

# **Funding of Postgraduate Studies in Computer Science at HUT**

Jorma Tarhio

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## **Types of funding**

- Graduate school
- Teaching post
- Project worker
- Scholarship
- Scholarship for studying abroad
- General support for studies (Kela)
- Regular job (outside HUT)

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## **Graduate schools**

- Funded by Ministry of Education
- The current system started in 1995
- In 2002
  - ◆ 108 graduate schools
  - ◆ 1426 paid students
  - ◆ HUT coordinates 17 schools

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## **Graduate schools: Financial benefits**

- Four year appointment
- Full-time studying
- Salary
  - ◆ A18 (EUR 1,600)
  - ◆ with lab extra up to EUR 2,500
  - ◆ no age bonuses
- Travel grants

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## **Our graduate schools**

- Helsinki GS in Computer Science (HeCSE)
- GS in Computational Methods of Information Technology (ComMIT)
- GS in Computational Biology, Bioinformatics and Biometry (ComBI)
- GS for Electronics Business and Software Industry (GEBSI)
- Pythagoras

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## **Teaching posts**

- Postgraduate students are favored
- Assistant
  - ◆ Traditional post for postgraduate studies
  - ◆ 3-year appointment
  - ◆ 3 mo. full-time research/year
  - ◆ No lectures
  - ◆ Teaching and administration 12–24 h/week (old regulations)
  - ◆ A19 (EUR 1,700)

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## **Teaching posts (cont.)**

- Teaching researcher
  - ◆ 5-year appointment
  - ◆ ~ one lecture course/year
  - ◆ A23 (EUR 2,200)
- University teacher (new)
  - ◆ A23-A24 (EUR 2,200)
  - ◆ no tradition
- Professor (temporary appointment)
  - ◆ A28 (EUR 3,450)

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## **Project worker**

- Short appointments
- Suitability depends on duties
  - ◆ Avoid being a project manager!

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## **Scholarships**

1. Small
2. Travel grant
3. Large
  - ◆ one year
  - ◆ for full-time study only
  - ◆ EUR 10,000 – 20.000/year

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## **Scholarships (cont.)**

- ◆ no taxes
  - ◆ private foundations: up to EUR 15,000 without taxes
  - ◆ remember: tax planning, aug-july is better than jan-dec
- ◆ continuation possible (at most three years)
- ◆ drawback: limited social benefits, e.g. pension doesn't cumulate

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## **Funding resources**

- HUT and Research Foundation of HUT
  - ◆ large scholarships
    - ◆ EUR 14,000/year
    - ◆ deadline April 15, 2003
  - ◆ small scholarships for fast studying and for dissertation

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### **Funding resources (cont.)**

- The Finnish Cultural Foundation (Suomen Kulttuurirahasto)
- Technological Foundation (Tekniikan edistämissäätiö)
- Emil Aaltonen Foundation
- Nokia Foundation

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### **Funding resources (cont.)**

- Jenny and Antti Wihuri Foundation
- KAUTE Foundation
- Research Foundation of Information Processing (Tietotekniikan tutkimussäätiö)
- Finnish Academy of Science and Letters

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### **Types of funding**

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### **Funding application**

- Application form
- Research plan
  - ◆ general significance
  - ◆ expected results
  - ◆ schedule
  - ◆ budget
  - ◆ advising

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## **Funding application (cont.)**

- Research plan (cont.)
  - ◆ tips
    - ◆ clear topic
    - ◆ compact presentation
    - ◆ reasonable, many-sided, interdisciplinary?
- CV (with list of publications)
- FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS!
- General impression counts!

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## **Funding application (cont.)**

- References (recommendations)
  - ◆ two recommenders (at least docents)
  - ◆ they should know you
  - ◆ better if one of them doesn't work in your lab
  - ◆ give a copy of the research proposal to them

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## **Example: Research plan for Academy of Finland**

- Background
  - ◆ background and significance of the research
  - ◆ previous activity
- Objectives and methods
  - ◆ objectives of the research
  - ◆ hypotheses

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## **Example (cont.)**

- Performers of the research and resources
  - ◆ arrangements for postgraduate instruction and supervision
  - ◆ Finnish and foreign co-operation
  - ◆ financial plan
  - ◆ grounds for funding (in particular for "other costs")

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## **Example (cont.)**

- Results
  - ◆ results to be expected and their significance
  - ◆ applicability of the results and their potential exploitation
  - ◆ publication plan

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## **Curriculum Vitae (CV)**

- Education
- Work history
- Previously received research funding, previous projects
- Teaching and theses advising
- Academic activities (positions of trust, reviewing, honours, prizes)

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## **Funding decision is based on**

- Expert reviews (Academy of Finland)
- Recommendations (foundations)
- Balance between fields, universities etc.

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## **Remarks**

- Seek for long-term funding rather than well-paid short posts
- If you encounter problems, consult your supervisor
- Funding applications for postgraduate studies are similar to funding applications for research

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## **Links (mostly in Finnish)**

- Jatko-opinto-opas  
[www.hut.fi/Yksikot/Tieto/Opinnot/jatko-opas.pdf](http://www.hut.fi/Yksikot/Tieto/Opinnot/jatko-opas.pdf)
- TKK:n apurahaseuranta  
[www.hut.fi/nyt/apurahat/](http://www.hut.fi/nyt/apurahat/)
- Turun yliopiston Apurahatiedote  
[www.utu.fi/hallinto/tutkimuspalvelut/tiedote1/welcome.htm](http://www.utu.fi/hallinto/tutkimuspalvelut/tiedote1/welcome.htm)
- Foundations  
[www.skr.fi/spalvelu/verkossa.html](http://www.skr.fi/spalvelu/verkossa.html)

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## **Links (cont.)**

- Apurahatutkijan opas  
[www.tieteentekijoidenliitto.fi/apurahatutkijanopas.htm](http://www.tieteentekijoidenliitto.fi/apurahatutkijanopas.htm)
- Apurahat 2002  
[www.syl.helsinki.fi/opiskelijat/apurahat.html](http://www.syl.helsinki.fi/opiskelijat/apurahat.html)
- CIMO  
[www.cimo.fi/Resource.phx/cimo/itselle/jatko.htx](http://www.cimo.fi/Resource.phx/cimo/itselle/jatko.htx)
- UNESCO: Study Abroad 2000 – 2001  
[www.unesco.org/education/studyingabroad/networking/studyabroad.shtml](http://www.unesco.org/education/studyingabroad/networking/studyabroad.shtml)

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