Ying Zhou  
China

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### INTERNATIONAL STAFF MOBILITY (ISM) - INTERNATIONAL CAREER SPOUSE LUNCH 10.00-13.00HRS

- ⇒ **November 11th** - Job Interview & Elevator Pitch. How to improve your personal performance at a job interview? - [Please register here](#)
- ⇒ **December 9th** - Tests at job interviews; Why do employers give tests? What types of tests can you be given? And how can you best prepare for this? - [Please register here](#)

Please visit our website for more information on all events [www.ism.ku.dk](http://www.ism.ku.dk)



### SPOUSE WITH KIDS MEETUP

The meetup is for parents with children (babies, toddlers, pre-schoolers); pregnant spouses and everybody in our network who would like to join a parents' spouse group. This initiative is run by volunteers of KU-spouses headed by Ines Mosler, who is a Swiss Child Psychotherapist. Meetings will be held every 2nd week on weekdays from 13-15hrs. at International House, 6th floor. [Please register here.](#)