

2009-06-09

Additional funding recommendation to the LLC Board from the LLC Research Committee

When the March 5, 2009 LLC Research and Strategy day was arranged the financial situation was the following:

Available LLC funds, not distributed yet by Board decision, for the time period up till the end of 2010:

Linnaeus grant reserves:	2,600 kkr
LLC accumulated reserves (EC funds):	1,100 kkr
Total LLC reserves:	3,700 kkr

The projected Linnaeus reserves had as an assumption, that Volker Ebert, offered the LLC professorship, would start at the LLC July 1, 2009.

Following the Research and Strategy day, the LLC Research Committee recommended to distribute the 2,600 kkr available on the Linnaeus grant on two projects, to support an assistant professor's position in particle acceleration with lasers, and to support G. Somesfalean's research in environmental monitoring during two years. The recommendation was adopted by the LLC Board on April 20.

Recently, Volker Ebert unfortunately announced that he is turning down the professorship offer, mostly for economical reasons, both privately and in view of research support.

In connection with the Research and Strategy day it was stated, that a renewed announcement of the position will not be done in case the recruitment would ultimately fail – instead other ways of supporting the LLC research will be sought.

Following two meetings (May 18 and May 25) among the local members of the Research Committee, and input from further LLC members, it was decided to propose a recommendation to the LLC Board to further distribute the 2,250,000 SEK now becoming available from the professorship allocation for the time span up till the end of 2010, in the following way:

New PhD position for a <i>female</i> student at Combustion Physics, Fredrik Ossler's group (interaction with J. Larsson's group)	1.5 (4)y x 600 kkr/y	900 kkr
50% financing of PhD position at Chemical Dynamics, Tönu Pullerits' group	0.5 x 1.5 (4)y x 600 kkr/y	450 kkr
50% financing of PhD position at the Biophotonics group (interaction with Chemical Dynamics)	0.5 x 1.5 (4)y x 600 kkr/y	450 kkr

Support to multi-disciplinary quantum electronics interactions within the
LLC by partially financing Lars Rippe's LTH postdoc position 1 (2)y x 450 kkr/y 450 kkr

Sum

2,250 kkr

Note, that the sums given correspond to the allocations made up till the end of 2010. However, the commitment extends beyond that time: the total number of years of the respective commitment is given between parentheses. Thus, including the allocation made earlier this spring, a commitment of in total 5,150 kkr has already been made for the time period 2011-2013. This number should be seen in the light that the previously anticipated commitment of 1,500 kkr/y for the professorship falls away, i.e. in total 4,500 kkr for the corresponding time period. Clearly, the Research Committee will have the major part of the available funds at its disposal to set the future LLC research program at its upcoming strategy meeting towards the end of 2010.

The recommendation given above reflects the spirit that the Linnaeus grant ultimately should penetrate all activities at the LLC. The support of Tönu Pullerits is a new activity as is the support of Lars Rippe. Actually, his research, presently being performed at NCAR, Boulder, can be characterized as *optical quantum electronics*, and thus falls within the original lines of thought regarding the failing professorship. While a two year LTH grant supports 50% of his 2 year postdoc (the quantum optics activity) the additional support now given is primarily intended for his cross-interdisciplinary interaction with other LLC divisions. The Committee has sought for opportunities of an active gender policy, and is particularly happy to recommend support for a *female* PhD candidate, now available at the Combustion Physics Division, where female researchers traditionally have been extremely rare.

The results of the deliberations among the local members of the LLC Research Committee have been circulated to its external members (Profs Gunilla Jönson, Joseph Nordgren, and Ove Poulsen) and have been fully supported by them.

A unanimous Research Committee thus puts forward these recommendations to the LLC Board, for a suggested *per capsulam* decision before the summer.

For the LLC Research Committee

Sune Svanberg
Chair person