PhD position at the Centre for Research on Discretion and Paternalism (DIPA)

There is a vacancy for a PhD position at the Centre for Research on Discretion and Paternalism, Department of Administration and Organization Theory. The position is for a fixed-term period of 4 years, of which 25% will be dedicated to teaching, supervision and administrative tasks at the Centre and the Department. We are looking for an ambitious candidate with strong qualifications in research methodologies and a keen interest in studying children's participatory rights.

About the Centre for Research on Discretion and Paternalism

The Centre for Research on Discretion and Paternalism addresses core themes in the social sciences by examining the government’s use of power toward its citizens and the justifications of state interventions into people’s lives. Important areas of empirical focus are child welfare and children’s rights.

The research at the Centre is comparative - between nations, systems, and individuals, and includes leading researchers across the world. We are an interdisciplinary group including political science, sociology, law, and psychology. In Bergen, the Centre for Research on Discretion and Paternalism is a part of the Centre on Law and Social Transformation (UiB/CMI) and is involved in research collaboration at the Center for excellence, FAIR, at the Norwegian Business School as well as with the research group Law, Democracy and Welfare at Western Norway University of Applied Science.

For more information about the Centre: [http://www.discretion.uib.no/](http://www.discretion.uib.no/)

About the project:

The PhD fellow position is part of the project “Children’s Right to Participation”, funded by the Research Council of Norway (RCN). The overall ambition of the project is to make groundbreaking steps in the understanding and implementation of children’s participatory rights. While children’s right to participate in matters affecting them is a fundamental right in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, reports from children themselves and research shows that children are not involved and do not participate as the Convention and the laws prescribe. To figure out why this is the case, the project brings together different perspectives, experiences, and knowledge through collaboration with four partners from the child protection system: 1) The County Social Welfare Boards, 2) The Norwegian Courts and their Administration, 3) Bergen municipality, and 4) The Change Factory (Expert by Experience). The project aims to generate new knowledge, develop new measures, and build research expertise that enables society to address the challenge of children’s participation.

The PhD fellow position is divided between the candidate’s own research project devoted to core research themes in “Children’s Right to Participation” (75%) and required duties (25%). Half of the required duties will be related to teaching, exam work or supervision, depending on the demands at the Department of Administration and Organization Theory, and the other half to tasks related to research and research administration for “Children’s Right to Participation”.

Professor Marit Skivenes is the Principal Investigator for the project. Potential applicants should contact the principal investigator for further details (marit.skivenes@uib.no).

For more information about the project: [https://discretion.uib.no/projects/childrens-right-to-participation/](https://discretion.uib.no/projects/childrens-right-to-participation/)

Your tasks:

- To engage in independent scientific research that will result in a high-quality PhD thesis, as well as partaking in high-quality publications addressing core themes of the research project
- To participate in the collection, pooling, and analysis of data
- To support and work with the principal investigator in carrying out the research project
- To collaborate with the partners in the project
To participate in the organization of research activities and events at the Centre, such as conferences, workshops, joint publications, and web activities
To actively contribute to the academic life of the Centre

Qualifications and personal qualities:
- The applicant must hold a master’s degree in political science or equivalent (other education may be considered when clearly relevant for the project topic). The applicant must have submitted his/her master’s thesis for assessment prior to the application deadline. It is a condition of employment that the master’s degree has been awarded at the start of employment.
- The requirements are generally grade B (or equivalent) or better on the master’s thesis and for the master’s degree in total
- Some knowledge and experience with text analysis and qualitative methods
- Knowledge and experience with quantitative methods
- A demonstrated interest in engaging in independent research on topics related to the research project
- A demonstrated ability to work independently, efficiently, and cooperate well with others
- The applicant must be fluent in both written and spoken Norwegian and English

Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of their academic qualifications, the project proposal’s fit with the project, and personal qualifications.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to the department for an interview.

About the PhD position:
The duration of the PhD position is 4 years, of which 25 per cent of the time each year comprises required duties associated with research, teaching and dissemination of results.

About the research training:
As a PhD research fellow, you will take part in the PhD programme at the Faculty of Social Sciences, UiB. The programme corresponds to a period of three years and leads to the PhD degree. To be eligible for admission you must normally have an educational background corresponding to a master’s degree with a scope of 120 ECTS credits, which builds on a bachelor’s degree with a scope of 180 ECTS credits (normally 2 + 3 years), or an integrated master’s degree with a scope of 300 ECTS credits (5 years). Master’s degrees must normally include an independent work of a minimum of 30 ECTS credits. It is expected that the topic of the master’s degree is connected to the academic field to which you are seeking admission.

We can offer:
- Salary at pay grade 54 upon appointment (Code 1017) on the government salary scale (equivalent to NOK 491 200 per year). Further promotions are made according to length of service in the position
- A good, vibrant, and professionally challenging working environment
- A position in an inclusive workplace (IA enterprise)
- Enrollment in the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund
- Good welfare benefits
- The city of Bergen - a unique mix of vibrant cultural life and extraordinary nature

The successful candidate is expected to live and work in Bergen during the project period and participate in common activities at the Centre.

Project proposal:
A research proposal of max 5 pages must accompany the application and it should be based on the “Children’s Right to Participation” project description. Contact Prof. Skivenes for more information about the project and for access to the project description. The proposal should present the topic, the research problem(s) and choice of theory and methods. The proposal should also include a progress plan for the different parts of the project. A budget of running costs should be included. Admittance to the PhD programme will be based on the research proposal.

Your application must include:
- A cover letter including a brief account of your research interests and motivation for applying for the position
- The names and contact information for two reference persons. One of them must be the main advisor for the master's thesis or equivalent thesis
- Max 5-page PhD project proposal
- CV
- Transcripts and diplomas showing completion of the bachelor's and master's degrees
- Academic publications that you want to submit for assessment (including your master's thesis or equivalent)
- If you have a master's degree from an institution outside of the Nordic countries, or a 2-year discipline-based master's degree (or the equivalent) in a subject area other than the one associated with the application, you may later in the application process be asked to submit an overview of the syllabus for the degree you have completed

The application and appendices with certified translations into English or a Scandinavian language must be uploaded at JobbNorge following the link on this page marked “Apply for this job”.

Closing date: November 22, 2021
The application must be marked: 2021/16929

Applications submitted without required information or applications sent as e-mails will not be considered. Only submitted documents will be subjected to an expert assessment.
**General information:**
Additional information about the position is obtainable by contacting Principal Investigator Marit Skivenes - marit.skivenes@uib.no - phone: +47 95924979.

Practical questions regarding the application procedures should be directed to HR Adviser Hanne Cappelen - hanne.cappelen@uib.no

Questions about the PhD programme at the Faculty of Social Sciences may be directed to Adviser-PhD: Hanne.Gravermoen@uib.no

The state labour force shall reflect the diversity of Norwegian society to the greatest extent possible. Age and gender balance among employees is therefore a goal. It is also a goal to recruit people with immigrant backgrounds. People with immigrant backgrounds and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply for the position.

The University of Bergen applies the principle of public access to information when recruiting staff for academic positions.

Information about applicants may be made public even if the applicant has asked not to be named on the list of persons who have applied. The applicant must be notified if the request to be omitted is not met.

The successful applicant must comply with the guidelines that apply to the position at all times.

For further information about the recruitment process, click [here](https://www.jobbnorge.no).