

FACULTY OF THEOLOGY  
UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN

## **FACULTY OF THEOLOGY 2014–2016**

**SUPPLEMENT TO  
THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2012–2016**

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## **Supplement to THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2012–2016**

The Faculty of Theology's *Development Plan 2012-2016* sets out the objectives for the plan period and the actions needed to implement them. The plan conveys a broad overall picture of the faculty's activities.

The faculty has decided to revise the development plan now that it has reached the half-way point. Many of the planned actions have already been implemented as the progress made in the last two years testifies.

The increased recruitment of researchers has allowed the faculty to maintain its strong academic presence at international level. The study programmes have combined innovative pedagogic and didactic thinking with the high academic requirements traditionally placed on students. Students and staff are satisfied with their study and work environments. The core activities – research, learning and teaching – are well supported by an efficient administration. The faculty has also benefited from actively and visibly participating in interdisciplinary activities at the University of Copenhagen as one of its top priorities.

Rather than conduct a comprehensive mid-term evaluation of the *Development Plan 2012-2016*, the faculty has issued a supplement, *Faculty of Theology 2014–2016*.

While the overall objectives remain unchanged, there is a need to pay greater attention to three areas in particular. This is reflected in three specific objectives for 2014-2016:

- The faculty will enhance its research via externally funded projects.
- The faculty will improve study progress times on its bachelor and masters programmes.
- The faculty will maintain the quality of its study and working environments during the relocation to Søndre Campus.

The actions that will enable the faculty to achieve these objectives are described below.

It is important that the objectives and actions are seen in the context of the whole of the faculty's activities in the subject areas that it covers, in terms of teaching, learning, research and administration. These activities will not be replaced. They will be supported and complemented by actions in the three focus areas. The *Development Plan 2012-2016* will not be replaced either. It will be supplemented by *The Faculty of Theology 2014–2016*.

The faculty sees these two plans as a contribution to meeting the objectives set for the University as a whole during the completion phase of the UCPH strategy 2012–2016.

*The Faculty of Theology 2014–2016* was written in early summer 2014 and discussed by the Academic Council and Samarbejdsudvalget in September 2014.

Kirsten Busch Nielsen  
Dean

## **Focus area 1**

### *Objective*

Enhancing research via externally funded projects.

### *Actions*

1. The departments and the Center of African Studies will focus on research projects funded by public and private-sector sources at home and abroad. Around 15 projects are in the pipeline for the period covered by the plan. Project development and application writing will be carried out at the same time as current projects continue or are completed. As far as possible, these projects will be developed by the permanent academic staff of the faculty.
2. The research support functions will be consolidated and information about them made more widely available, providing researchers with direct access to advice and administrative help during the various phases – from concept development to project completion.
3. Seminars and other events will be held to enable academic staff to share knowledge and provide inspiration on research-related topics such as research quality, academic publications and good scientific practice. These seminars will supplement other academic events organised by researchers and departments/centres as part of their research activities.
4. The PhD programme will be more closely integrated into research projects.
5. New and better models will be developed for student involvement in research projects.
6. Improvements will be made to the registering of research activities in CURIS, the use of Open Access and the quality of “researcher data” on the faculty website. Researchers will also be offered additional assistance to help them publicise their results via the media.

## **Focus area 2**

### *Objective*

Improving study progress in bachelor and master's programmes.

### *Actions*

1. Amendments to the curricula and innovative academic and pedagogic thinking will enhance full-time studies in bachelor and master's programmes.
2. Particular attention will be paid to the transition from upper secondary school into the bachelor programme.
3. Extended introductory courses will be developed for both the bachelor and master's programmes.
4. Experience gained on the two English-language master's programmes will be used to focus on thesis writing, particularly on the master's programme in theology.
5. Greater contact with the world outside the University will be encouraged by enhancing the opportunities for mobility and for writing theses in collaboration with external partners.
6. Schemes will be introduced to help students who are behind with their studies to "catch up" and, as far as possible, to facilitate education as a "second career" (partly via the rules for Open University).
7. Pedagogic development will be made a priority.
8. Study administration will be organised in a way that students are met by consistently good service and systems that are navigable.

### **Focus area 3**

#### *Objective*

Maintaining the quality of the study and work environments during the relocation to Søndre Campus.

#### *Actions*

1. During the construction work and preparations for relocation, every effort will be made to maintain a high degree of staff and student involvement in the process via Søndre Campus reference group, the various working groups, the Collaboration Committee and the Working Environment Committee.
2. Ensuring that information about the construction process and the relocation is provided in good time will be a priority.
3. Every attempt will be made to ensure that staff and students will find the new faculty building a good place to work and study.
4. Emphasis will be placed on ways that the physical facilities can help make the faculty a dynamic place to work and study and one that students feel is a good place to spend their time (study areas, 'regional' rooms, links between academic and social events).
5. The plans will focus on the faculty as a multilingual space (e.g. signage).
6. The library collections will be situated in a central and accessible location. Preparations of the collections will be completed well in advance of the relocation.
7. Ongoing work concerning the work and study environments will take the relocation process into account.