

## REPRESENTATION FOR POSTDOCS

Do you think postdocs need representation at KI Board of Research and Department Councils? Do you know that currently postdocs are not represented there?

Take a minute of your time and help us give you proper representation where it matters. **This year, we need all of you to take a little but meaningful action.**

Please say if you want postdoc representatives to speak for you at the Board of Research and Department Councils through the following link:

<https://survey.ki.se/Survey/5492/en?un=C8AjDzry&pw=thKnMkcj>

The KIPA team has been trying to get representation for postdoc scientists at the Board of Research and the Department Councils since its foundation in 2012. Beside few fortunate exceptions (including the departments of Neuroscience and BioNut), postdoc representatives do not have a seat to be able to speak for the postdoc community where it matters.

Keep in mind that official representation is pivotal. PhD students and faculty are represented at the Board of Research and Department Councils. The benefits of representation are threefold:

1. It guarantees better communication between the different parties and KI leadership;
2. It helps to bring up and solve important issues;
3. The representatives can report the perspectives of their communities while decisions regarding new policies are made.

In 2017, the KIPA team aims to continue asking to give the postdoc community proper representation with your help.

In this way KIPA will be able to more effectively represent you and improve working and training conditions for postdoc scientists. KIPA will grant a democratic selection of the representatives.

One minute of your time will greatly benefit you and the entire postdoc community at KI.

## GOVERNMENT RESEARCH BILL 2016/17:50

The Government published the new research bill (regeringens proposition 2016/17:50) that aims to improve the conditions for academic research and career system and favours research and innovation

(<http://www.regeringen.se/rattsdokument/proposition/2016/11/prop.-20161750/>).

In the new proposition, the government DOES NOT CHANGE the postdoc timeline (so it is still seven years), as previously suggested. They report a current further investigation on the matter. They also reinforce the belief that fixed-term employment should be shortened to reach job stability earlier in an academic career. No clear proposition on the implementation is made.

As you might remember, KIPA responded to the Government proposal last May (you can

see our referral response here <http://kipostdocassociation.org/useful-links>). Among many proposed changes, the government wanted to reduce the postdoc training to maximum five year after graduation, with potential detrimental effects on a lot of our careers (as pointed out from the results of KIPA and JF survey). Gladly, this time reduction has not become part of the new research bill.

In short, regarding the attractiveness of an academic career for young researchers, the new research bill highlights the lack of clarity in the current career system and the leakage of the academic pipeline (trained researchers seeking for opportunities outside academia).

The proposition aims for a more gender equal academia (equal opportunities for career advancement), increased national and international mobility, more transparency in recruitment of scientists (nationally and internationally advertisement and open competition), and the constitution of a uniform career system. Importantly, the government asks the Swedish universities and colleges to take responsibility for the career system and working conditions of young researchers.

### **5th HEIDELBERG FORUM FOR YOUNG LIFE SCIENTISTS (HFYLS)**

HFYLS is a scientific meeting organized by PhD students from Heidelberg and Mannheim, Germany.

Their aim is to bring together young life scientists from diverse backgrounds for an international two-day conference.

Located at the beautiful city of Heidelberg with its long history of scientific endeavors, the meeting will foster interdisciplinary and collaborative exchange on emerging research topics.

The 5th conference will be held on 8-9<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ) Heidelberg, Germany.

Leading scientists and young researchers will present their work and share their expertise in the following life-science related research areas: Microbiota, Signaling, Translational Cancer Research, and Aging.

Further details about our meeting can be found at <http://www.life-science-forum-hd.de/>

### **JOIN KI POSTDOC ASSOCIATION!**

If you like to get more involved in the association while gaining invaluable management experience, **join us!** Beside professional development, you will contribute to the formation of a strong postdoc community at KI, while working and having fun with a group of highly motivated and enthusiastic people!

If you are interested or have any further question, send an email to [info@kipostdocassociation.org](mailto:info@kipostdocassociation.org).

Cheers,  
**KIPA**