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Contents: Guideline of the Academy Council of the ASCR No. 7 – Regulations for granting the “Fellowship of J. E. Purkyně” for outstanding promising scientific employees

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Guideline of the Academy Council of the ASCR

RE: **Regulations for granting the “Fellowship of J. E. Purkyně” for outstanding promising scientific employees**

Ref. No.: KAV-3564/SČAR/2013
from 18 December 2013

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The “Fellowship of J. E. Purkyně” Programme (hereinafter only “FJEP”) was approved by the Academy Council of the ASCR at its 41st session on 13 January 2004. The aim of the FJEP support is to acquire for the institutes of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic (hereinafter only “institutes of the ASCR” or “institutes”) outstanding creative scientists from abroad, namely both scientists of Czech origin working abroad in the long term or top foreign scientists, usually younger than age 40, and ensure an adequate financial evaluation for them at the institutes of the ASCR. It is anticipated that these scientists will become leading figures of newly created or already existing creative teams at the institutes of the ASCR.

The FJEP can be granted to a candidate from the Czech Republic, who returns to a institute of the ASCR from a long-term, at least three-year residence at a renowned foreign research institute as well as a foreign candidate, who comes to a institute of the ASCR from such a institute. An FJEP can also be granted to a candidate, fulfilling all of the above-mentioned criteria, which at the time of the submission of the application is already in a working relationship or in a relationship similar in labour law with the institute of the ASCR requesting the granting of the FJEP. The duration of this employment should not typically exceed three months at the time of the submission of the request according to these guidelines.

Considering the fact that activity is also addressed to foreign scientists, the English term “fellowship” is used. It is named after J. E. Purkyně to commemorate that this global scientist of Czech origin worked abroad until he was 62, because he was not offered an appropriate research base at home.

Provision of the FJEP is governed by these rules:

1. The FJEP will be granted after a selection procedure from the central means of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic in the annual amount of CZK 1,050,000, which can be adjusted by a resolution of the Academy Council of the ASCR. The FJEP is provided for a period of five (5) years at the longest.
2. The application for the grant of the FJEP for the selected candidate is submitted by the directors of the institutes of the ASCR after discussion in the council of the institute and with their recommendation. The application can be submitted by 31 August of the calendar year and will be evaluated at the latest in the fourth quarter of the calendar year. The applications are sent in writing to the address of the Science Support Division of the Head Office of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Národní 3, 117 20, Prague 1, Czech Republic and also electronically to the address opv@kav.cas.cz.
3. The application of the institute of the ASCR for the granting of the FJEP must contain the requirements presented in the enclosed application form, particularly:
 - justification of the interest of the institute in the selected candidate, e.g. for leading a group, guiding students of the doctoral study programme, introducing new, highly beneficial issues etc., and the work programme of the proposed candidate,
 - specialized curriculum vita of the proposed candidate and proof of his/her outstanding scientific and possibly also organizational and pedagogical abilities,
 - a binding list of the personnel and materially technical conditions, which the institute will create in the case of the grant of the FJEP for its bearer for the successful fulfilment of his/her work programme (laboratory, co-workers, spatial and instrumental equipment, other material and financial support etc.),
 - the declaration of the candidate that he/she agrees with the proposed conditions and work programme.
4. The application is evaluated by a specialized commission comprised of members of the Academy Council of the ASCR and the Council for Sciences of the ASCR headed by the President of the ASCR, who appoints its members. An important criterion in the evaluation of the applications for the granting of a FJEP will be the fulfilment of the demands requested for categorization in the 5th qualification grade in the sense of the Statutes of the ASCR (Art. 22 of the Attachment of the Statutes of the ASCR) and also the real assumption that the candidate will become a leading figure of a newly created or already existing creative team at the relevant institute of the ASCR. Recommendations of the specialized commission for granting of a FJEP fully replace the recommendation of the Coordination Commission for the 5th Qualification Grade for the inclusion of an employee in the highest qualification grade in the sense of the Career Regulation of the Employees of the ASCR.
5. Based on the decision of the President of the ASCR, the institutes, whose selected candidate will be granted a FJEP, will have its institutional means increased in accordance with this decision. In the case of the granting of a FJEP, the financing of the FJEP will begin in accord with the conditions of the decision on the granting of the FJEP, but at the earliest from 1 January of the following calendar year. In the decision of the granting of a FJEP, also the binding personnel and materially technical conditions for the support of the granted FJEP from the institute's own resources must be prescribed.
6. The annual granting of six FJEPs is anticipated. This number as well as their amount can be subsequently changed depending on the financial possibilities of the ASCR and on other circumstances.

7. The institute of the bearer of the FJEP will conclude with the bearer of the FJEP a contract based on which the institute will pay the bearer of the FJEP a monthly wage for the period of the provision of the FJEP in the amount which in the case of a fulltime equivalent in the annual sum including the mandatory statutory deductions and allocation to the social fund is at least the amount of the FJEP granted for the relevant year. Granting of a FJEP does not hinder the institute from rising the salary of the bearer of the FJEP from the institutional or extra-budgetary means of the relevant institute. However, the possible engagement of the bearer of the FJEP in grants and projects of domestic and foreign providers, in the resolution of which the bearer of the FJEP is directly involved, may not hinder the fulfilment of the work programme of the bearer of the FJEP according to this guideline.
8. In order to assure the fulfilment of the aims of the granting of the FJEP, it is anticipated that in the course of the provision of the FJEP the bearer of the FJEP is employed fulltime at the relevant institute. In the case of the care for a child (children) or for other serious reasons, an FJEP can be exceptionally issued also to an employee employed on a reduced workload. The institute of the bearer of the FJEP and the bearer of the FJEP can agree on a reduction of the workload of the bearer of the FJEP for the reasons presented above and in the course of the period of the provision of the FJEP. However, such a reduced workload may not in any case hinder the bearer of the FJEP in the fulfilment of the work programme of the bearer of the FJEP according to this guideline or be a hindrance for the bearer of the FJEP to remain for the entire period of the provision of the FJEP at the relevant institute a leading figure of a newly formed or already existing creative team.
9. In the course of the provision of the support of the FJEP, it is possible at the request of the bearer of the FJEP to discontinue exceptionally the provision of the FJEP, namely based on a contract concluded between the relevant institute and the bearer of the FJEP. However, the presumption is that such an interruption will not hinder the bearer of the FJEP in the fulfilment of the work programme of the bearer of the FJEP according to this guideline or be a hindrance for the bearer of the FJEP to remain for the entire period of the provision of the FJEP at the relevant institute a leading figure of a newly formed or already existing creative team. Provision of the FJEP can be discontinued at most twice during the period of the provision of the FJEP with the interruption in total not exceeding usually twelve months.
10. The director of the institute is obliged to inform in writing through the Science Support Division of the Head Office of the ASCR the relevant Vice-President of the ASCR and member of the Academy Council of the ASCR responsible for the financial affairs of the ASCR of each change in the provision of the FJEP according to Articles 8 and 9 of this guideline with the mentioned measures, which ensure the fulfilment of the aims of the granting of the FJEP.
11. In the case of the interruption or premature conclusion of the provision of the FJEP or in the case of the reduction of the workload of the bearer of the FJEP for the period of the provision of the FJEP according to this guideline it is the obligation of the relevant institute of the ASCR to return the unused means of the FJEP.
12. The director of the institute will annually submit to the relevant Vice-President of the ASCR through the Science Support Division a short report on the fulfilment of the work programme of the bearer of the FJEP, including the fulfilment of the prescribed conditions and including a brief work programme of the bearer of the FJEP for the next calendar year. The deadline for submission of this report is no later than 10 January of the following year.

13. Control of the prescribed condition of the drawing of the FJEP according to this guideline will be assured by the relevant Vice-President of the ASCR and will decide on the provision of financial means for the next period. The member of the Academy Council of the ASCR entrusted with resolution of the conceptual economic affairs will ensure the provision of the financial means for the next period.
14. Provision of the support of the FJEP can be terminated prior to the end of the set period:
 - based on a justified application of the bearer of the FJEP along with the statement of the director of the institute,
 - based on the announcement of the director of the institute that the bearer of the FJEP is not sufficiently fulfilling the set programme,
 - from the decision of the President of the ASCR himself/herself, should he/she determine that the bearer of the FJEP or his/her institute is not observing the set conditions for the provision of the support of the FJEP.
15. After the proper completion of the work programme, which was to be fulfilled by the bearer of the FJEP, the director of the relevant institute submits through the relevant Vice-President of the ASCR a report to the Academy Council of the ASCR on the results of the bearer of the FJEP achieved at the institute with a possible proposal of measures.
16. The directors of the institutes send any applications and reports assumed by this guideline in writing to the address of the Science Support Division of the Head Office of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Národní 3, 117 20, Prague 1, Czech Republic and also electronically to the address opv@kav.cas.cz.
17. The provisions of these regulations in points 7 through 16 also relate to the already implemented support of the FJEP.
18. This guideline takes effect on 1 January 2014. It cancels the guideline of the Academic Council of the ASCR No. 1/2004 on the Granting of the Fellowship of J. E. Purkyně for outstanding promising scientific employees and the Guidelines of the Academy Council of the ASCR No. 3/2005, No. 4/2006 and No. 2/2008.

Attachment: Official form of the application for the grant of support

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President of the ASCR