



The University of Copenhagen's Collaboration with industry 2012-16

Setting the scene

With this paper the University of Copenhagen wishes to outline focus areas for collaboration with industry. We wish to disseminate research and to contribute to growth and welfare in society in collaboration with Danish and international industry.

It is important for us to get your input on new concepts for research collaboration and initiate a discussion on jointly identified challenges that must be solved in Public Private Partnerships over the coming years. On this basis we wish to develop the current paper into our new **Strategy for collaboration with industry 2012-16**.

Background

The University of Copenhagen is known as a leading European university with strong research and research-based education within a broad range of areas. Many of these areas of strength match those of industry. The University views well-established national and international research-based companies as the primary target group for industry collaboration.

Common challenges

Solving the big challenges faced by society requires expertise from the natural sciences, health sciences, humanities and social sciences as well as close collaboration between knowledge institutions and industry.

Today's new and dynamic research is taking place at the interfaces between traditional academic disciplines. The University of Copenhagen offers research with breadth as well as depth, strong traditions for inter-disciplinary research collaboration coupled with an extensive international network.

The University of Copenhagen invites industry to join us in defining new concepts for research collaboration in order to create new ideas and joint research projects. We wish to exploit the complementarity between University and industry in value-creating Public Private Partnerships.

4 focus areas

Until the end of 2016, the University of Copenhagen will focus on:

1. Matchmaking

Create a positive framework for collaboration and facilitate new inter-disciplinary projects

2. Innovative graduates

Intensify the effort of equipping the University's students with entrepreneurial skills

3. Commercialisation

Ensure a flexible framework for collaboration agreements and support spin-out creation from the University

4. Strategic dialogue with society

Strengthen our contact to society through strategic advisory panels

Specific actions

The University of Copenhagen will develop the four focus areas through the following specific actions:

1. Matchmaking

Cross-disciplinary research platforms

Building on our strong faculties the University will establish new internationally competitive cross-disciplinary research platforms with the potential to solve urgent societal challenges. We intend to initiate this work by organising workshops where we gather researchers within selected themes so that researchers and management from the University as well as from industry, students, investors and funds can meet to establish these new research platforms. Examples of recently established platforms include **sustainability and climate, food combined with fitness and pharma, synthetic biology, healthy ageing, water, Asian culture and markets and communication and computing.**

Strategic partnerships

Based on international best practise, the University intends to establish a number of long strategic partnerships with national and international companies in close collaboration with research and students. We aim to offer our students the possibility to continue their studies as Industrial PhDs or industry post docs within the companies and with internal University supervisors. We will collaborate on continuing professional education.

2. Innovative graduates

Increase industry collaboration in educational activities

Students need to play a more important part in the relations between the University and industry researchers. The University of Copenhagen will facilitate possibilities for students to participate in formalised collaboration with industry through internships and project collaboration.

Entrepreneurship embedded in education

All students should be offered the opportunity to acquire

entrepreneurial skills. This requires a teaching corps that can act as role models and who can implement entrepreneurship and practical elements in the education during study-specific courses so that students are presented to entrepreneurship as a natural part of their studies.

3. Commercialisation

Flexibility

The University will adopt a flexible approach to collaboration agreements and intellectual property (IP) where focus is on transfer of knowledge rather than on income. Knowledge which cannot be commercialised through normal channels will be offered as free licenses to companies through the new concept, Easy Access IP, in collaboration with universities abroad.

Spin-outs

The University will strive to transform research into sustainable new companies through the initiative, Copenhagen Spin-outs. Together with a range of partners, the University will work to screen and evaluate research areas with high potential and ideas for commercialisation. The University will underpin the commercialisation process by assisting with proof-of-concept funding, mentors, etc.

4. Strategic dialogue with industry

Strategic advisory panels

Each faculty will establish its own strategic advisory panel according to each faculty's model of choice. These panels will advise faculty management in their strategic work on research, innovation and education and create closer links to society. The panels can be composed of 10-12 external members, including members of the existing advisory councils (aftagerpaneler) at the University. The members should represent a broad spectrum of faculty interests and competences as well as insight necessary to develop the faculty's areas of strength and strategic development opportunities.