



## UMEÅ UNIVERSITY INVITATION

### ReaL Research & Leadership

#### STEP 1 - Researchers in an early stage of the research career

#### Group A7 2022-2023

**The last day of application is Friday June 17<sup>th</sup> 2022**

**Apply to your respective Faculty by filling out a special application form.**

The leadership programme ReaL Step 1 for researchers early in their career will be offered during 2022-2023. The programme aims to provide active targeted skills and career support to researchers with the aim of becoming successful researchers and scientific leaders at Umeå University. The programme is open to 21 participants from all faculties. Send the application no later than June 17<sup>th</sup> to your respective faculty office.

Umeå University's goal is to advance its position as an internationally leading research and educational university, which also plays a prominent role in regional development. The university's researchers should be encouraged to take risks that enable ground-breaking research moving our frontiers of knowledge. As part of this aim, Umeå University carries out targeted activities to support research careers with a focus on research leadership. The ReaL programme is one such activity aiming to encourage and actively support researchers in their careers. ReaL is carried out at three levels. The first level, Step 1, invites researchers at an early stage in their career. The second level, Step 2, aims at researchers who are already established research leaders and the third level, Step 3, targets distinguished research leaders.

The ReaL programme can also be described as a "Talent Management" initiative, which is a term used to define an organisation's or business's conscious strategy to develop and maintain talent within a competitive market. A Talent Management perspective involves focusing, not only on current performances, but also on the *potential* and on the *future performance* of an employee. This involves supporting the development of necessary qualities, also offering greater responsibilities and support.

#### **Target group**

The ReaL -Step 1 programme targets persons who are in an early stage of their careers in research and who seek to become successful researchers. Applicants are preferred to have experience from other research environments, such as a postdoctoral study or equivalent, preferably abroad. The applicant is currently raising his/her own funds with the ambition of securing external financial backing as well as establishing a research network or research group. You still have limited experience as a research leader and a supervisor, as well as participating in committees, foundations and research councils. You should have teaching experience. Primarily, the programme targets persons who are currently employed as Assistant Professors/Associate Senior Lecturers (biträdande lektor), Researchers (forskare) or newly appointed Associate Professors/Senior Lecturers (lektor). You should preferably have held a PhD for at least two years, and preferably for no more than six years, but crucial is that you are in an early stage of your research career.

## **Purpose and content**

The overall objective of the programme is to give young researchers support in the development as a researcher, an increased competence in the role as research leader and developing your communication skills. The programme aims to provide knowledge about external grant funding and recruitment, learning about project management, team development, mentoring and coaching, developing interdisciplinary contacts and national and international collaborations. You will receive information about the organization of the University and its resources for support. You will also formulate your own individual career plan where one of the goals is to help you develop your own research project.

## **Implementation**

The programme is open for all researchers at the University that fit the target group description. It is carried out once a year in a group of 21 participants. Interviews for Step1 group A7 will start in September 2022 and the programme begins Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The programme consists of eight course occasions. The following dates are 18/10, 22/11, and continue 2023 with 17/1, 21/2, 21/3, 18/4, 16/5 and the final date 13/6.

## **Application**

Submit the application to your respective Faculty on a special form, which must contain a concise CV and a self-evaluation (please see the application form). Do not forget that the Head of Department must sign the application.

## **Selection process**

The faculty management, after consulting the heads of departments, takes the decision regarding the selection of participants. The selection focuses on research-competence and leadership potential (see appendix 1 for selection criteria).

We welcome you to submit your application to your faculty office no later than June Friday 17<sup>th</sup> 2022.

The decision regarding participation will be communicated to the applicants, latest August Friday 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

You will find more information on:

<https://www.aurora.umu.se/en/education-and-research/support-for-research/courses-and-workshops-at-the-research-support-office/real/>

Matts Björklund  
Program leader  
Senior Consultant

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Program leader  
Professor

# Appendix

## Real Research & Leadership

### STEP 1 - Researchers in an early stage of the research career

#### **1. Research competence refers to the assessment of:**

The applicant's scientific qualifications:

- Publication success (quality and quantity) since receiving a doctoral degree (publication in recent years should be especially noted) in relation to the researcher's field
- The ability to raise own research funding
- National and international collaboration
- The assessment of research merits should be understood in relation to the applicant's active research time since achieving the doctoral degree.

#### **2. Leadership potential**

When it comes to leadership potential, characteristics described in the literature regarding research leadership can be used as support for assessing and selecting candidates.

- Creative problem-solving skills
- Openness, curiosity
- Communication ability
- Ability to interact/collaborate with others
- Ability to supervise doctoral students (e.g., role model)
- Ability/potential to lead a group
- Potential for development

**The application deadline is Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022!**

**Apply with a special form and submit it to your faculty's office**

**Do not forget that the Head of Department must sign your application**

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