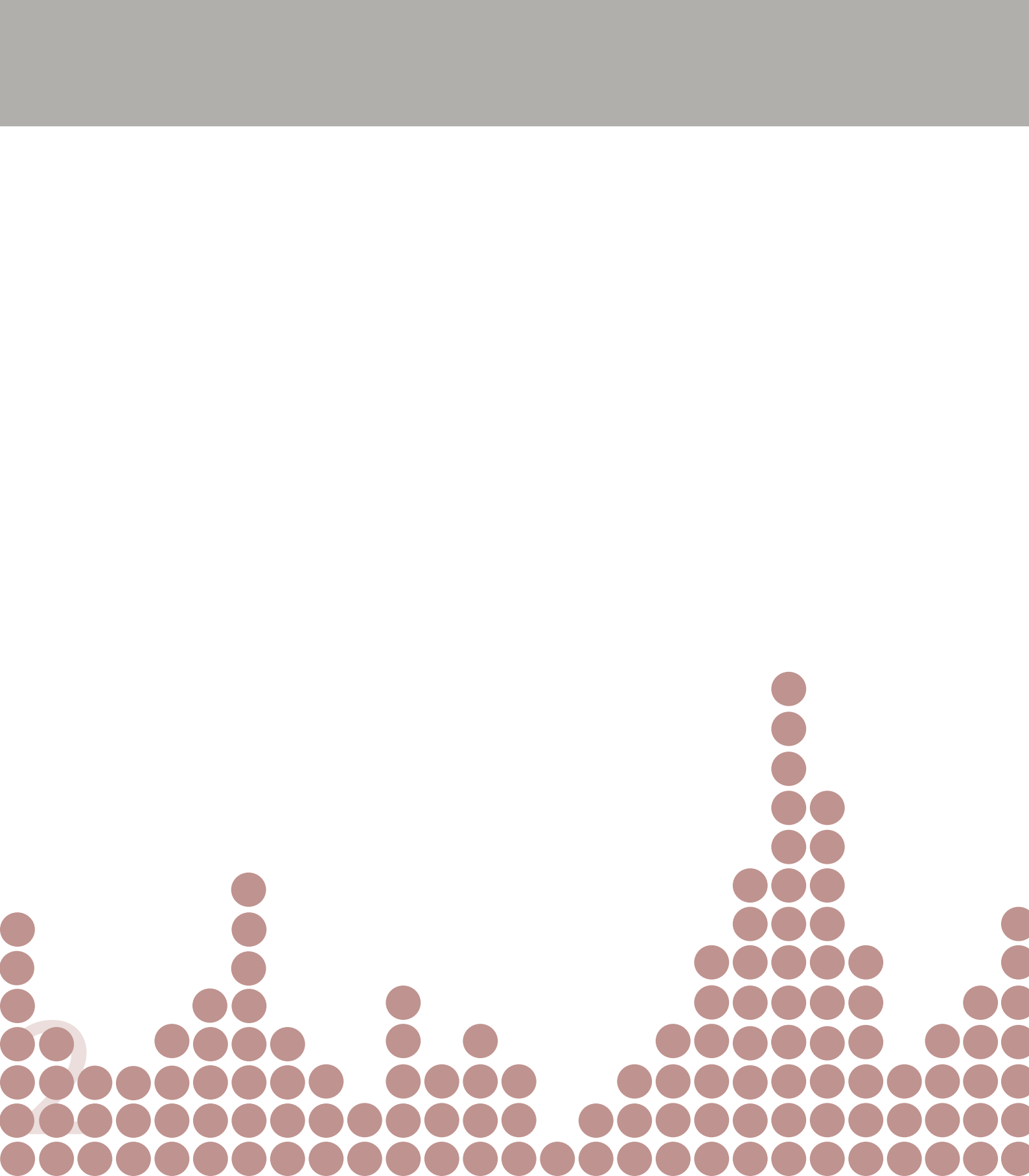


# ANNUAL REPORT 2014

The Doctoral School of Social Sciences



AALBORG UNIVERSITET



# PREFACE

It is our great pleasure to present the Annual Report 2014 for The Doctoral School of Social Sciences at Aalborg University (AAU). The report describes status and lists the most important activities at the Doctoral School and the seven affiliated doctoral programmes.

For the past two years, the School has had a strategic focus on completion rather than growth in the PhD programme, and the result is a considerable increase in completed PhDs. Despite a drop in enrolled PhD students, we are still the social science faculty in Denmark with the second highest number of PhD students in relation to other academic staff.

The high share of PhD students at the faculty obliges the Doctoral School as well as senior researchers to ensure quality and effectiveness. As an important element of this the School has organised mandatory PhD supervisor courses with 69 participants. Another element is a study of the PhDs' career profiles, which we are launching in cooperation with the Doctoral School of Humanities.

In 2014, the Doctoral School was evaluated by an international panel. To our satisfaction, the panel characterises the school as well organised and its quality assurance system as solid. We are also aware of some of the areas that require continued focus, e.g. international PhD students and completion time.

The annual report consists of two parts. The first part concerns the Doctoral School's general development and activities. It describes the major focus areas, key figures, doctoral programmes, internationalisation and partners. The second part consists of reports from the seven doctoral programmes, including an overview of enrolled PhD students and completed dissertations. Finally, the report offers an organisational overview, a presentation of the secretariat, the study board and Delphi, the PhD students' organisation.

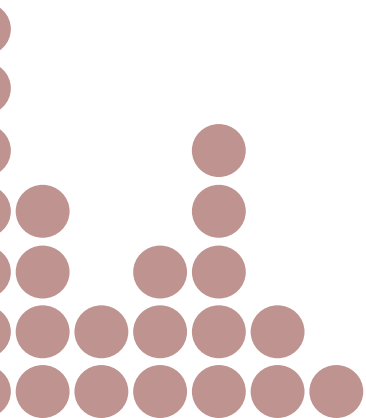
Annual Report 2014 is prepared by the director and the secretariat of the Doctoral School with contributions from the heads of the doctoral programmes.



Hanne Kathrine Krogstrup  
Dean

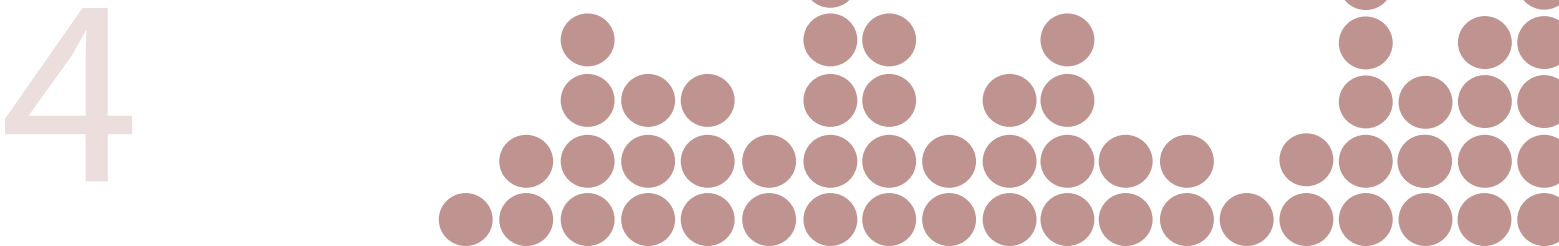


Ann-Dorte Christensen  
Director of the Doctoral School



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# REPORT FROM THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL

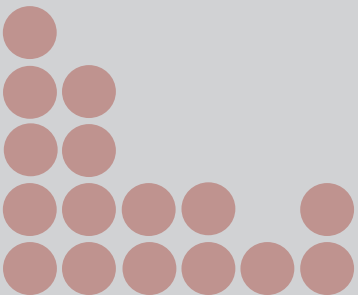
The overall objective of the Doctoral School of Social Sciences is to ensure doctoral programmes of high quality, effectiveness and high international standard in the Faculty of Social Sciences' core activities in terms of research and teaching.

The Doctoral School offers seven doctoral programmes:

- Sociology and Social Work
- Political Science
- Innovation Economics Programme
- Business Economics Programme
- SPIRIT
- Law and Business Law
- Education, Learning and Philosophy

The Doctoral School of Social Sciences was established in 2008 as part of the decision to place responsibility for doctoral studies at the individual institutes (faculties) and no longer in cross-institutional networks. The School is organised with a Director of the Doctoral School, a secretariat and a PhD Study Board, which handles the School's academic policy in close cooperation with the faculty's research and internationalisation strategies. On April 1 2012, Professor Ann-Dorte Christensen took over as Director of the School after Professor Jørgen Gulddahl Rasmussen.

The Doctoral School creates the framework for an active national and international doctoral education, where the PhD student in dialogue with supervisor and colleagues completes an independent, scientific project that culminates in a PhD dissertation. It is important for the School to create the best possible study environment to motivate and encourage PhD students to develop their academic competences in the most innovative and creative way. This requires that the School offers a broad range of doctoral programmes, supports the PhD students' opportunities to visit universities abroad and secure their integration in research groups and other relevant networks. Moreover, it is crucial to generate transparency in relation to internal and external career opportunities for PhD graduates.



# STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN 2012-15

In August 2012 a four-year strategic action plan for The Doctoral School of Social Sciences was adopted. The plan was prepared with reference to the faculty's overall strategies and the ongoing quality assurance of the Doctoral School. In 2013, an item concerning career paths and research strategy for PhD graduates was added, and in 2014 a new item about talent management. Below, the priority areas are evaluated in terms of what has been achieved and initiated in 2014.

- **Efficiency improvements and completion of present and future PhD projects**

After considerable growth in 2011 and 2012, the focus shifted in 2013 and 2014 to completion of enrolled PhD students. This objective has been fulfilled with a marked increase of awarded PhD degrees – from 12 in 2012 to 23 in 2013 to 19 in 2014. The objective also included completion of extraordinarily delayed PhD students. An important element in the completion and quality project, the Doctoral School has organised mandatory PhD supervisor courses over the past two years. 69 supervisors have completed the courses.

- **Strengthening the Doctoral School's international profile, including development of joint and double degrees**

The Doctoral School is aiming for increased internationalisation via a strengthened international perspective in the PhD dissertations and via establishment of partnerships. The Doctoral School is bilingual and all relevant documents are available in Danish and English. We are working on increased internationalisation via partnerships with universities abroad, e.g. via

agreements about joint and double degrees. Internationalisation is strengthened on an ongoing basis by inviting foreign keynotes to PhD courses and via participation in the European doctoral cooperation under the auspices of European University Association – Council for Doctoral Education (EUA-CDE). In 2015, the Doctoral School will increase its focus on stays abroad for Danish PhD students and on integration of international PhD students.

See also section 4.

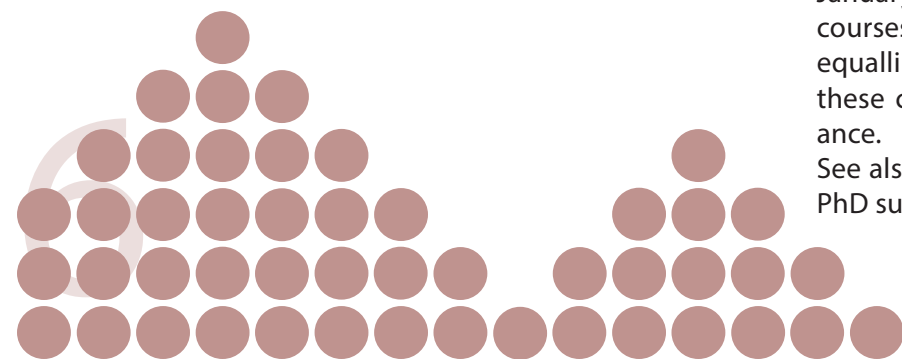
- **Embedment of previous cross-institutional doctoral programmes and development of new inter-disciplinary PhD cooperation agreements in Denmark**

The embedment of cross-institutional doctoral programmes has been completed. The collaboration partially continues in networks and cross-institutional PhD courses (see reports under the individual programmes).

- **Development of PhD courses and PhD supervisor courses**

The initiative to offer high quality doctoral programmes continued in 2014. A total of 23 courses were held, which falls within the target of 20-25 courses annually. General as well as thematic courses are offered, the vast majority in English. The courses are listed in the national database for PhD courses in Denmark and in the networks in the participating national and international research environments. In addition to PhD courses, the Doctoral School has held two courses for PhD supervisors. In the course of 2013, 2014 and January 2015, the Doctoral School has held four such courses, which are mandatory for main supervisors. 69, equalling 80%, of the supervisors have participated in these courses, which are a key item in quality assurance.

See also section 5 for an overview of PhD courses and PhD supervisor courses.



# STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN 2012-15

- **Ensuring optimal everyday conditions for the PhD students**

The focus on PhD supervision and on respecting the PhD students' teaching and dissemination obligation continues. Finally, it is important that the PhD students participate actively in research groups. The focus on career paths for PhD graduates in the coming year will strengthen attention on the PhD students' future perspectives.

- **Career paths and talent programme for PhD graduates**

Recent years have seen an increased focus on career paths and opportunities for PhD graduates. In 2015, the Doctoral Schools of Social Sciences and Humanities will conduct a joint analysis of the employment pattern among graduates over the past 10 years. In continuation of the study, a career conference for PhD graduates will be organised.

The PhD students may enter the Faculty's talent programme, which includes initiatives targeted at special talents, e.g., in the form of career planning and subsidies for stays abroad and other activities that will benefit the PhD student's future research career.

- **Support to the PhD students' organisations and network**

The Doctoral School supports Delphi, an organisation of all PhD students in social sciences and humanities. In addition, the School encourages establishment of PhD networks in the individual programmes and it has, for example, supported process-oriented and decentralised workshops in these networks (see more under the individual programme reports).

- **Continued focus on administrative efficiency improvements**

The IT system PhD Manager is implemented for PhD plans. The remainder of the system is expected to be implemented within the first half of 2015. Procedures for

submitting, publishing and plagiarism control via VBN is implemented for all four doctoral schools. The Doctoral School participates in AAU's cross-faculty experience collaboration between administrative staff within the PhD area, which works with coordination and streamlining across faculties. The Doctoral School's homepage is an important tool in terms of administration and communication. More than 26,000 hits in 2014 prove that the homepage is popular (15,200 hits on the Danish homepage, 10,800 on the English page).

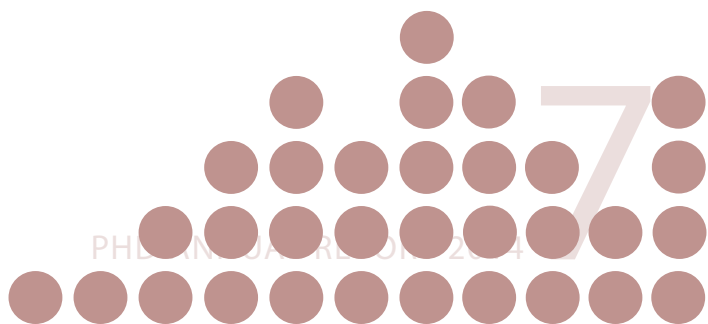
- **Annual reports and ongoing progress reports for the development of the Doctoral School**

In addition to annual reports, the School compiles a six month status on its development compared to other doctoral schools at AAU and to other Danish social science doctoral schools.

- **International evaluation**

The international evaluation of the Doctoral School has been completed. Please see next chapter.

The full strategy plan including sub-targets and monitoring is available at <http://www.fak.samf.aau.dk/phd>



# INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION

**“The PhD programmes are generally of high quality, well organised and satisfaction with the Doctoral School of Social Sciences is high among PhD students and staff.”**

This was one of the introductory remarks in the evaluation report from the international expert panel, which after thorough assessment of various evaluation criteria documented a well-organised doctoral school with a solid quality assurance system.

An amendment to the University Act in June 2007 requires deans and directors of the doctoral schools to initiate international evaluations of the doctoral schools. The international evaluation in 2014 was the first of its kind since the Doctoral School of Social Sciences was established in 2008.

## **The main points of the evaluation report**

The main conclusion of the evaluation report is that the Doctoral School of Social Sciences at AAU is well organised and has a solid and effective quality assurance system.

The report also highlights as positive that most PhD students are associated with a research group; that the School is working intensively to promote quality in PhD supervision; that the course portfolio is internationally oriented; the flexible approach to PhD stu-

dents’ teaching and dissemination obligations; and the internal evaluation model (the 4-step model). The report also highlights the clear guidelines for the structure of the PhD dissertation, but recommends increased focus on writing articles and a minor adjustment of the guidelines.

The evaluation recommends specific attention to the following focus areas:

- timely completion of enrolled PhD students
- more thorough introduction for new PhD students
- continued focus on quality in PhD supervision
- better integration of international PhD students

The evaluation has been discussed in the PhD study board, the Faculty Management and in the Academic Council, in Delphi (the PhD students’ organisation) and with the other three doctoral schools at AAU, which have been subjected to similar evaluations. The result of the discussions in the different forums is a concrete plan for long- and short-term implementation.

## ELEMENTS IN THE EVALUATION

- a self-evaluation report prepared by the director of the Doctoral School in cooperation with the PhD study board and the individual PhD programmes
- a site visit by an independent panel of internationally recognised experts
- an evaluation report by the international panel based on the self-evaluation and the site visit assesses the quality in the PhD programme and makes recommendations for continued development
- report about the evaluation to the Danish Agency for Higher Education



# INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION

## THE INTERNATIONAL PANEL

### PROFESSOR PETER GUNDELACH

Department of Sociology, Copenhagen University (chairman)  
Main research areas: Sociology, Values and Organizations.

### PROFESSOR JANE L. PARPART

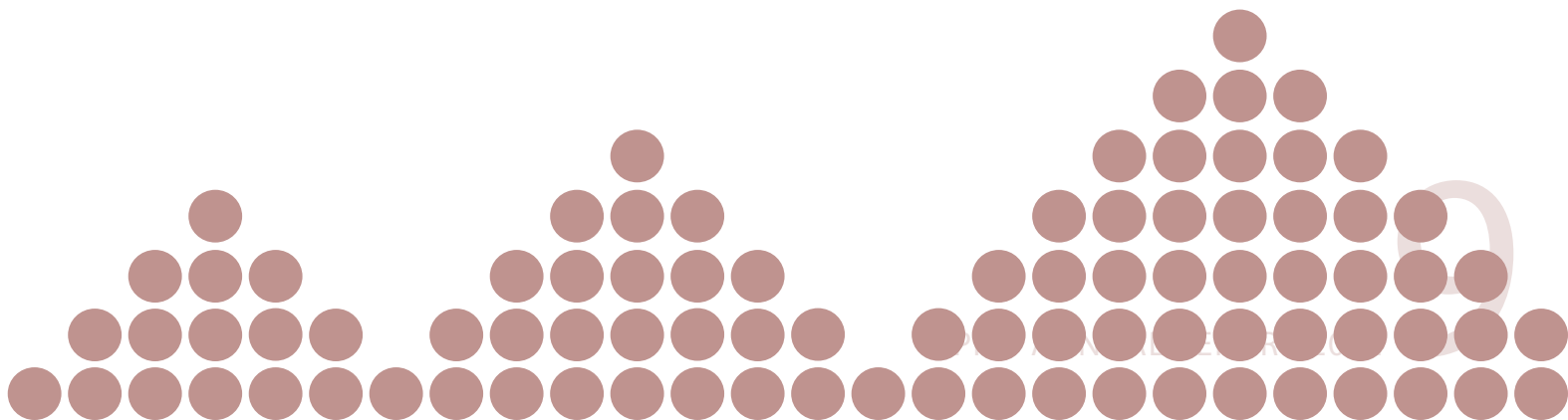
Department of Conflict Resolution, Human Security, and Global Governance, University of Massachusetts,  
Boston  
Main research areas: History, International Development Studies, Gender and Colonial Studies.

### PROFESSOR EMERITUS PER LAUVÅS

University of Oslo/Østfold University College  
Main research areas: Education, University Teaching and Learning; PhD supervision.

The self-evaluation and the panel's evaluation report are available here:

[www.fak.samf.aau.dk/phd/International+Evaluering+2014](http://www.fak.samf.aau.dk/phd/International+Evaluering+2014)



# STATUS AND TRENDS

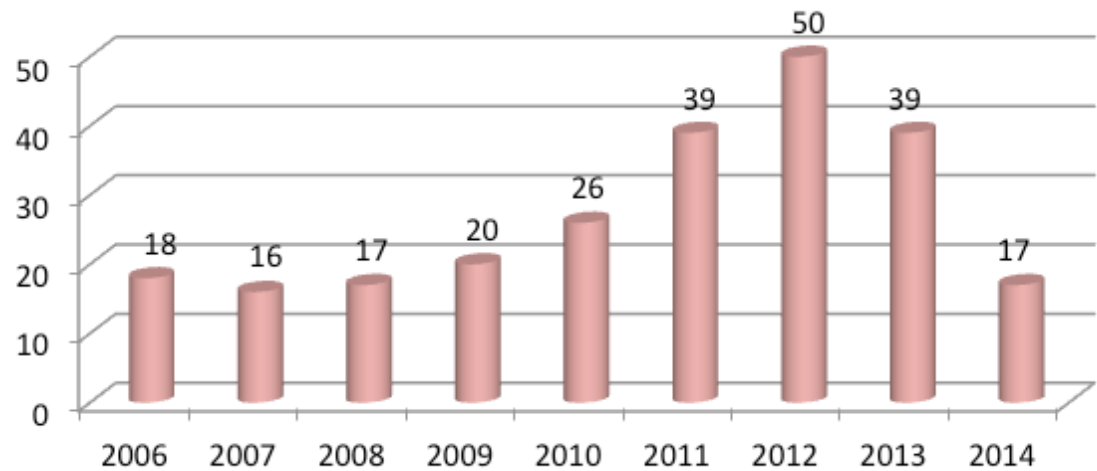
This section accounts for selected key figures and benchmarks for the Doctoral School.

## ENROLMENT FREQUENCY AND PHD POPULATION

The number of newly enrolled PhD students grew by more than 200% from 2007 to 2012. Since then it has declined, partly due to fewer economic resources for PhD enrolment, partly due to a strategic prioritisation of completion over growth in the doctoral programme. The declining enrolment frequency resulted in a reduction of the PhD population in 2014 of 144. If we relate this number to the number of academic staff, the Faculty of Social Sciences AAU still has the second highest ratio of PhD students among all social science faculties in Denmark.

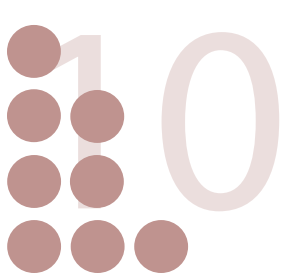
The volume of PhD students at the Doctoral School obviously means several positive opportunities in terms of recruiting highly qualified researchers and teachers. However, it also means challenges, not least an obligation to continue to ensure broad career tracks via doctoral programmes (see section 2).

## TREND IN ANNUAL ENROLMENT OF PHD STUDENTS



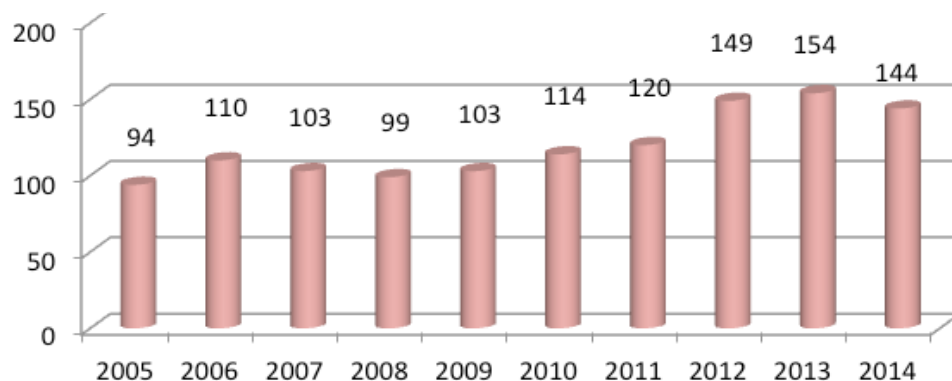
Source: AAU's PhD Manager.

Note: PhD students enrolled in accordance with section 15, 2 and 3 are deducted as they are awarded degrees without prior studies.



# STATUS AND TRENDS

## TREND IN THE PHD POPULATION AT THE FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, AAU



Source: AAU's PhD Manager.

Note: The population is based on the number of enrolled PhD students as of December 31 each year.

Note: The population includes PhD students on sabbatical and PhD students who have submitted but are awaiting assessment and/or award of degree

## PHD POPULATION AT SOCIAL SCIENCES AAU, 2014

As of December 31 2014	Male	Female	Total	Share M/F (%)
Sociology and Social Work	8	32	40	20/80
Political Science	11	15	26	42/58
Business and Innovation Economics	20	19	39	51/49
SPIRIT	5	9	14	36/64
Law and Business Law	0	8	8	0/100
Education, Learning and Philosophy	7	10	17	41/59
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>35/65</b>

Source: PhD Manager.

## TREND IN PHD ENROLMENTS AT AAU

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Social Sci.	16	17	21	26	37	50	39	17
Humanities	10	20	21	32	39	37	51	31
Health	0	0	0	22	32	51	55	46
TechSc	119	149	196	187	162	175	141	124

Source: Danish Universities and AAU's PhD Manager.

# STATUS AND TRENDS

## PHD ENROLMENTS AT SOCIAL SCIENCES AAU, 2014

Doctoral programme	Enrolments
Sociology and Social Work	6
Political Science	2
Business and Innovation Economics	3
SPIRIT	5
Law and Business Law	0
Education, Learning and Philosophy	1

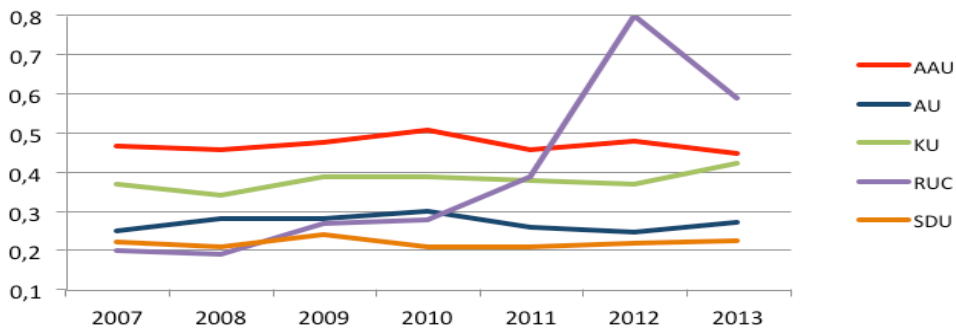
Source: AAU's PhD Manager.

## TREND IN THE PHD POPULATION AT AAU

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Social Sci..	103	99	103	114	120	149	154	144
Humanities	65	79	83	105	137	143	168	167
Health	0	0	0	51	84	126	164	177
TechSci	461	459	520	472	619	637	631	559

Source: Danish Universities and AAU's PhD Manager.

## TREND IN NUMBER OF PHD STUDENTS PER ACADEMIC STAFF MEMBER AT SOCIAL SCIENCE FACULTIES



Source: Danish Universities.

Note: Academic staff is calculated as full-year equivalent for part-time and full-time academic staff.

Note: Number of PhD students is number of enrolled PhD students as of December 31 for each year.

Note: From 2011 to 2012, the social science PhD population at RUC rose from 116 to 218.

# STATUS AND TRENDS

## TREND IN DOCTORAL DEGREES AWARDED

The number of degrees awarded dropped in 2012, partly because some PhD students failed to complete their dissertations. From 2013 initiatives were launched in terms of quality, completion and effectiveness in the doctoral programmes, including PhD supervision and streamlining of assessments. After an improved completion frequency in 2013 and 2014, the effect of the initiatives is expected to affect the trend in degrees awarded from 2015.

### TREND IN DOCTORAL DEGREES AWARDED AT AAU

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Social Sci.	16	12	8	15	18	12	23	19
Humanities	13	9	8	13	9	18	15	20
Health	0	0	0	17	17	17	21	20
TechSci	68	105	104	67	92	122	121	132

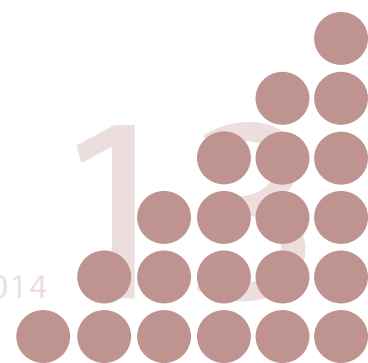
Source: Danish Universities and AAU's PhD Manager.

Note: Degrees awarded are registered in connection with approval by the Academic Council.

### DEGREES AWARDED AT SOCIAL SCIENCES AAU, 2014

Doctoral Programmes	Degrees awarded
Sociology and Social Work	4
Political Science	4
Business and Innovation Economics	5
SPIRIT	5
Law and Business Law	0
Education, Learning and Philosophy	1

Source: AAUs PhD Manager.





# STATUS AND TRENDS

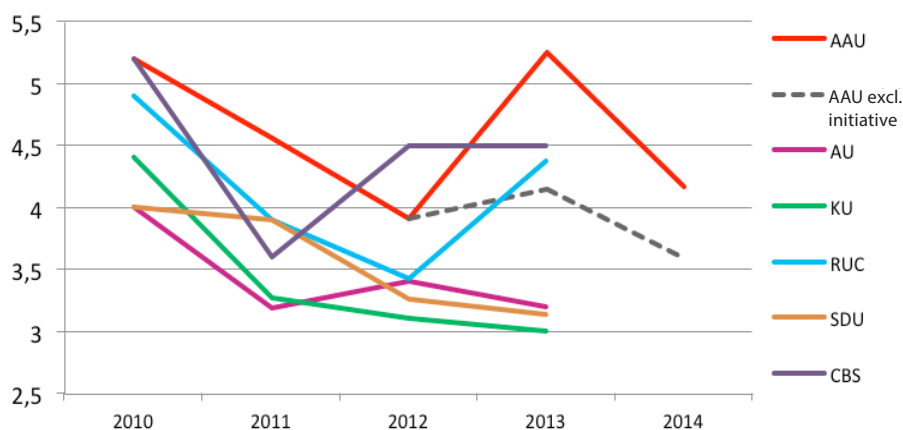
## AVERAGE DURATION OF STUDY

Until 2012, the average duration of study for social science PhD students at AAU dropped from 5.6 years to 3.9 years, which corresponds to the national average. The increase in 2013 is primarily a result of the increased focus on completing delayed PhD students. For example, several students who have been enrolled for up to 13.5 years have now been awarded a doctoral degree. The dotted line illustrates the average duration of study, excluding the delayed students who were comprised by this initiative.

Another major cause of the comparatively long duration of study at Social Sciences is that other Danish universities automatically discontinue delayed PhD students if they do not actively apply for limited extension. Many delayed students at other Universities thus do not figure in the overall statistics.

In spring 2015, a similar practice will be introduced at the Doctoral Schools at AAU, and combined with the focus on effective completion, it shall reduced the average duration of study for Social Science PhD students at AAU to 3.3 years.

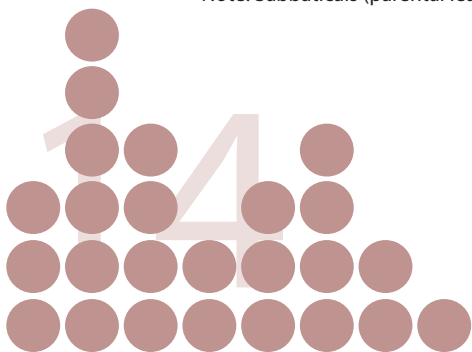
## TREND IN AVERAGE DURATION OF STUDY AT SOCIAL SCIENCE FACULTIES



Source: Danish Agency for Universities and Internationalisation and Danish Universities.

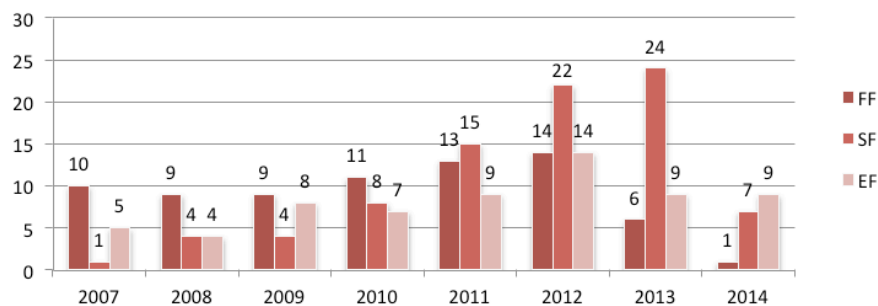
Note: Duration of study is the period from enrolment until the Academic Council awards the degree.

Note: Sabbaticals (parental leave and sickness) are subtracted in the statistics.



# STATUS AND TRENDS

TREND IN FORMS OF FINANCING FOR NEWLY ENROLLED PHD STUDENTS



Source: AAU's PhD Manager.  
Note: FF = fully financed; SF = co-financed; EF = externally financed (according to enrolments per year).  
Note: Fully financed projects are at least 90% internally funded; externally financed projects are at least 90% externally funded. Other projects are here defined as co-funded projects.  
Note: PhD students enrolled according to section 15, 2 are deducted as they are awarded degrees without prior studies.

## FORMS OF FINANCING

In 2012, the number of externally financed PhD projects for the first time reached the level of fully financed PhD projects. 2013 was dominated by co-financed projects, which rose from 1 in 2007 to 24 in 2013. A new economic situation explains the reduced PhD intake in 2014. It is also remarkable that fully externally funded stipends have become the dominant financing model. The general increase in external funding is partly a result of a high degree of collaboration with the surroundings, but it also gives cause for evaluating the special terms of employment and research that are associated with this type of funding.

# INTERNATIONALISATION

In accordance with the strategic action plan and with reference to the Faculty's internationalisation strategy, the Doctoral School continues to strengthen its international profile. In 2014, Social Sciences AAU awarded its first joint degree to a PhD student who was enrolled simultaneously at the Department of Business and Management, AAU and Quilmes National University in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

In 2014, we initiated negotiations with foreign universities in the Nordic countries, Africa and China concerning possible collaboration on doctoral programmes, including joint PhD projects. We are expecting to add new framework agreements with foreign universities to the current list in 2015.

Current framework agreements about joint and double degrees:

- **The Faculty of Health Science, University of Málaga, Spain**

So far, one individual agreement about a double degree project.

- **Quilmes National University, Argentina**

So far, one individual agreement about a joint degree project. The joint degree was awarded in 2014.

- **University of Ghent, Belgium**

So far, one individual agreement about a joint degree project.

The international profile is also strengthened via development of the Doctoral School's course portfolio, which includes a broad range of general and thematic PhD courses. In 2014, a total of 23 PhD courses were offered, 17 of which in English, many with participation of internationally recognised lecturers (see section 6). The development and internationalisation of the Doctoral School's course portfolio will attract attention to the School via a strong and international profile and contribute to establishing an optimal framework for social science PhD students at AAU, including the relatively large share of international PhD students.

TREND IN NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL PHD STUDENTS AT SOCIAL SCIENCES AAU

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
PhD population	103	99	103	144	120	149	154	144
International PhDs	12	13	15	26	25	34	34	26
Share in per cent	11,7	13,1	14,6	22,8	17,9	22,8	22,1	18,1

Source: AAU's PhD Manager.

Note: International PhD students are defined as enrolled PhD students with non-Danish citizenship.

# INTERNATIONALISATION

## INTERNATIONAL PHD STUDENTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES AAU, 2014

Doctoral programme	Int. ph.d.	Population	Share in %
Sociology and Social Work	2	40	5
Political Science	6	26	23,1
Business and Innovation Economics	10	39	25,6
SPIRIT	4	14	28,6
Law and Business Law	0	8	0
Education, Learning and Philosophy	4	17	23,5

Source: AAU's PhD Manager.

In 2014, the Doctoral School has increased its focus on stays abroad, which it sees as an important element in the quality of the doctoral programme and in the PhD students' personal and academic development. A mapping of the completed PhD students' stays abroad shows that a large share of the students in certain programmes (especially SPIRIT and Innovation and Business Economics) choose to go abroad. However, it is the Schools and the Faculty's objective to increase the total share of PhD students who go abroad during the PhD project significantly. In 2014, the faculty management therefore decided to formalise and professionalise guidance and support to PhD students' stays

abroad further. The Doctoral School has established a homepage with information about planning, economy, insurance and other focus areas concerning stays abroad. Information about stays abroad will also be available in the introduction booklet, which is being prepared for all PhD students in 2015. In addition, the individual programmes will emphasise to PhD students and supervisors that going abroad during a PhD project must be the rule rather than the exception. Concurrently with the specific initiatives, the PhD study board will continue to discuss new ways to increase the PhD students' incentive to go abroad for short or long stays during their PhD projects.

## AWARDED DEGREES AND SHARE WITH STAYS ABROAD

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Awarded degrees	8	15	18	11	23	18
Share with stay abroad	4	8	13	6	13	6
Share with stay abroad + 1 month	4	5	11	6	8	4

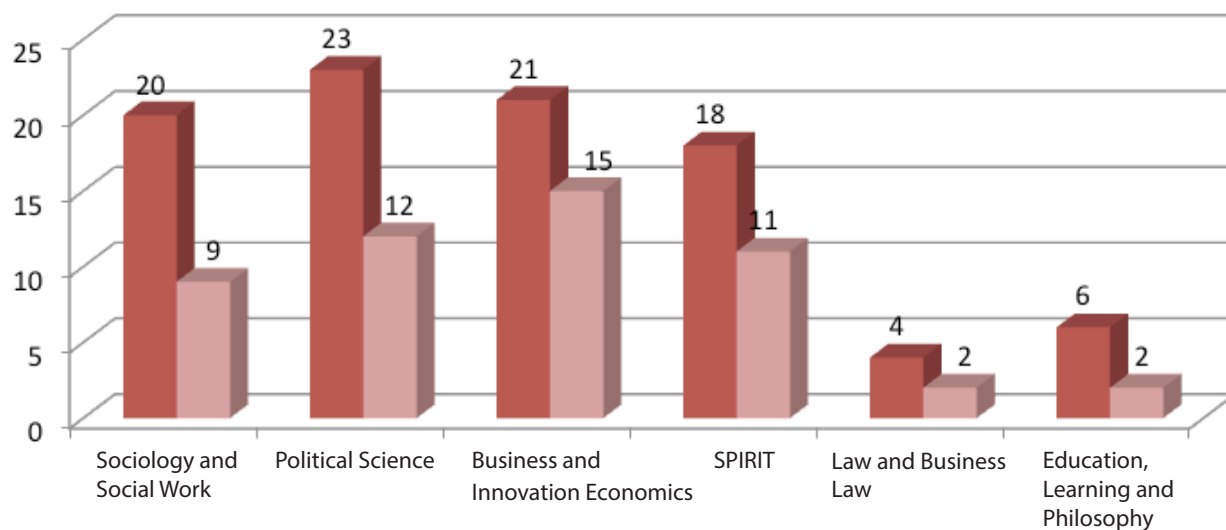
Source: AAU's PhD Manager.

Note: PhD students enrolled according to section 15, 2 are deducted as they are awarded degrees without prior studies.

Note: The criterion for stay abroad is that the PhD student has completed a stay abroad of minimum 1 week's duration as part of their PhD project.

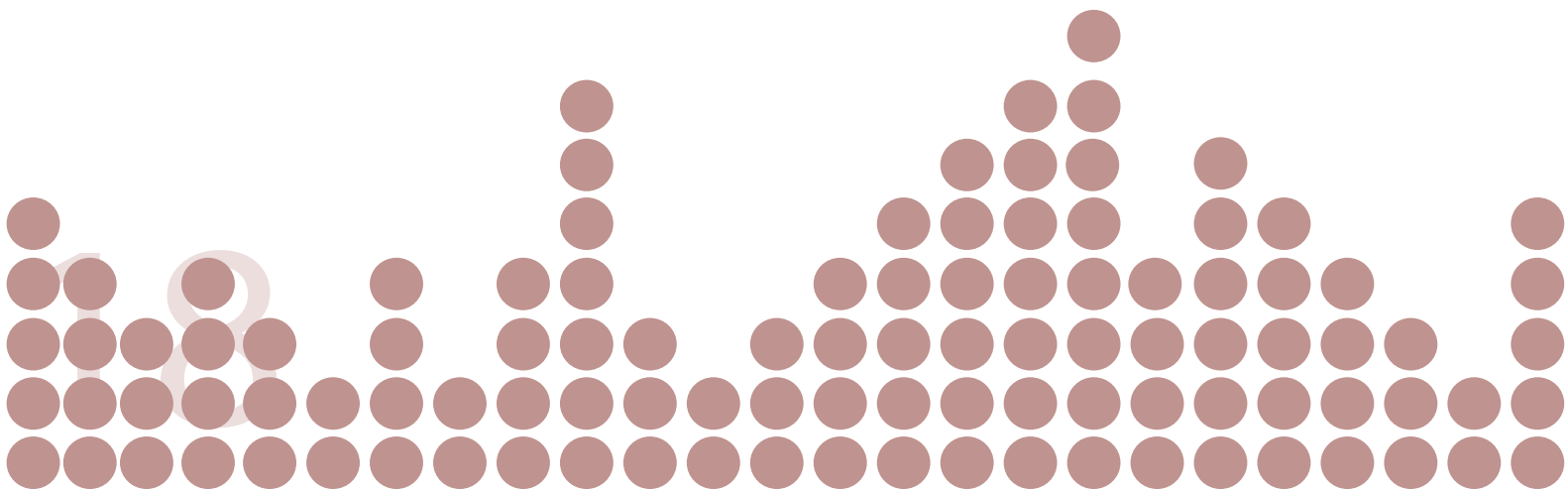
# INTERNATIONALISATION

SHARE OF COMPLETED PHD STUDENTS WHO WENT ABROAD. 2009-2014



Source: AAU's PhD Manager.

Note: PhD students enrolled according to section 15, 2 are deducted as they are awarded degrees without prior studies.





# LIST OF PHD COURSES IN 2014

## Sociologiske Magtanalyser [Sociological Power Analyses]

15–17 January

External lecturer: Gorm Harste, AU

Organisers: Maria Appel Nissen and Sune Qvortrup Jensen, Department of Sociology and Social Work, AAU

16 participants, including 6 external

## Workshop i Sociologisk Samtaleanalyse [Workshop in Sociological Dialogue Analysis]

21 and 28 February

Organiser: Søren Peter Olesen, Department of Sociology and Social Work, AAU

8 participants, including 2 external

## Mixed Methods Research: Theory and Practice

24–28 March

External lecturers: Maria Lindstrøm, KU, Prof. Manfred Max Bergman, University of Basel

Organiser: Morten Frederiksen, Department of Political Science, AAU

21 participants, including 7 external

## Flowskrivning [Flow Writing]

12 March and 2 June

External lecturer: Writing consultant Bo Skjoldborg

Organiser: Ann-Dorte Christensen, Department of Sociology and Social Work, AAU

29 participants, including 4 external

## Normality and Pathology in a Biomedical Age

1–2 April

External lecturers: Prof. Nikolas Rose, Department of Social Science Health and Medicine at King's College, London

Organiser: Svend Brinkmann, Department of Communication and Annick Prieur, Department of Sociology and Social Work, AAU

23 participants, including 12 external

## Academic Information Management

8 April and 8 October

Organiser: Bente Lope, AUB

6 participants

## Practice Theory –A New Research Agenda – and its Implications

2–3 April, 12–13 May, 15–16 June

External lecturers: Prof. Donald Broady, Uppsala University, Prof. Davide Nicolini, Warwick Business School

Organisers: Anders Buch and Vibeke Andersen, Department of Learning and Philosophy, AAU

37 participants, including 19 external

## The process of theorizing and theory building in management research

14–16 May

External lecturers: Prof. Nikhilesh Dholakia, University of Rhode Island, Dr. Andy Lowe, Grounded Research Institute in California

Organiser: Romeo V. Turcan, Department of Business and Management, AAU

12 participants, including 8 external

## Methods Reflection Seminar

27 May

Organisers: Julia Zhukova Klausen and Martin Bak Jørgensen, Department of Culture and Global Studies, AAU

5 participants

## Forskningsdesign for nye ph.d.-studerende, der arbejder inden for det sociologiske område [Research Design for New PhD Students in Sociology]

2–3 June

Lecturers and Organisers: Lars Skov Henriksen and Annick Prieur, Department of Sociology and Social Work, AAU

6 participants, including 3 external

# LIST OF PHD COURSES IN 2014

## Ethics in Planning – with a Particular Focus on Sustainability and Energy Planning

3-4 June

External lecturers: Simon Caney, Oxford University, John O'Neill, Manchester University, Lukas Meyer, Karl-Franzens Universität, Graz, and Morten Hahn-Pedersen, Fisheries and Maritime Museum, Esbjerg

Organisers: Finn Arler, Department of Development and Planning, AAU and Mogens Rüdiger, Department of Culture and Global Studies, AAU

7 participants

## Summer School – Qualitative Methods in Social Work Research

18-22 August

Organiser: Lars Uggerhøj, Department of Sociology and Social Work, AAU

16 participants, including 11 external

## Workshop: Exploring Deviance

26 August

External lecturers: Prof. Patti Adler, University of Colorado, Prof. Peter Adler, University of Denver

Organisers: Emma Engdahl and Michael Hviid Jacobsen, Department of Sociology and Social Work

13 participants, all external

## Writing a Journal Article

10-12 September, 9 December

Lecturer: Andrew James Fish, AAU Language and Communication Services (LACS)

Organiser: Annick Prieur, Department of Sociology and Social Work, AAU

9 participants, including 1 external

## Street Level Bureaucracy

17-19 September

External lecturer: Evelyn Brodtkin, University of Chicago  
Organisers: Dorte Caswell, Department of Sociology and Social Work og Flemming Larsen, Department of Political Science, AAU

11 participants, including 3 external

## Quantitative Research Methods

22-26 September

Organiser: Christian Richter Østergaard, Department of Business and Management, AAU

10 participants, including 4 external

## Nvivo

8 October

Lecturer and organiser: Morten Frederiksen, Department of Political Science, AAU

15 participants, including 1 external

## New Directions in the History of Infrastructure

26-28 September

External lecturers: Prof. Patrick Joyce, Manchester University, Prof. David Nye, SDU, Chargé de recherche Leonard Laborie, Paris IV Sorbonne (Irice, CRHI) and post.doc. Alexander Badenoch, Utrecht University

Organiser: Mogens Rüdiger, Department of Culture and Global Studies

1 participant, including 1 external

## Contemporary Challenges to Industrial Relations

30 September–2 October

External lecturers: Prof. Ian Greer, University of Greenwich, John Erik Dølvik, FAFO Universitetet i Oslo

Organiser: Anette Borchorst

6 participants, including 1 external

## Causal Inference from Observational Data

20-23 October

External lecturer: Felix Elwert, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Organiser: Martin D. Munk, Department of Political Science, AAU

18 participants, including 14 external

## Civilsamfund og frivillighed i forandring [Civil Society and Voluntarism in Transition]

27-28 October

External lecturers: Dag Wollebæk, Institutt for samfunnsforskning, Universitetet i Oslo, Magnus Jeger-

# LIST OF PHD COURSES IN 2014

malm, Ersta Sköndal University College, Stockholm, Prof. Lars Svedberg, Ersta Sköndal University College, Stockholm, Prof. Bjarne Ibsen, SDU. Prof. Thomas Boje, RUC. Seniorforsker Torben Fridberg, SFI.

Organiser: Lars Skov Henriksen, Department of Sociology and Social Work, AAU

13 participants, including 7 external

**Aktionsforskning - forskning, der fremmer og tager del i tilstræbte forandringsprocesser [Action research – research that promotes and participates in intended change processes]**

4-5 November

External lecturer: Jean McNiff, York St. John University, USVI

Organisers: Søren Frimann, Department of Learning and Philosophy, AAU and Gitte Duus, Department of Sociology and Social Work, AAU

20 participants, including 10 external

**Gender & Diversity - Travelling Concepts through Time and Space**

26–28 November

External lecturers: Helma Lutz, Goethe Universität, Frankfurt and Harriet Bjerrum Nielsen, Universitetet i Oslo

Organisers: Hanne Marlene Dahl, RUC and Ann-Dorte Christensen, Department of Sociology and Social Work, AAU

15 participants, including 2 from AAU, 7 from RUC and 6 external

The list contains PhD courses, which are entirely or partially funded by the Doctoral School. In addition, the programmes have hosted various decentral PhD activities and workshops, which are described in the reports from the programmes. Some of these activities were funded from elsewhere, in particular the two cross-faculty programmes SPIRIT and Education and Learning.

## PHD SUPERVISOR COURSES

In 2012, the Doctoral School decided to organise mandatory PhD supervisor courses. The courses were held in 2013, 2014 and January 2015. 69 PhD supervisors participated, corresponding to 80% of the School's supervisors. A course will be held in the fall of 2015 for the 10 supervisors who, for practical reasons, have been unable to participate so far.

The purpose of the courses was to:

- qualify content, strategies and processes in PhD supervision
- discuss what constitutes 'good PhD supervision' – according to educational research
- put focus on management tools in doctoral education
- discuss communication and dialogue in supervision

- improve insight into and methods for securing timely completion of PhD projects
- make room for experience sharing between PhD supervisors via concrete casework from the supervision

PhD supervision is emphasised nationally and internationally as a key element in assuring the quality of the doctoral programme.

The courses were conducted by two external consultants: Professor Linda Andersen, RUC, and Associate Professor Gitte Wichmann Hansen, AU.

Over the coming year, DSSS will follow up on the PhD supervisor courses with special focus on new PhD supervisors.

# PARTNERS

At the turn of the year 2014/2015, the following partners were listed in connection with PhD projects at the Doctoral School of Social Sciences. Partnerships terminated during 2014 are thus not included in the list.

## Sociology and Social Work:

- University College Lillebælt
- Metropolitan University College
- Holstebro Municipality
- Ikast-Brande Municipality
- Morsø Municipality
- Varde Municipality
- Bornholm Municipality
- Copenhagen Municipality
- The North Denmark Region
- Region Zealand
- The Ministry of Children, Gender Equality, Integration and Social Affairs
- Clinic for Occupational Medicine, Regional Hospital, Herning
- The VELUX Foundations
- EGV Foundation
- The Danish Council for Independent Research (Ministry of Higher Education and Science)
- Væksthuset
- The Obel Family Foundation
- Diocese of Aalborg
- KORA (The Danish Institute for Local and Regional Government Research)
- NHV (Nordic School of Public Health, Göteborg)
- AKF

## Political Science

- Banghabandhu Fellowship on Science & ICT, Bangladesh
- SDC (Sino Danish Center)
- Thisted Municipality
- Aalborg Municipality
- Quickcare A/S
- FLOWS (EU project: Impact of local welfare systems on female labour)
- University of Copenhagen (CRIC – Centre for Reso-

lution of International Conflicts)

- University College Lillebælt
- Aarhus University Hospital
- Erasmus Mundus – Mobility for Life
- Danida (Danish International Development Agency, Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
- University of Dhaka
- University of the Philippines
- University of Maseneo, Kenya (Caribu Erasmus programme)

## Business and Innovation Economic

- Danish District Heating Association (Industrial PhD scheme)
- Randers Municipality (Industrial PhD scheme)
- The North Denmark Region
- MonbergSørensen Branding A/S
- Mellervangskolen
- Risskov Skole
- Svendborg Technical College
- Aarhus Municipality (Pedagogical Psychological Counselling and Special Pedagogy, Children and Youths)
- Grundfos Holding A/S – D&E System & Component SW
- Ramböll Management Consulting (Industrial PhD scheme)
- Grenåvej Øst Væksthuset
- DGI Østjylland
- AOF Nord
- Danish Council for Strategic Research
- MAN Diesel & Turbo
- National University of Quilmes, Argentina (joint degree partnership)
- Danida (Danish International Development Agency, Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
- The Health Foundation
- The Danish Rheumatism Association
- University College Nordjylland
- Port of Aalborg
- Aalborg University Hospital
- The Danish Council for Independent Research (Mi-

# PARTNERS

- nistry of Higher Education and Science)
- Energi Nord A/S
- SDC (Sino Danish Center)
- Nupark og Bach Gruppen A/S
- FsrS Study and Education Fund
- Tietgen Business College
- MonbergSørensen Branding A/S

## SPIRIT

- The Danish Council for Independent Research (Ministry of Higher Education and Science)
- Historical Museum of Northern Jutland
- University of Ghent, Belgien (joint degree partnership)
- University of Málaga, Spanien (double degree partnership)
- The Danish Working Environment Research Foundation

- Museum for Thy and Vester Hanherred
- The Obel Family Foundation
- Danish Immigration Museum
- UIR (University of International Relations), Beijing
- Hvidovre Municipality

## Uddannelse, Læring og Filosofi

- Ministry of Children, Gender Equality, Integration and Social Affairs
- Addis Ababa University, Etiopien
- University College Nordjylland
- Hjørring Municipality
- Danida (Danish International Development Agency, Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
- Dafolo A/S

### NUMBER OF PARTNERSHIPS PER PHD PROGRAMME

	2013	2014
Sociology and Social Work	17	21
Political Science	9	14
Business and Innovation Economics	27	29
SPIRIT	10	10
Law and Business Law	0	0
Education, Learning and Philosophy	6	6



# REPORT FROM THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES

## SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK

**Head of Programme:** Professor Annick Prieur

**Programme secretaries:** Marianne Morell and Anne Brauner Mikkelsen

**Programme Board:** Professor Annick Prieur, Professor Lisbeth B. Knudsen, Professor Lars Uggerhøj, Professor Janne Seemann, PhD Student Rasmus Hoffmann Birk, PhD Student Jannie Kirstine Bang Christensen

The profile of this PhD programme is tightly linked to the department's core research fields, namely sociology, social work, work life and organisation. In 2014, the programme had 37 PhD students. The students are associated with one of the Department's research groups:

- CASTOR – Centre for Sociological Analysis of Social Transformations (5 PhD students)
- SAGA – Sociological Analysis - General and Applied Research (7 PhD students)
- SocMaP – Research Group for Demography, Social Geography and Health (3 PhD students)
- FoSo – Social Work Research Group (16 PhD students)
- Psychology and Society (1 PhD student)
- LEO – Research Group for Labour Markets, Education and Organization (1 PhD student)
- Org & Eva/ COMA – Center for Organization, Management and Administration (in cooperation with Department of Political Science) (4 PhD students)

The PhD students are primarily associated with their main supervisor's research group, but may participate in activities organised by other research groups. Each research group is responsible for ensuring that the PhD students present their research projects or research papers and have them discussed several times during their enrolment as PhD students. The PhD students at the department have formed networks in

Aalborg and in Copenhagen: GISP and AHA

The main task of the programme board is preparation of courses. The head of the PhD programme usually organises one meeting with all the PhD students per term.

Since 2012, the programme has cooperated with Department of Sociology at University of Copenhagen on the organisation of sociology courses. As part of this partnership, a design course was held in the spring term of 2014, arranged by AAU. Within the field of social work, courses are developed in connection with a well-established partnership for organising summer schools, with participation of representatives from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark. The network was established in 2008, and summer schools in social work were held from 2009 to 2013, receiving support from NORDFORSK. In 2014 Aalborg was in charge of the summer school. Within the field of organisation studies there is a close cooperation for the development of courses with the Department for Political Science.

### Activities in 2014

As appears from the overview of courses, the programme has been responsible for organising ten courses in 2014.

The head of programme and the head of department participated in a meeting with all the PhD students, with mutual information on the agenda.

There has been one meeting in the PhD counselling board, and finally the head of programme has had several meetings and discussions with the head of department and the head of the doctoral school.

There have been no meetings with the department's PhD supervisors this year. The Faculty's courses for PhD supervisors were prioritised, and almost all our supervisors have attended.

# SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK

## Enrolled 2014

**Ole Raakjær**

"Fra frelse til helse!? – hospitalspræsters tro, tænkning og praksis"

**Rasmus Hoffmann Hellesøe Birk**

"What is the Client? An ethnographic study of the constitution of humanity in social work"

**Dorte Lystrup**

"Socialpædagogisk indsats i arbejdet med udviklingshæmmede brandstiftere"

**Søren Holst**

"Mulige konsekvenser for den socialpædagogiske praksis i arbejdet med udviklingshæmmede brandstiftere når der anvendes systematiske vurderingsredskaber"

**Arne Folkvard Orvik**

"Organisasjonshelse: En analyse av helse som verdi i (helse)organisasjoner, med særlig vekt på helsefremmende sykehus"

**Tanja Dall Jensen**

"Helhedsorienterede vurderinger i rehabiliteringsteam – og koordinerede indsatser på baggrund heraf"

## Awarded degrees 2014

**Mie Engen**

**Degree awarded:** 8 December 2014

Professionel praksis i botilbud for mennesker med udviklingshæmning – om den daglige kamp for (en menneskelig) omsorg.

[Professional practice in accommodation facilities for people with intellectual disability – about the daily struggle for (human) care.]

The PhD dissertation explores how care for people

with intellectual disability (ID) is unfolded in professional practice in residential care. It aims to understand how the professionals – who for the most part are trained social pedagogues (socialpædagoger) – interpret and act on the behaviours and needs of the residents, who – due to the degree of their impairments – have difficulties communicating them. The dissertation shows how care for persons with ID unfolds in different ways in an interaction between different factors – including the typical ways in which the professionals understand and interpret the behaviours and needs of the residents – with different consequences for their everyday lives. The dissertation also demonstrates how different circumstances put the caring practices of the professionals under pressure, and it identifies necessary requirements for qualified professional care for people with ID

**Morten Kyed**

**Degree awarded:** 1 September 2014

John Wayne og Tarzan arbejder her ikke længere: En etnografisk fortælling om maskulinitet, sikkerhed og "redderskab"

[John Wayne and Tarzan no longer work here: an ethnographic tale of masculinity, safety and "EMT-ship".]

The dissertation examines the relationship between masculinity and safety practices through qualitative fieldwork among male ambulance officers. It shows that masculinity perspectives offer new and fruitful ways to analyse men's safety practices. But at the same time the study emphasises that the relationship between male ambulance officers' masculinity and safety practices is complex. On the one hand ambulance officers draw on a variety of conventional masculine ideals, which often work as a symbolic lever for safety practices. On the other hand, there are a number of situations where ambulance officers put these ideals aside and create new masculinity and safety practices

# SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK

that break with or transform traditional modes of masculinity practice. The dissertation thus highlights that the relationship between masculinity and safety is a dynamic process that is constantly being created and recreated in relation to the specific workplace culture.

**Birgitte Schjær Jensen**

**Degree awarded:** 22 December 2014

Inddragelse af Udsatte Børn og Unge i Socialt Arbejde – Reel Inddragelse eller Symbolsk Retorik?

[Vulnerable children and young people's involvement in child protection decision making – real involvement or empty rhetoric?]

The dissertation deals with children and young people in vulnerable positions and their participation in child protection decision making. It focuses on children and young people's perspectives and understanding in decision making relating to their own lives. It asks whether the social authorities involve these children and young people in any way that seems relevant to them or if it is all show and empty rhetoric. The study shows that it is very difficult for many of the children and young people in the study to cope with the contact and cooperation with social authorities. They need support from adults who they trust will listen to them and take them seriously. Therefore, children and

young people's need for support from social services becomes important and should be considered in decision making settings and in order to develop more "child-friendly" participatory social work practice.

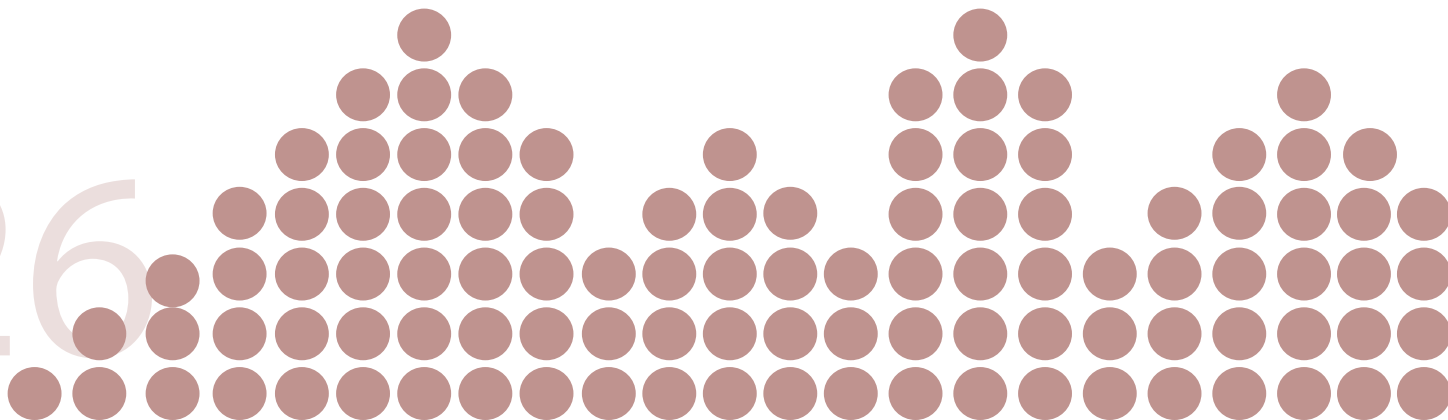
**Grit Niklasson**

**Degree awarded:** 24 March 2014

At være gravid – kvinders oplevelse af tilbud, valg og krav.

[Being pregnant – women's perception of offers, options and demands.]

The PhD thesis analyses the societal and cultural factors which influence pregnant women's decisions and the process of formation ('Bildung') during the nine months of pregnancy – the possibilities, options and expectations with which they are met by the health care sector, family and friends. The focus is on social differentiation (Pierre Bourdieu and Thomas Højrup), on the concept of normality and normative expectations to the pregnant woman (Georges Canguilhem and Nikolas Rose), on the aspect of risk (Mary Douglas, Ulrich Beck and Deborah Lupton) and on technology and diagnosis. The method is qualitative with interviews and observation studies. The conclusion is that prenatal care can benefit from a number of quality-improving measures, and the thesis offers recommendations to this end.



# POLITICAL SCIENCE

**Head of Programme:** Professor Anette Borchorst  
**Programme secretary:** Inge Merete Ejsing Duun

A common theme of the doctoral programme in Political Science is changes in the economic, political and administrative system, the public sector and in state-market-civil society relations. PhD students should acquire a sound knowledge of classical and modern theories, analytical approaches and concepts as well as analytical methods and techniques. The programme is associated with the following research units:

- The Center for Comparative Welfare Studies (CCWS)
- Centre for Labour Market Research (CARMA)
- Organisation and administration
- Center for IS Management
- Center for Mobility Research
- Political Communication, identity and participation
- Research Center for Evaluation (FCE)
- Economics, Business and Politics
- Global Refugee Studies (GRS)
- Center for Opinions and Analysis (COPAN)
- Center for Organization, Management and Administration (COMA)
- Global Development Studies (GDS)

## Activities in 2014

PhD students are included in research units where they present their research design and continuously present their results. The programme has organised four PhD courses which are listed in the first part of this Annual Report.

The programme director meets with the PhD group 1-2 times a year when significant new information is available or issues should be discussed with PhD group. This year a meeting on the final process from handing in the thesis, the new publication procedure and defence was organised and another meeting

involved presentation on assessment, preparation for defence and media contact. The results from the international evaluation of the PhD school were presented. The PhD group networks about common activities via a mailing list, which is also used to disseminate relevant information to the group.

The supervisors are informed about new developments via mail. In autumn, the International Evaluation of the Doctoral School and processes concerning evaluations, assessments and defence were discussed at a common meeting.

The programme has a procedure for registering the PhD students' teaching activities with special focus on the situation of international PhD students.

The programme focuses on career opportunities for PhD graduates, and the Head of Department organises career talks with all PhD students during their final year.

The programme organises a mentor arrangement for newly started PhDs.

## Internationalisation

The programme has five PhD students with foreign background and virtually all communication and joint meetings with PhD students are held in English.

Two research units focus on international issues, some units have a comparative profile and all research units are engaged in international collaboration. Several PhD projects are based on comparisons of different countries, and two projects are part of the Sino-Danish university collaboration.

The programme participates in international cooperation: AAU's membership of Scancor (Scandinavian Consortium for Organizational Research), a Nordic-American network of Nordic universities and Stanford University, USA, and within COST IS1102 and

# POLITICAL SCIENCE

COST IS1402 concerning PhD stipends, PhD conferences and research.

10 PhD students visited foreign universities in 2014, among them: Amsterdam University, University of Tartu, Georgetown University, Edinburgh University, Kyoto University, Nordic Centre i Shangha, Beijing University, Göteborg University and Georgetown University.

## Enrolled 2014

Peter Sørensen

"Hvad er effekten af lederuddannelser?"

Michael Owiso

"Transitional Justice and the Institutionalization of Democracy in Fragile States: A Study of the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission in Kenya"

## Awarded degrees 2014

Iben Nørup

Degree awarded: 22 December 2014

Arbejde og sygdom – og om at være en del af fællesskabet. En kritik af forestillingen om arbejdsmarkedsdeltagelsens afgørende betydning for den sociale eksklusion af kroniske syge og handicappede. [Employment and illness – and about being part of the community. A critique of the conception of the crucial importance of work force participation for the social exclusion of the chronically ill and disabled.]

The study investigates how labour market exclusion affects the social exclusion of people with health impairments. The study takes a critical stand to the dominating theoretical and political understanding of labour market exclusion as being the primary source to social exclusion. The main hypothesis of the study is that labour market exclusion does not play a major role in explaining social exclusion. Rather the relationship between the two is spurious, and both phenomena are caused by medical problems. The study

is quantitative and based on a large set of quantitative data consisting of a survey of approximately 25.000 respondents conducted in the Region of Northern Jutland. The survey is linked to the Danish Registers as well as the DREAM database.

Anna Diop-Christensen

Degree awarded: 22 December 2014

The effect of welfare and labour market institutions on the labour market outcomes of immigrants in Europe.

The PhD thesis examines to which extent variations in the labour market outcomes of immigrants across Europe is attributable to welfare state generosity, or to other host country features (immigration policy, labour market regulation and structure). Further than existing studies, the thesis contributes to the comparative theoretical framework with insights about how a comprehensive welfare state may foster the labour market integration of immigrants. It investigates the influence of institutions on a wider range of dependent variables incl. unemployment duration, wage differences and job stability. The results show limited disincentive effects of benefits for immigrants, while employment prospects of immigrants are better when the demand for low-skilled labour is high and immigration policy is labour market oriented.

Finn Amby

Degree awarded: 10 June 2014

Målgruppen der forsvandt – En analyse af handicapområdets position i dansk beskæftigelsespolitik og betingelserne for, at ledige med handicap kan komme i ordinær beskæftigelse.

[The target group that disappeared – An analysis of the position of the disability area in the Danish employment policy and the opportunities for unemployed people with disabilities to get a job on ordinary wage and employment conditions.]

# POLITICAL SCIENCE

The thesis uncovers some of the reasons for the low employment rate among people with disabilities and examines the conditions that need to be taken into account if there is political desire to make future improvements in this area. The thesis focuses particularly on opportunities for unemployed people with disabilities to get a job on ordinary wage and employment terms. A policy analysis for the period 1992-2012 shows a lack of awareness of disability in the general employment policy, which, among other things, stems from the changing concept of disability and the impact of the disability policy. Therefore, a tighter connection between policy goals and instruments needs to be established, and unemployed with disabilities ought to be seen to a higher degree as a separate target group in employment policy.

**Laust Kristian Høgedahl**

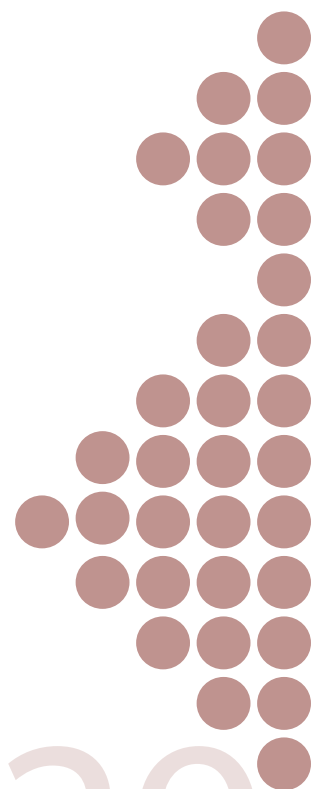
**Degree awarded:** 13 October 2014

Fagforening på Markedsvilkår. Markedsgørelse af Den Faglige Organisering og Nye Vilkår for Kollektiv Handling på Det Danske Arbejdsmarked.

[Trade Unionism on Market Terms. The Creation of a Market for Trade Unions and New Terms for Collective Action.]

During the past decade a number of political-institutional amendments have liberalised the Danish market for trade unions, professional organisations and unemployment insurance funds by creating more competition among them. These amendments have facilitated large shifts between trade unions mainly away from the recognised organisations under the main organisation LO to the alternative unions. The alternative unions are not party to collective agreements and their membership fees are much cheaper than in the recognised unions. In effect, they free ride on the institutional supports that used to

be effective only for the recognised unions. The PhD dissertation examines the liberalisation of unionism and collective action in Denmark. It consists of four articles and nine chapters in a 'connection text' aimed at connecting the four articles in a broader empirical, methodical and theoretical context.





# BUSINESS AND INNOVATION ECONOMICS

**Head of Programme:** Ass. Professor Christian R. Østergaard

**Programme secretary:** Nancy Raakjær

The doctoral programmes in Innovation Economics and Business Economics are located at the Department of Business and Management. The focus areas of the Business Economic PhD programme are international managerial economy, organisation, strategy, auditing and management accounting. The programme was established in 2008. It is associated with the following research groups:

- MAC – Management Accounting and Control
- IBC – International Business Centre
- Revision
- BMDC – Business Model Design Center
- FIRM – Firms, Innovation, Relationship & Management

The doctoral programme is connected to the PhD network DOME (doctoral programme in organisation and management theory), an inter-university collaboration between Aalborg University, University of Southern Denmark, Roskilde University and Aarhus University. DOME is a relevant platform for PhD students in organisation and management because the participating universities offer international PhD courses of high academic quality on theory and methods of organisation and management studies at the micro organisational level.

The doctoral programme in Innovation Economics focuses on the key elements of economic development, knowledge, innovation, entrepreneurship, macroeconomics, health economics, and creativity. The programme has existed since 1996, but was changed in 2008. In recent years new topics have been added to the programme, such as macroeconomics, health economics, and creativity. It is associated with the following research groups: IKE (Innovation, Knowledge and Economic dynamics), EOB (Entrepreneurship and

Organizational Behavior), MaMTEP (Macroeconomic Methodology, Theory and Economic Policy), ORCA (Organizational Renewal Creativity Applied), and DCHI (Danish Center for Healthcare Improvement). The programme participates in the inter-university collaboration DRUID (Danish Research Unit in Industrial Dynamics), where the IKE and EOB groups and other researchers at the department participate in close collaboration with researchers from Copenhagen Business School and University of Southern Denmark.

One of the main events in the DRUID network is the annual DRUID Academy conference. The conference is only for PhD students and focuses on development of their skills and research papers. There are also a few keynote presentations from international top researchers. The participants are mainly from European top universities but also from North America, South America and several Asian countries.

The annual DRUID Academy conference for PhD students within the fields of economics, entrepreneurship and management of innovation, technology and organisations has been organised by researchers from Aalborg University since 2002. The number of submitted abstracts has increased steadily and the geographical reach has expanded over the years. The DRUID Academy conference has become a key international conference for PhD students within the field and has obtained international recognition. Therefore the conference has been invited to come to foreign universities. In 2014 the conference, which was held in Rebild, was organised by Christian R. Østergaard, Jacob R. Holm and Kristian Nielsen. 65 PhD students selected from 132 applications participated in the conference. In addition, 25 faculty members participated from Aalborg University, Copenhagen Business School and University of Southern Denmark. There were three keynote speeches from international top researchers: Peter Maskell (CBS) on accessing remote knowledge, Maryann Feldman (UNC, Chapel Hill) on commercialising, Cohen Boyer and Maureen McKelvey (University of Gothenburg) on knowledge inten-



# BUSINESS AND INNOVATION ECONOMICS

sive entrepreneurship. The Bent Dalum PhD award for the most promising research project was given to Nina Geilinger (ETH Zurich) for the paper "We are the same, so let us share: Cluster identification and knowledge sharing". This year, all papers presented at the conference were checked for plagiarism following the debate on research ethics at last year's conference.

The PhD students have been encouraged to participate in international PhD conferences and PhD courses. They have published several papers in good international journals and book chapters. Furthermore, many of the students have collaborated closely with companies and public organisations and they have regularly presented their work at internal research seminars in the various research groups. The PhD students have increasingly participated in international conferences and PhD courses in order to support the internationalisation of the department and to increase the quality of their work. Several foreign PhD students have visited the Department of Business and Management and many of the students in the two programmes have stayed at universities abroad. PhD students from the

department have taught at the master in Innovation Management at SDC in China. The internationalisation is also seen in the growing diversity in the nationalities of the students

In 2014 Diana Valeria Suarez from the Economics of Innovation doctoral programme was awarded the PhD degree as a joint degree between AAU and Universidad Nacional de Quilmes, Argentina.

## Enrolled 2014

**Louise Tina Brøns Kringelum**

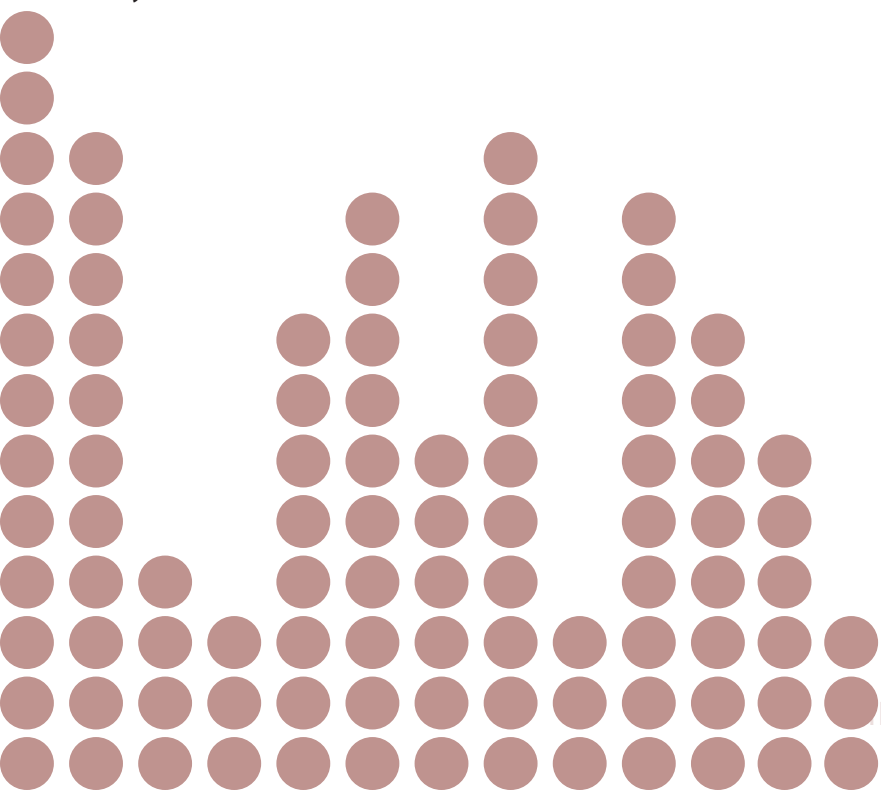
"Strategisk udvikling af den intelligente havn med særligt fokus på forretningsmodeludvikling og kompatibilitet mellem forretningsmodeller"

**Leticia Antunes Nogueira**

"Entrepreneurship and Diffusion: Insights from the Offshore Wind Power Industry"

**René Østergaard Thomsen**

"Risikostyring i erhvervsvirksomheder i Danmark"



# BUSINESS AND INNOVATION ECONOMICS

## Awarded degrees 2014

Heather Louise Madsen

Degree awarded: 7 April 2014

Knowledge Management – In Renewable Energy Innovation. A Carbon Trust Offshore Wind Accelerator Case Study.

This PhD dissertation presents research on the topic of knowledge management processes in the context of semi-open innovation and conducts a case study of the Carbon Trust Offshore Wind Accelerator programme. Nine major energy companies around Europe collaborate through this programme to reduce the cost of offshore wind by supporting innovations in a variety of ways. The thesis identifies the drivers of, obstacles to, and critical success factors for knowledge management both in theory and in practice. On a theoretical level, a reconceptualisation of knowledge ensures that scholars and practitioners can avoid considering knowledge as a separable from human understanding. Empirically, the thesis analyses ways in which innovation programmes can achieve greater synergy in order to develop knowledge resources, as well as the best approaches to culturally diverse working groups tackling technical issues in a variety of contexts.

Mohammad Bakhtiar Rana

Degree awarded: 1 September 2014

Rethinking Business System Theory from the Perspective of Civil Society, Transnational Community, and Legitimacy: Strategies of European MNCs in Bangladesh.

This study investigates how MNC strategies are shaped and legitimised in emerging markets. It develops a framework called 'tri-space framework' by combining institutions & business system, civil society sector, and transnational communities (global institutional actors); and argues that possible actors/factors from these three spaces affect subsidiary strategies. The study illustrates several levels of legitimacy: acceptance, image, endorsement, and synergy (combination of institutional acceptance and competitive advantage) that MNCs can earn either by corporate initiatives or collaborative initiatives with legitimised actors (i.e. institutional actors, NGOs, national champion firms etc.). The study contributes to business system and strategy literature by emphasising civil society and transnational community dimensions together with institutions and business system dimension.

Andreea Bujac

Degree awarded: 24 November 2014

Country-of-origin effect and consumer brand perception: A developed and emerging market perspective.

This dissertation investigates the impact of country of origin (COO) on the brand perception of consumers from developed and emerging countries. The aim is to explore the impact of the country of origin on the Western (Danish) consumers' brand perception of high involvement products with multiple countries of origin and the Central Eastern European (CEE) consumers' brand perception of low involvement products from developed countries. The dissertation comprises four research papers and a summary report, consisting of an introduction, a methodology chapter and a conclusion.

Robert Ebo Hinson

Degree awarded: 7 April 2014

Electronic Business (E-Business) and Export: Some

# BUSINESS AND INNOVATION ECONOMICS

Exploratory Developing Economy Perspectives.

This thesis responds to calls in the academic literature for more scholarly investigations into the use of the Internet and allied technologies in developing economies like Ghana. The thesis finds a relationship between export and the Internet. Internet use assists in lowering costs of communication amongst other things. Firms that seek to adopt e-business for export activities need resources, including financial, technological, and managerial readiness. The Ghana Export Promotion Council (GEPC) contributes to the resource needs of non-traditional export firms for the development of e-competencies in their export activities. However, these resources are more or less support based rather than actual financing. The thesis concludes by advancing an e-business adoption framework as its major contribution

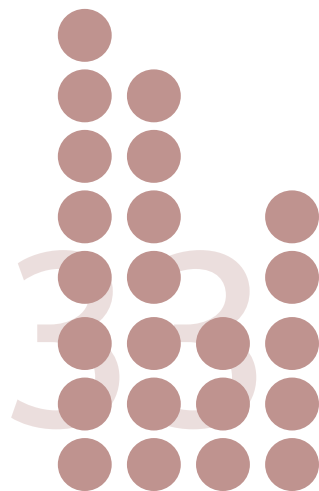
**Diana Valeria Suarez**

**Degree awarded:** 10 March 2014

Innovative strategies in unstable environments: the case of Argentinean firms.

This thesis is about innovation, instability, and micro-heterogeneity. The research question is why some firms are better prepared to cope with unstable environments than others. Results show that micro-heterogeneity is endogenous to the dynamics of the NIS, within which firms will adjust their strategies differently given changes in the environment and its capabilities. This provides evidence regarding the importance of studying firm behaviour from a dynamic perspective, allowing not only for the firm to modify the way it seeks innovations, but also for the possibility of not seeking innovations at all. Firms' learning capabilities and innovation investments are key to understanding why some firms are better prepared to deal with unstable environments, which is not because they are more likely to successfully innovate but because they

have dealt better with the process of path creation.



# SPIRIT

**Head of Programme:** Professor Mogens Rüdiger

**Programme secretaries:** Marianne Høgsbro, Ulla Langballe

**Programme Board:** Professor Mogens Rüdiger, Professor Søren Dosenrode, Professor Ruth Emerek, Professor Birte Siim, Associate Professor Torben Kjersgaard Nielsen, Associate Professor Bodil S. Blichfeldt, Assistant Professor Ane Katrine Bislev and PhD student Stephanie Erlenbach.

SPIRIT is an interdisciplinary doctoral programme for the systematic study of themes and theoretical issues related to the intertwining of political, cultural, and socio-economic processes, with particular emphasis on contemporary globalisation trends and their historical preconditions.

It is dedicated to examining – from the combined vantage point of both the human and the social sciences – cultural, political and socio-economic issues on a spectrum ranging from the local and regional dimension over the national level to the transnational global processes that increasingly impinge on the organisation of life and the structure and dynamics of the world. SPIRIT's research is conducted within four broad themes:

- Transnational change, where the understanding of globalisation and internationalisation and character development is in focus;
- Inter-regional developments and conflicts, such as integration or regionalism, i.e. involving governance and development strategies;
- Identity and globalisation, i.e. focusing on gender conflicts, nation, class and ethnicities in the globalising world;
- Intercultural production and consumption, such as companies' handling of transnational challenges, tourism and everyday life are explored.

The PhD students in the programme are included in one of the Department's research groups where they

present their research results:

- CCIS – Centre for Comparative Integration Studies
- CEPS – Cultural Encounters in Pre-Modern Societies
- CHI – Contemporary History
- CoMID – Center for the Study of Migration and Diversity
- DIR – Research Center on Development and International Relations
- FREIA – Feminist Research Center in Aalborg
- TRU – Tourism Research Unit

PhD courses organised by SPIRIT are listed in this Annual Report, part 1.

## Enrolled 2014

### Pernille Skovgaard Christensen

"Fagbevægelsen og polakkerne: Et historisk komparativt studium af den danske fagbevægelses holdning til polsk arbejdsindvandring i perioderne 1890'erne-1920'erne og 2000'erne-2010'erne"

### Poul Sverrild

"Forstaden, ny by og kulturarv – fra foragt til fredning"

### Bo Peng

"The Rise of China and Global Governance in the era of Interdependent Hegemony"

### Katarzyna Pelc

"When Europe departs from a grant culture: The clash of Europeanization and Multi-Level Governance"

### Stephanie Holløse Würtz Erlenbach

"From black to green. Energy companies and green ethics, 1970-2014"

## Awarded degrees 2014

Supriya Samanta

Degree awarded: 12 May 2014

Patriarchy and Violence against Women in India: A Critique of the Hindu Perspective.

The thesis investigates the underlying factors behind the perennial problem of violence against women in India and its relation with patriarchy. It offers a critical explanation of how the Hindu perspective, understood as a socio-cultural construct of women's subordination, has impacted on the construction of patriarchy as the dominant force in gender relations. It argues that patriarchy has been legitimised and disseminated through Hindu traditions, values and norms on the basis of textual analysis of an ancient Indian text, Manusamhitā, which of great socio-political importance. The particularity of Indian patriarchy is understood by developing the term 'multiple patriarchies' which explains India's multi-faceted socio-cultural dimensions of patriarchy and its distinction from the western concept of 'patriarchy'.

Elijah Nyaga Munyi

Degree awarded: 10 February 2014

Getting to Yes: Belief Convergence and Asymmetrical Normative Entrapment in EU-ACP EPA Negotiations.

Getting to Yes: Belief Convergence and Asymmetrical Normative Entrapment in EU-ACP EPA Negotiations. The theoretical origins of this dissertation arose from a quest to understand and explain what accounts for bargaining efficiency in EU negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (called Economic Partnership Agreement) with the African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States. Why are these structurally asymmetrical part-

ners' negotiations so protracted? "Collective clientelism" has been suggested as a compelling explanation of ACP negotiating strength, while institutional entrapment has been suggested as moderating EU's structural power. But rather than merely accepting such clientelism and the EU as a noble and altruistic actor, clientelism has been empirically tested, demonstrated and placed within a formal institutionalist theoretical framework. It is argued that EU-ACP relations have produced norms and principles of membership which both entrap and constrain the behaviour of both sides in the negotiation.

Jiuan Zhang

Degree awarded: 10 June 2014

"Chineseness" and the State Socialization Mechanism – China and ASEAN in the East Asian Regionalism Process

This PhD dissertation offers an alternative framework for understanding China-ASEAN interactions in East Asian regionalism process through a theoretical and conceptual analysis of the socialising and being socialised process between China and ASEAN. The approach takes its conceptual point of departure in seeing China's rise as necessitating the rise of "Chineseness" (Chinese history, culture and rhetoric), an alternative mode of thinking and analysis to overcome the limits of the mainstreams of international relations shaped and dominated by trans-Atlantic schools. The conclusion argues that logic of neighbourhood friendship as "Chineseness" can be theorised by analysing the "state socialisation mechanism", i.e. ASEAN and China's mutual accommodation and mutual assurance.

Saki Ichihara Fomsgaard

Degree awarded: 29 September 2014

Institutionalisation of Social Movements: A Comparative Perspective on Organic Agriculture Organisations in Denmark and Japan.

This study is about the competing strategic orientations of the organic agriculture movement toward institutionalisation: in particular, a division in whether organic agriculture should develop within the prevailing system (pro-institutional strategy) or preserve its alternativeness to conventional agriculture (anti-institutional strategy). It investigates why the specific strategic directions were chosen and evaluates their impact on the organic agriculture movement as a social movement. The analysis is based on a comparative study of the leading organic agriculture organisations in Denmark as a pro-institutional case and Japan as an anti-institutional case. The inquiry overall takes a framework based on the strategic-relational approach (SRA), which is further operationalised by the major social movement theories and a perspective of discursive democracy. The study shows that the organisations of both countries, despite their differences, have failed to nourish a “critical” civil society.

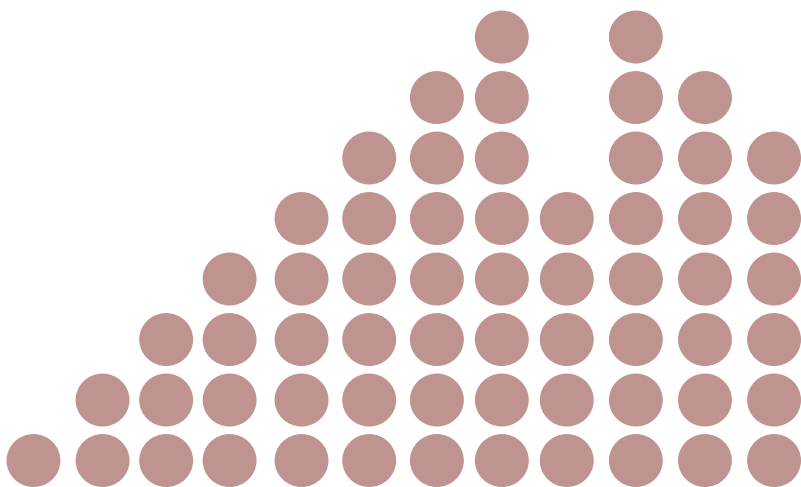
Louise Karlskov Skyggebjerg

Degree awarded: 24 November 2014

Teknologihistorie – historieforskning og -formidling i feltet mellem opfindelsesfascination og diskussioner om materiel agens.

[History of Technology – historiography and research in the field between the fascination of inventions and discussions about material agency.]

The thesis discusses the history of technology as a heterogeneous field stretched out between different positions methodically, communicatively and theoretically. The discussion is among other things based on recent approaches to materiality (‘the material turn’) and the author’s practical experiences from museums. Based on the focus of the history of technology on the making, the use, and the ‘power’ of things (things as something which helps to define what we do and what we can imagine doing) it is argued that historiography should increase the focus on things and use things as source material. The individual texts in the thesis address the inventor J.C.H. Ellehammer, infrastructure, the vacuum cleaner, technology and management, office technology and Danish production in China.





# LAW AND BUSINESS LAW

**Head of Programme:** Associate professor John Klausen  
**Programme secretary:** Vibeke Lund Damkier

The doctoral programme was established in connection with the faculty's newly established Bachelor- and Masters' education in law, the existing education in Business Law and the established Department of Law. The PhD law programme belongs to the Department of Law with programme manager John Klausen and programme secretary Vibeke Lund Damkier.

The programme is anchored in the 3 research groups of the Department, where the PhD students are affiliated with one of the groups:

- The public – This research group works on the legal relationship between government and citizen, i.e., administrative law, tax law, criminal law and the interaction between these disciplines. The group includes a subgroup that, for a long period, has been working on social justice issues.
- Enterprise relationship – In this research group, the subjects include classic property law, such as the sale of goods act and collateralisation, corporate law and EU law. Several members of this group work with the main legal issues related to the impact of modern technology and the impact of modern information policy, where the main research areas are personal data law, media law, IT-law, communication and information law, IPR and cyber-crime.
- The private citizen – The work of this group includes jurisdictions such as family, children and inheritance law. Recent years have seen a relatively large legal development. The group also works with human rights and the legal position of foreigners and refugees.

The programme is a partner in the nationwide JurForsk network and offers PhD courses in collaboration with the network. Danish Legal Research Training Program – JurForsk – is a collaboration between the research units: Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen (UC); Department of Law, School of Business and Social Sciences, Aarhus University (AU); Department of Law, University of Southern Denmark (SDU); Department of Law, Aalborg University (AAU); Law Department, Copenhagen Business School (CBS) and Institute of Food and Resource Economics, Faculty of Science, University of Copenhagen (SCIENCE).

JurForsk started its activities on 1 January 2007, backed by a five-year grant from the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation. Since 1 January 2012 it has been co-funded by contributions from the participating institutions. The Department of Law at Aarhus University hosts the programme with Professor Palle Bo Madsen as the daily manager. Current Chairman is Associate Professor Troels Michael Lilja from CBS.

The objective of JurForsk is to ensure that the legal research programme offered through the JurForsk courses is of a high and uniform standard. JurForsk works for a greater internationalisation and an increase in the visibility of legal research. JurForsk is based on the assumption that strong and mutually binding collaboration among the institutions is fundamental to holding one's own in the international competition. JurForsk will work to expand the existing international collaboration, which has been developed especially among institutions in the Nordic region, including through networking among PhD students.

The PhD programme in law and business law includes legal research in a broad sense. It covers public law and private law, and includes both national and international law. The aim is to contribute to the recruitment of a legal research environment at an international level. The work in the PhD programme in this context will benefit future research at the Department of Law and the legal expertise of the surrounding community. For





# LAW AND BUSINESS LAW

this purpose, close cooperation with the private sector and public authorities is strived for.

One of the programme's PhD students is Network Coordinator in the professional network IPR Nord, a forum for exchange of research, knowledge and experience, where employees can stay ahead with the latest knowledge and research in the field of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). IPR Nord is part of BrainsBusiness ICT NORTH DENMARK.

Another PhD student is part of International Economic Crime and Cyber Crime Research Center (IECC), which was created in 2014 and aims to initiate, conduct and disseminate research in two related and in practice coherent main areas: cross-border financial crime and cybercrime. Through publication of papers, articles and books, through organisation of and participation in conferences, symposia and seminars, the center forms the frame around research and networking in a Danish as well as a Nordic and international context.

## Activities in 2014

The programme has a total of 8 PhD students associated. 1 was enrolled in 2010, 1 in 2011 and 6 enrolled in 2012.

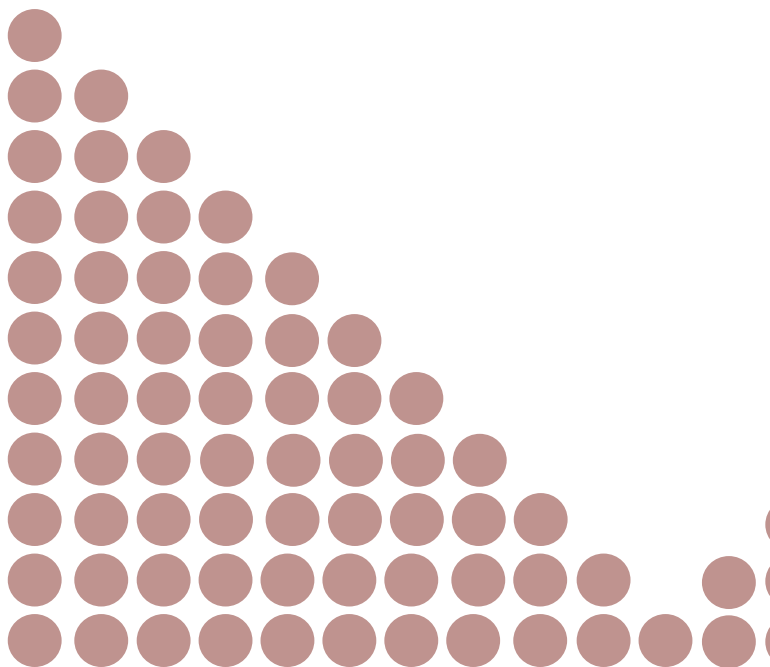
Activities in the programme:

The PhD students have largely participated in PhD courses developed and offered within the framework of JurForsk, including basic courses and special courses etc. In 2014 JurForsk conducted a joint conference on how the PhD programme and JurForsk can support the students' future careers and how networking can

be included.

## Internationalisation

In addition to research stays abroad, the PhD students are participating increasingly in international conferences, including the annual ECFR conference on corporate group law – Luxembourg; Child Law Conference, Norway; Nordic property law conference, Iceland. In addition to JurForsk, a joint Nordic partnership has been established, including joint Nordic offering of PhD courses through Nordic Network for Legal Research Education. <http://jurforsk nordic.org/>



# EDUCATION, LEARNING AND PHILOSOPHY

**Head of Programme:** Professor Erik Laursen (January 1– March 31), Professor Antje Gimmler (since April 1)

**Programme secretary:** Jeanette Arboe

**Programme Board:** Associate Professor Eva Petersson, Professor Palle Rasmussen, Professor Lars Qvortrup, PhD Student Pia Frederiksen, Associate Professor Ulla Thøgersen, PhD Student Line Revsbæk, Professor Erik Laursen, Associate Professor Anders Buch

The doctoral programme is part of the Doctoral School of the Humanities and the Doctoral School of Social Sciences. The programme is located in the Department of Learning and Philosophy. There is close collaboration with the doctoral programme 'Technology and Science', based in the same department, within the Doctoral School of the Faculty of Engineering, Science and Medicine.

The programme was established in 2000, and especially during the past three years the programme has experienced a major growth.

The Department of Learning and Philosophy (<http://www.learning.aau.dk>) is an inter-faculty department, represented at all three Aalborg University campuses (Aalborg, Copenhagen, and Esbjerg).

Research activities of the department comprise 5 major fields of interest:

- Pedagogy and Didactics - Including learning theory, learning processes and IT, university pedagogy and problem based learning.
- Organisational learning and workplace learning - Including knowledge processes in organisations, creativity and innovation.

- Educational Research – Including pedagogic sociology, interculturalism and diversity as well as learning and didactics in the science subjects and mathematics.
- Applied Philosophy - Including technology, ethics, educational philosophy, coaching and management philosophy, health philosophy and environmental philosophy.
- Science and technology studies - Including SSTS, practice thinking, methodology and interdisciplinary thinking.

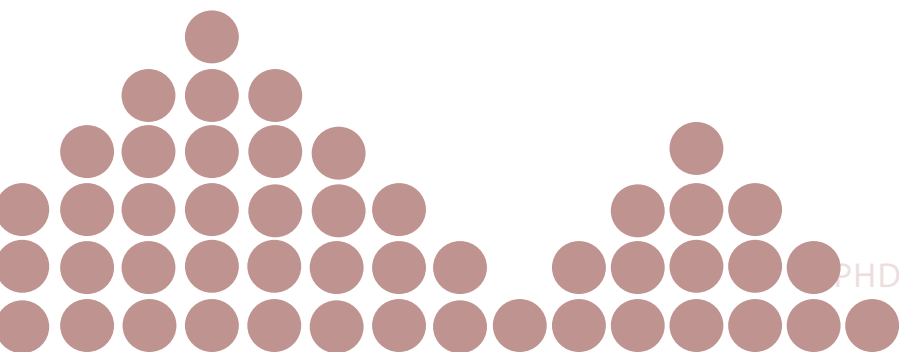
Research activities are organised in research groups and centers. A list of all research groups is available at [www.learning.aau.dk](http://www.learning.aau.dk).

Research activities in the department are organised in cross-disciplinary research groups. All PhD students participating in the doctoral programmes are members of at least one main research group. The research groups with their senior faculty members and research projects provide an excellent environment for socialising the students into the practices of conducting research and academic activities. The students for their part make substantial contributions to the activities of the research groups.

## Activities in 2014

Instead of using the programme board, questions like course selection etc. had been communicated and debated over email with the different research groups.

There is a challenge to enhance the internal communication with the PhD students as well as the PhD stu-



# EDUCATION, LEARNING AND PHILOSOPHY

dents' organisation and their sense of belonging to the department. Two meetings with the PhD students took place, one in Aalborg (May 2014) and another in Copenhagen (June 2014) to find out what the needs of the PhD students are, which courses they would like to attend and what the most pressing problems are. Antje Gimmler took part in a panel discussion about problems and opportunities in writing a PhD thesis (together with Maja Horst, KU and Annick Prieur, AAU). The discussion was organised by the PhD organisation at our department and took place 24 October in Copenhagen.

## Enrolled 2014

Line Skov Hansen

"En karakteristik og vurdering af Nordic Educational Capacity Building – en tilgang til udvikling af pædagogisk praksis og læringsmiljøer."

## Awarded degrees 2014

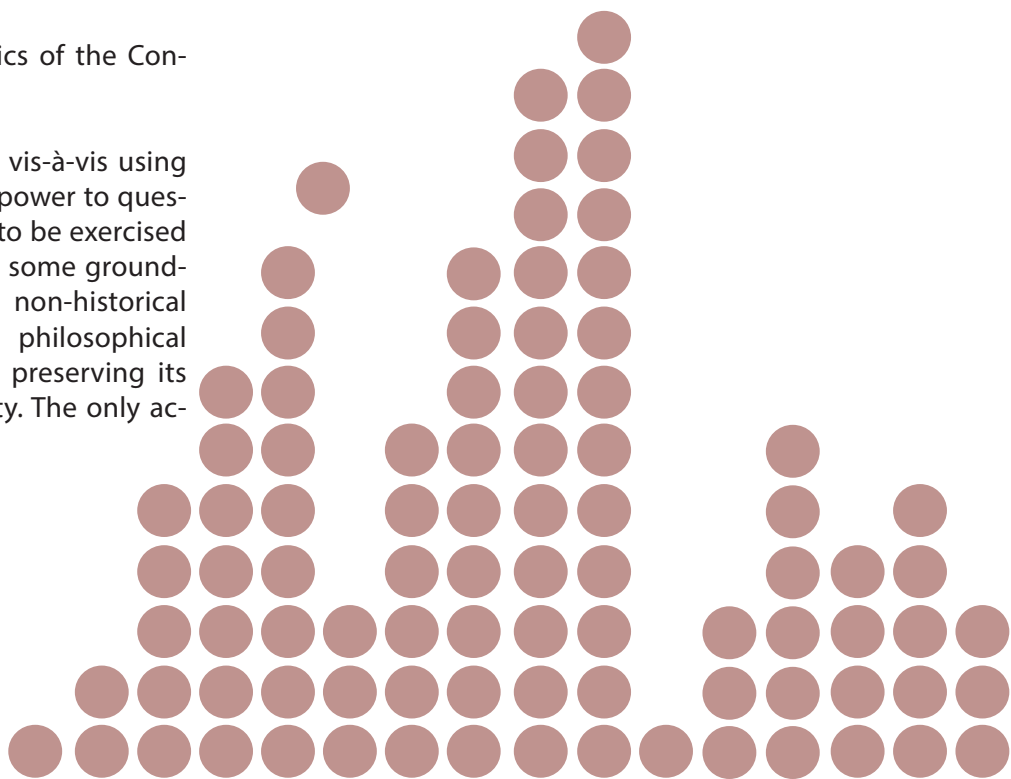
Kevin Turner

Degree awarded: 15 September 2014

Governing to-day: Towards an Analytics of the Contemporary

In posing some questions of method, vis-à-vis using Foucault's researches and writings on power to questioning relations of power as they are to be exercised today, the aim of the thesis was to do some groundwork for a future philosophical but non-historical analytics of power. Maintaining the philosophical impetuous of Foucault's work means preserving its emphasis upon thought and rationality. The only ac-

cess we have to the thought inhabiting practices and the rationality inhabit thought is by way of discourse, and so the thesis put forward some methodological considerations concerning questioning contemporary governmental discourses. The dissertation, then, acts as a kind of prolegomenon to a future study in contemporary governmentality.



# DELPHI

DELPHI is the network of PhD students and research assistants at the faculties of Social Sciences and Humanities of AAU. The network supports young researchers through activities directed at improving their academic and social experience at AAU. Delphi meets once a month to discuss new proposals and follow up on the organisation of planned activities, and everyone is invited in advance to join the meeting.

Delphi is currently looking for new representatives from the following departments: Sociology & Social Work, Communication & Psychology, Political Science, Learning & Philosophy and Law.

The most remarkable events of the past year include an inspiring presentation on publication strategies and the structure of academic journals by Alex Coad, associate editor at Research Policy; a seminar on career opportunities and job-hunting inspiration for doctoral students, including a presentation by a career consultant specialised in PhDs, and a seminar on disseminating research through traditional and social media. In addition, a preparatory meeting for those considering going abroad during their PhD was organised. Multiple presenters discussed both practical and personal challenges to consider when going aboard.

Beyond the academic seminars there has been great focus on enhancing the social aspects of the Delphi community by initiating Friday afternoon events. This will be continued in 2015 and the event will move location to the different departments in order to include more PhDs in Delphi's social network.

Initiatives for this year include:

- A seminar on professional networking
- An evening of experience exchange between current and former Delphi members
- Spreading the monthly Friday event to engage participants from more departments
- A booklet on general advice and rules for PhD students and research assistants which is to be completed.

## DELPHIS BOARD

- Co-Chairmen: Wouter De Tavernier & Louise Brøns Kringelum
- Accountant: Letícia Antunes Nogueira
- Former Chairman: Juan Martín Carriquiry
- Current representatives:
  - Stella Mia Sieling (Political Science, CPH)
  - Stephanie Erlenbach (Culture and Global Studies)
  - Anne Sig Vestergaard (Business & Management)



# OUTLINE DOCTORAL SCHOOL



Professor Ann-Dorte Christensen  
Director of Doctoral School of Social Sciences  
Chairman of the PhD Study Board



Professor Annick Prieur  
Head of Doctoral Programme,  
Sociology and Social Work  
Observer in the PhD Study Board



Professor Anette Borchorst  
Head of Doctoral Programme, Political Science  
Member of PhD Study Board



Associate Professor Christian Richter Østergaard  
Head of Doctoral Programme,  
Business and Innovation Economics  
Member of PhD Study Board



Professor Mogens Rüdiger  
Head of Doctoral Programme, SPIRIT  
Member of PhD Study Board



Associate Professor John Klausen  
Head of Doctoral Programme, Law and Business Law  
Member of PhD study Board

# OUTLINE DOCTORAL SCHOOL



Professor Erik Laursen  
Member of PhD Study Board



Professor Antje Gimmler  
Head of Doctoral Programme,  
Education, Learning and Philosophy



PhD student Annemarie Østergaard  
Business and Innovation Economics  
Member of PhD Study Board



PhD student Louise Hansen  
Business and Innovation Economics  
Member of PhD Study Board



Henrik Marcher Larsen  
Secretary of the PhD Study Board



Lone Corfixen  
PhD administration





For more information

[www.fak.samf.aau.dk](http://www.fak.samf.aau.dk)

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