Call for funding applications and invitation to nominate young researchers for the Wallenberg Academy Fellows program

The Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation (the Foundation) has decided to set up a long-term program for young researchers: Wallenberg Academy Fellows.

In close cooperation with the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences, the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry, the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities and the Swedish Academy, the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation has created a program that will provide resources for Sweden’s most promising researchers to develop their work. The program addresses young researchers in medicine, natural sciences, engineering and technology, humanities and social sciences.

The purpose of the Wallenberg Academy Fellows program is to give young researchers a work situation that enables them to focus on research and tackle difficult, long-term research questions.

Swedish seats of learning are invited to nominate candidates for the program. Final date for nomination is the 4th of March 2015. The Swedish Academies will evaluate and select the most promising researchers and the seats of learning will then assume long-term responsibility for these individuals. The Foundation will also, in cooperation with the Academies, create a mentor program that affords support for the researcher’s academic development and also for innovation.

Scope
This 2015-call comprises 158 nominations and nomination of up to 25 - 30 young researchers. The program is intended to last for five years and, altogether, fund up to 125 young researchers. If the program is successful, it will be extended for another five years.

The funding offered by the Foundation comprises:

- Grants of SEK 1,000,000 a year for five years for researchers within theoretical disciplines.

- Grants of SEK 1,500,000 a year for five years for researchers within theoretical disciplines, who at the time of nomination are working abroad*.

- Grants of SEK 1,500,000 a year for five years for researchers within experimental disciplines.

- Researchers, who at the time of nomination are working abroad, can apply for grants to cover moving and establishment costs. The maximum grant available for moving costs is SEK 100,000 and for establishment costs up to maximum SEK 1,500,000. SEK 500 000 is obtainable for all recruitments from abroad and up to SEK 1,000,000 may be obtained provided the Universities contribute with the same amount.

* Nominated within the category “Researcher working abroad at the time of the nomination”, have not been employed, received salary or other financing during the last four years from the nominating seat of learning.
The appointed researchers will be employed by the nominating seat of learning and relevant positions must be guaranteed.

The seats of learning are co-funding the initiative by guaranteeing that no more than a maximum of 50% of the researcher’s payroll expenses will be charged to the grant. A seat of learning may choose to fund the researcher’s entire salary, thereby helping to give him or her larger unencumbered research resource. The seats of learning will also be co-funding the initiative by contributing funds for indirect expenses, over and above the potential contribution from the Foundation. After five years, the seats of learning will be invited to nominate their appointed researchers to compete for another five years funding at the same level. A maximum of 30% of the originally appointed fellows can be approved for extension.

**Nominations for the program**
The seats of learning are invited to nominate candidates for the Wallenberg Academy Fellows program 2015 according to the following list (158 nominations altogether). At least 40% of the candidates nominated (i.e. at least the number in brackets) must, at the time of nomination not have been employed, received salary or other financing during the last four years from the nominating seat or learning.

**Universities:**

- Lund University 15 (6)
- Uppsala University 15 (6)
- Karolinska Institutet 15 (6)
- Stockholm University 10 (4)
- University of Gothenburg 10 (4)
- KTH 10 (4)
- Swedish Univ. of Agricultural Sciences 10 (4)
- Chalmers University of Techn. 10 (4)

**University Colleges:**

- The below university colleges are invited to nominate one candidate each:
  - Blekinge Institute of Technology
  - National Defence College
  - Dalarna University
  - University of Gävle
  - Jönköping University
  - Kristianstad University
  - Univ. College of Arts, Crafts and Design
  - Royal College of Music in Stockholm
  - Mälardalen University
  - Sophia Hemmet University
  - Södertörn University
  - Ersta Sköndal University College
  - The Swedish School of Sport and Health Scienc.
  - University of Borås
  - Halmstad University
  - University of Skövde
  - University West
  - Royal Institute of Arts
  - Malmö University
  - Red Cross University College
  - Stockholm University of the Arts
Who can be nominated?
The program is open to researchers in all academic disciplines: medicine, engineering and technology, natural sciences, social sciences and humanities/religion, and also in the interfaces between them.

Candidates nominated in 2015 must have obtained their PhDs after 1 January 2007. An exception may be made for a nominee whose PhDs date back to before 2007 but who, on request, can document parental leave or extended sick leave that has taken place since the PhD exam. It is thus possible for the earliest qualifying date for a PhD to be moved back by the same length of time as the parental or sick leave lasted.

Nomination procedure
The universities can nominate the number of candidates assigned to them by quota. Please look at the instruction before submitting the e-application.

A candidate cannot be nominated by more than one seat of learning. A candidate must, when nominated by a specific seat of learning, approve the nomination.

Documents attached to the nomination, all in English except for the Brief popular scientific summary in Swedish, must include the following:

- The person’s research qualifications, i.e. CV (max two A4 pages) covering positions held, awards won and postdoctoral research stays, if any.
- A list of all publications in peer-reviewed journals, with the ten most important publications marked. If relevant, an H-index (Web of Science, Scopus or Google Scholar) together with number of publications and number of quotes the H-index is based on, is attached. Google Scholars preferably use Harzing’s Publish or Perish.
- A short (max two A4 pages) account of the person’s career, i.e. primarily his or her academic achievements together with information of present support from Universities or other financial support.
- A project proposal (max six A4 pages).
- Each nomination must contain a brief presentation of the reasons why the nominee’s activities are considered a key component of the research profile of the seat of learning and a description of the nomination process, i.e. the arguments, evaluations and processes on which the nomination was based (max two A4 pages).
- A brief popular scientific summary in Swedish (max one A4 page).
- External candidates attach a motivation stating the reasons why he/she wants to establish his/her research at the nominating seat of learning (max 1 A4 page.).

The nominations and applications must be registered electronically on the Foundation’s website.

Evaluation process
The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, in cooperation with the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences, the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry, the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities and the Swedish Academy, will be responsible for the evaluation process.
The selection process will be implemented in five different evaluation panels: medicine, engineering and technology, natural sciences, social sciences and humanities/religion. The panel members are appointed by the Academies and have broad academic expertise.

One of the five subject areas above must be specified in the nomination.

The five panels will evaluate and rank incoming nominations. The five ranking lists will then be submitted to KAW, which will decide on the number of grants in each area.

**Assessment criteria**
See Appendix 1.

**Closing date for nominations and applications**
Complete nominations and applications must be received by the Foundation not later than 4th of March 2015.

Full documentation for each nominee must be submitted electronically, by the seat of learning, to the Foundation in accordance with the latter’s routines for grant applications.

**Decision**
The Wallenberg Academy Fellows will be appointed by the Board of the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation in November 2015 and the decision will be announced in December 2015.