



## HSTs Advisory Research Board – Meeting #1/2024

6 March 2024

SLV 249, room 11.02.046

### Agenda

	Item	
10.00-10.10	1	Welcome /Kim Dremstrup
10.10- 10.40	2	New HST process for registration of external funding applications / Anne Schüsler Dethlefsen + Winnie Jensen
10.40-11.50	3	HST strategy – next step /Winnie Jensen
11.55-12.00	6	AOB and input from research group leaders for future meetings /Kim Dremstrup og Winnie Jensen

### Participants

		Participates	Representative
Kim Dremstrup	Head of Dept.	X	
Winnie Jensen	Vice Head of Dept. - Research	X	
Susanne Lundis	Team Leader, Strategic Advisor – Research	X	
Henrik Bøggild	Public Health and Epidemiology (PHE)	X	
Carsten Dahl Mørch	Integrative Neuroscience (IN)	X	
Johannes J. Struijk	CardioTech (CT)	X	
John Dirk Nieland	Molecular Pharmacology (MP)		<i>Absent with apology</i>
Lotte N. S. Andreassen Struijk	Neurorehabilitation Robotics and Engineering (NRE)	X	
Lars Arendt-Nielsen	Translational Pain Biomarkers (TPB)		<i>Absent with apology</i>
Mette Nyegaard	Genomic Medicine (GM)		Palle Duun Rohde
Michael Skovdal Rathleff	Musculoskeletal Health (MH)		Jesper Bie Larsen
Ole Hejlesen	Medical Informatics and Image Analysis (MI)		Stine Hangaard
Rogério Pessoto Hirata	ExerciseTech (XT)		Mark de Zee
Sine Agergaard	Sport & Social Issues (SSI)	X	
Stephen Edward Rees	R-Care (R-Care)	X	
Strahinja Dosen	Neurorehabilitation Systems (NS)	X	
Svend Birkelund	Medical Microbiology and Immunology (MMI)		Tue Bjerg Bennike
Thomas Graven-Nielsen	Pain and Motor System Plasticity (PMSP)	X	
Torben Moos	Neurobiology (NEB)		<i>Absent with apology</i>
Vladimir Zachar	Regenerative Medicine (RM)		Trine Fink
Winnie Jensen	Neural Engineering and Neurophysiology (NEN)		Sabata Gervasio
Anne Schüsler Dethlefsen	Funding Advisor	X	
Lone S. Andersen / Minute Taker	Research Secretary	X	



### Item 1

#### Welcome

/Kim Dremstrup

#### Key points/ decisions

- The staff meeting later today is a follow-up on the strategy meeting in December.
- Research Group Profile & Work Plans have been received from all research groups. The plans will be now forwarded to the faculty and be used for LUS (management development interviews) by the HST management.
- OK24 (collective bargaining 2024): The first increase in wages of approx. 4% will have effect as of April 2024, and an increase of approx. 1.2% will be effected in 2025 (if the results of the collective bargaining are implemented).
- The results of the reform of Danish Master's degree programs will be announced in October. Until then we will not know the consequences for HST, but we will most likely be affected.
- The EU time registration act: The act will come into force on 01 July 2024. An AAU steering group has been established to minimize the work of registering the working hours.
- New rules for AAU travelling: Will come into force within short. Trips above seven days and their budgets must be approved by the immediate manger before travelling.

### Item 2

#### New HST process for registration of external funding applications

/Anne Schüsler Dethlefsen + Winnie Jensen

#### Key points/ decisions

A new HST process is suggested for registration of external funding applications.

Aims:

- A "one-point-of-entry" for starting up the application process (securing assistance for budget and drawing up the application)
- Registration of all projects
- Increased focus on updating of budgets
- Fulfilling the requirements from AAU about attracting more external funding

The new system will consist of the following:

- Submission of a form with overall information about the project
- Large applications (+5m DKK) and prestigious projects:
  - A mandatory meeting to discuss alignment with strategy and initiation of lobby activities
  - A budget meeting



	<p>The following comments/input came up:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bench fee policy should be implemented with a description of services rendered by the administrative teams in the application process: <i>See VBN for the team in question where the core administrative tasks are already described in detail. If further assistance is required via agreement of release (frikøb), please contact the responsible team leader.</i></li> <li>• Have a web site with “price list” of administrative support costs: <i>Can be obtained by contacting the responsible team leader.</i></li> <li>• Have “package prices” for conferences and “agreement of release (frikøb)” of administrative staff: <i>Can be obtain by contacting the responsible team leader.</i></li> <li>• Internal review of applications in the individual research groups could be implemented.</li> <li>• A catalogue of successful applications for inspiration would enable sparring with colleagues who have been successful with the respective funding providers: <i>This requires further discussion.</i></li> <li>• Would it be possible to use PURE for registration of applications? Up till now, an issue with security and confidence. <i>ASD will check with VBN again.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Attachments</b>	Slides from Anne Schüsler Dethlefsen

**Item 3**

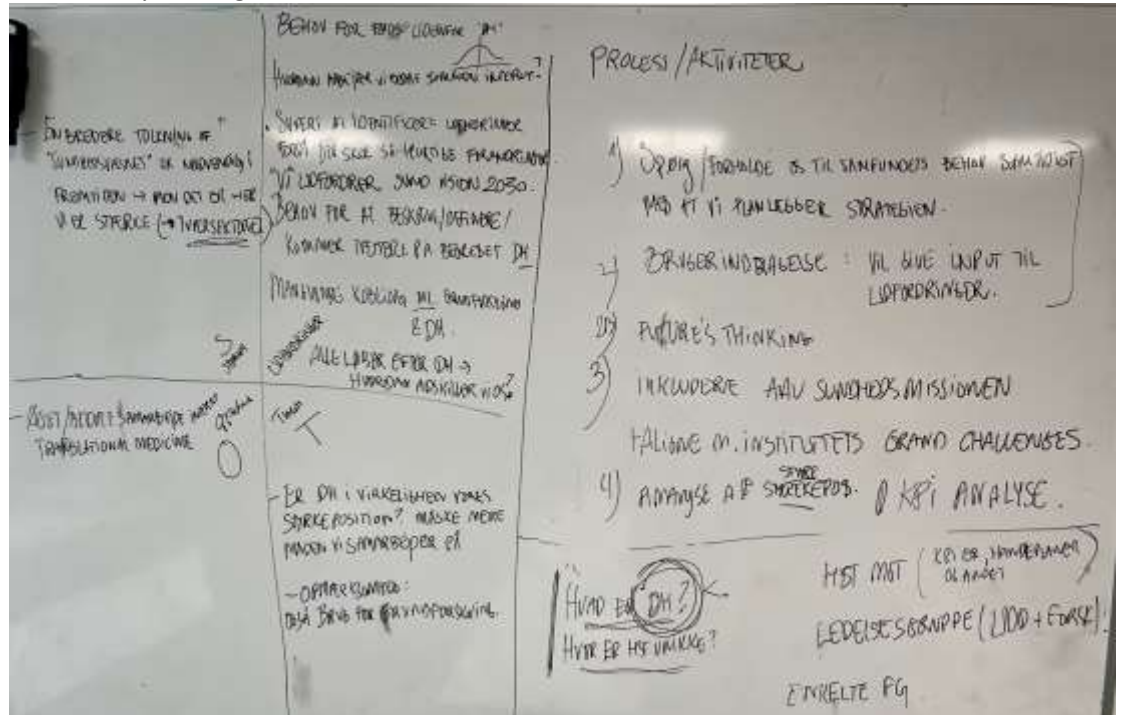
**HST strategy – Next step**

/Winnie Jensen

<b>Key points/ decision</b>	<p>HST strategy: The next steps towards an HST research portfolio with focus on Digital Health.</p> <p>The following comments/input came up:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start with identification of requirements from the society (e.g. health care system) on digital health to ensure co-creation with users/clinicians/other stakeholders.</li> <li>• Dive into what digital health really is to ensure a common understanding.</li> <li>• The AI development is moving forward so fast that it is difficult to identify the challenges.</li> <li>• Ensure a broader interpretation of the term “the health care system” to also include individuals monitoring their health by means of digital solutions.</li> <li>• Ensure that basic research is “attached” to digital health as basic research does not always align with the concept of digital health.</li> <li>• When basic research shows results, they should be transferred into clinical research comprising digital health. This is already done but can be vastly improved. More communication is needed to ensure this.</li> <li>• HST strength: We “go all the way” from basic research to the patient. This should be used in our PR/external communication.</li> <li>• Also, our internal interdisciplinary approach should be communicated. However, it can still be improved with a view to include digital health.</li> <li>• Make a mapping of Digital Health at HST.</li> </ul>
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- How does the management see digital health in the individual research groups and how each group can contribute to digital health?
- Decentral dialogue with group members is also important.
- Have each research group make an overview of their activities within digital health.
- There are three scenarios for making the mapping:
  - Management does it
  - Management + research group leaders + teaching leaders do it
  - Research groups do it
 The management will decide on the further process.

SWOT analysis – digital health:



Attachments

None (if necessary, revisit the material from the strategy meeting on 20 December 2023)

Item 4

**AOB and input from research group leaders for future meetings**  
/Kim Dremstrup og Winnie Jensen

Key points/decisions

Please send ideas for future items on the agenda to Susanne.

# REGISTRATION OF FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Anne S. Dethlefsen

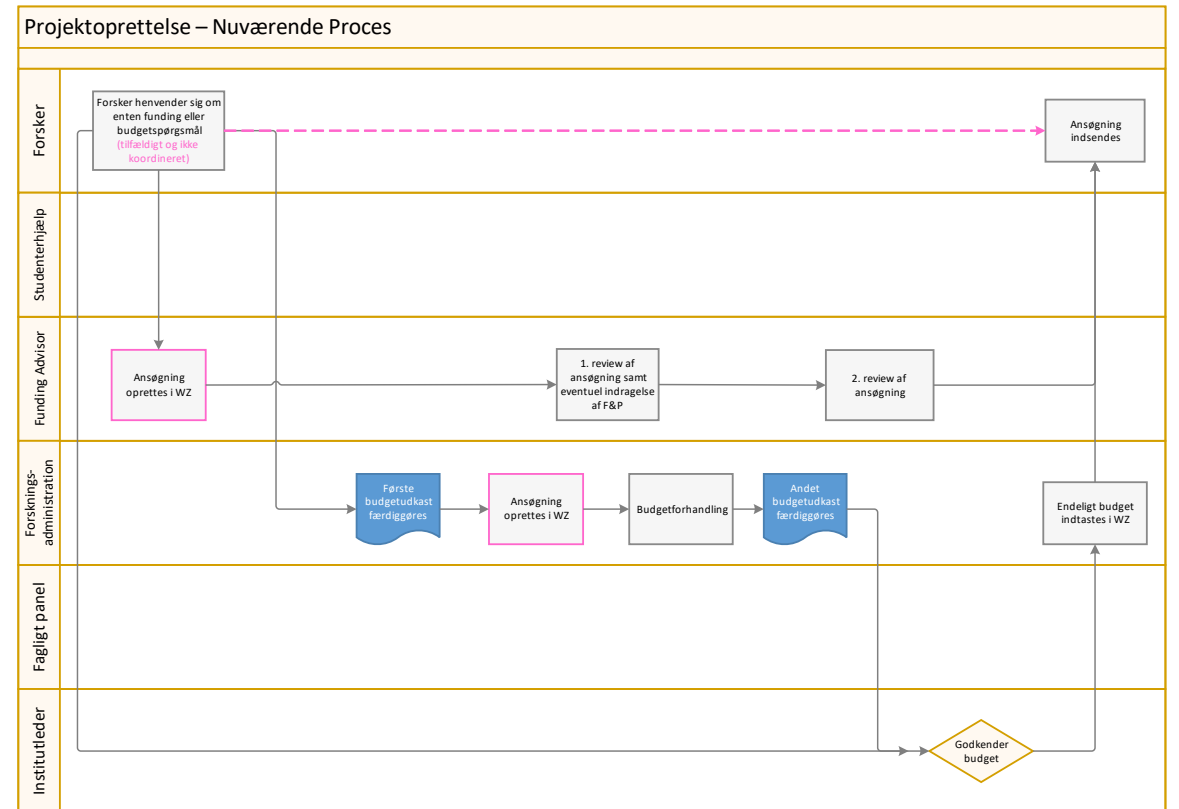


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# Present proces for registration of applications

Registration of applications is currently inconsistent:

- PI contacts Funding Advisor who registers the application
- PI contacts a Budget Administrator from Economy team – he or she registers the application
- PI contacts Kim Dremstrup directly, who then involves Economy Team, whereafter the application is registered
- PI sends in the application without any involvement of the administrative organization and no budget approval (NOT allowed)



# Inconsistency of Process - Challenges

## PI/Research Group leader

- PI does not have a one-stop administrative initiation of research applications
- Projects are rarely registered at the idea phase -> Proactive support from admin cannot be provided if project idea is unknown
- No formalized process to initiate management support/use of HST network (lobby work) for a strategically important applications
- Missing overview of research group funding activities -> strategic funding efforts can not be initiated in research group + follow up on individual career plans (MUS) cannot be aligned with funding activities

## Management

- Missing overview of ongoing and sent applications + matching budget - > no portfolio management of applications
- No HST strategy alignment of large, prestigious and strategically important applications
- The possibility to ensure optimal OH in the application is insufficient due to short or no notice

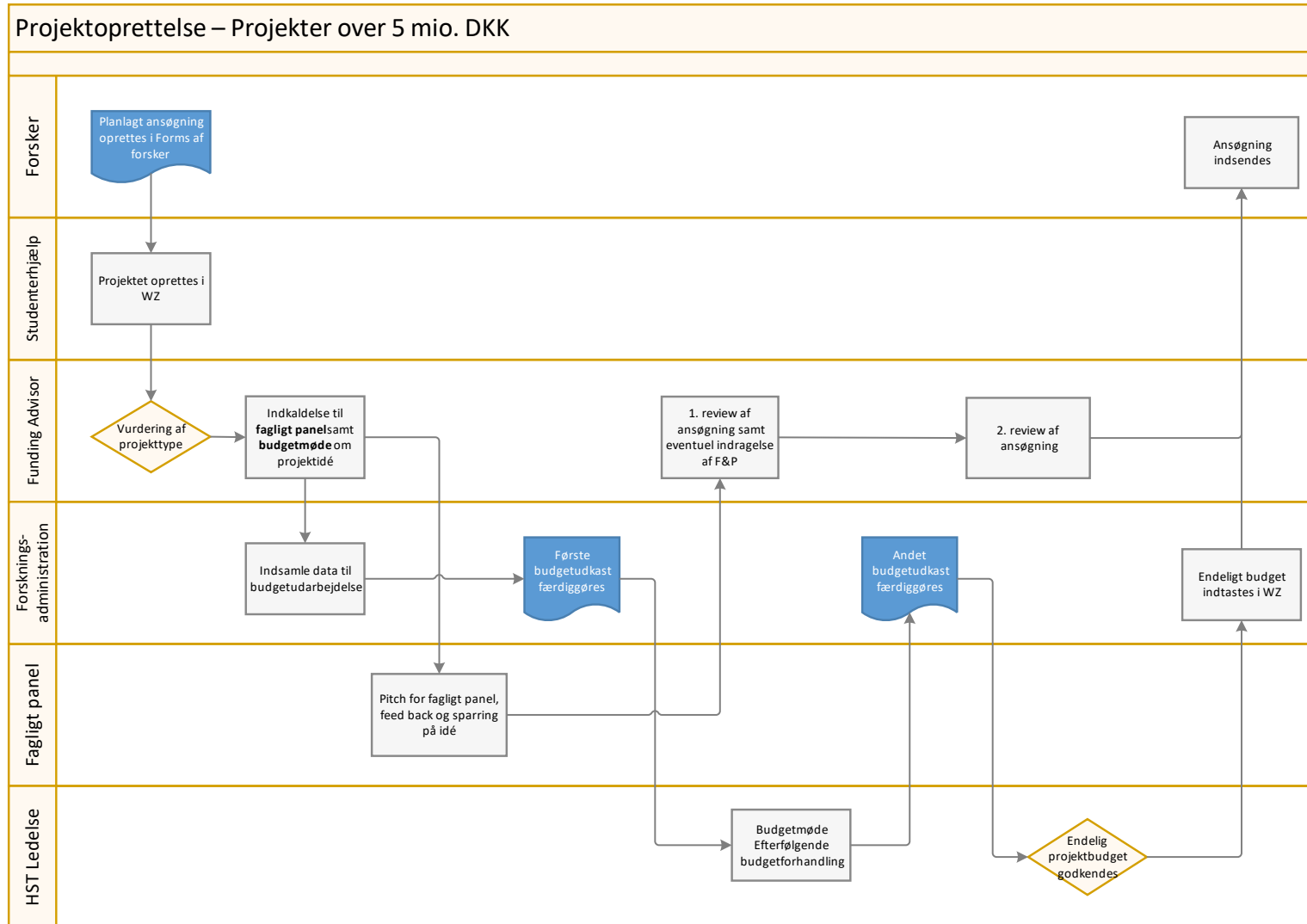
In general, with the number of unregistered applications or applications registered very late in the process, many applications live under the radar - this reflects badly on the department's **funding support activities, success rates and economy.**

# Improvement proposal – 3 changes

- All applications are registered AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE by the PI by using a form answering a few simple questions such as
  - PI name,
  - Project focus/idea (in very general terms)
  - Expected fund and call (if known)
  - Expected budget in general terms (eg. I need a PhD for two years)
  - An option to request funding support (yes/no)
- Large (+5 mio) and prestigious projects are invited to a mandatory meeting for discussion of the proposal to secure strategic alignment and initiation of lobby activities. PI will together with XYZ have a say in who participates
- An official budget meeting (+5 mio) is organized by adm. (this also happens today, but will be formalized)



# New process + 5 mio



# Advantages of the new proces

## PI/Research Group leader

- PI does not have a one-stop administrative initiation of research applications
- Projects are rarely registered at the idea phase -> Proactive support from admin cannot be provided if project idea is unknown – management cannot be involved to support application if project idea is unknown
- No formalized process to initiate management support/use of HST network (lobby work) for a strategically important applications
- Missing overview of research group funding activities -> strategic funding efforts can not be initiated in research group + follow up on individual career plans (MUS) cannot be aligned with funding activities



## Management

- Missing overview of ongoing and sent applications + matching budget - > no portfolio management of applications
- No chance to align large and prestigious applications with HST strategy
- No formalized process to early initiation of management support and lobby work for a strategically important applications
- No formalized process to ensure that research quality of application/project is up to standard – ensure good relationship with the foundations/promote HST qualities
- The possibility to ensure optimal OH in the application is insufficient due to short or no notice



## Administration

- No clear responsibility regarding registration of applications leading faulty registrations and, time consuming follow up
- Insufficient chance to facilitate and plan the application process with researcher and management
- Unnecessary stress of admin support due to short notice
- No chance to collect and use data about successful and unsuccessful applications to the benefit of future applications



# EXPECTED LONG TERM IMPACT OF NEW PROCES

- Improve application hit rate
- Improve budget OH
- Provide better funding data and overview and thereby improve strategic efforts
- Improve the basis for lobby work
- Enhancement of academic/research quality of applications from a funding perspective

# Proces Ansøgninger 1-5 mio

