



Possibilities of internationalisation of PhD training

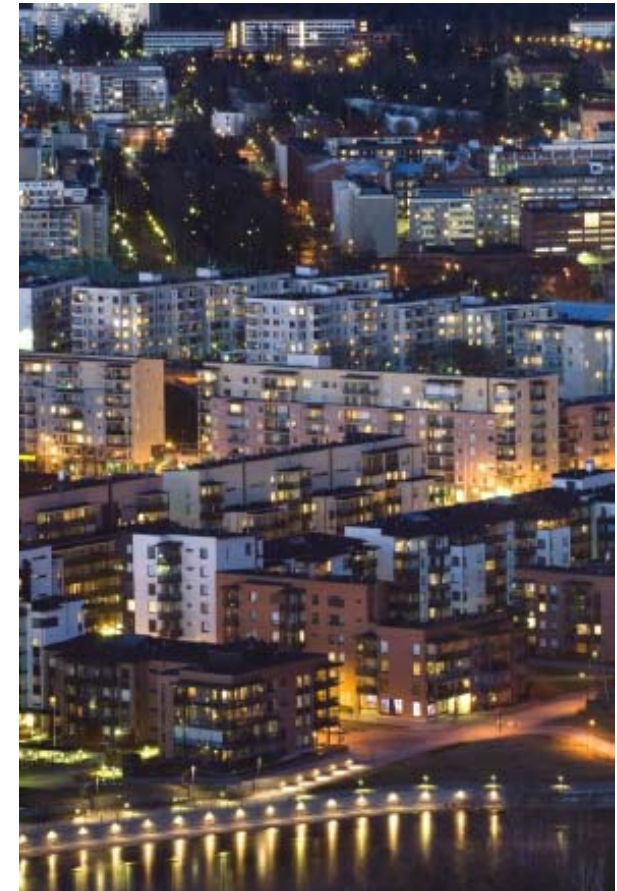
Riitta Mustonen
Vice President, Academy of Finland
1st October, 2008

The Academy's international strategy

Academy of Finland international activities are:

- well-focused
- consistent
- selective
- integral in all funding instruments

'Academy facilitates high-quality research, researcher training and the development of attractive environments, and also internationalisation of research programmes and visibility of science'



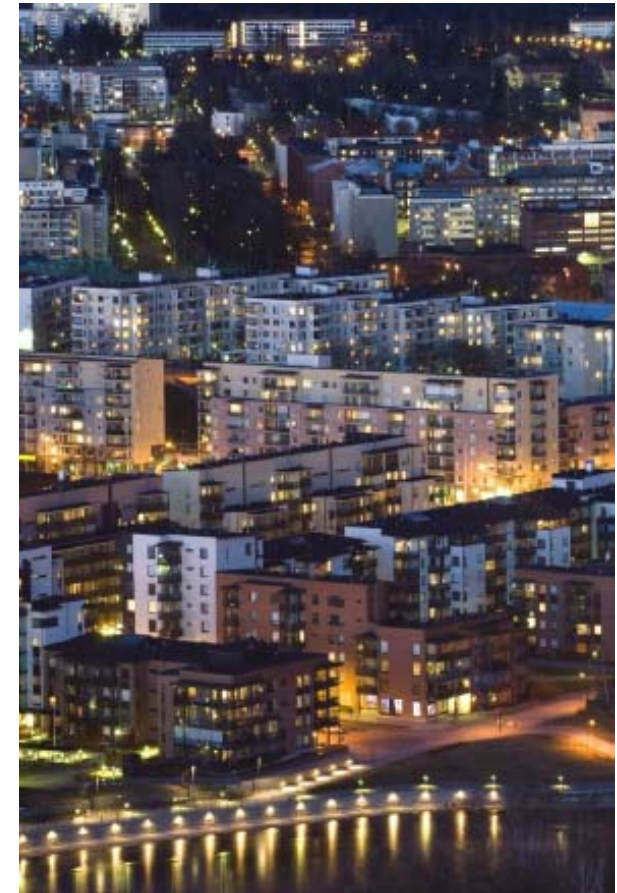
The Academy's operating environment

In Europe

- EU 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development:
 - * Co-operation: thematic areas
 - * People: Marie Curie Actions
 - * Ideas: European Research Council (ERC)
- European research infrastructures (ESFRI)
- Funding cooperation, e.g. within ERA-NETs
- Nordic cooperation, e.g. through NordForsk

Globally

- Strategic partnerships and priorities: India, Japan, China, Russia, Brazil, Canada and the US



Researcher training

The Academy of Finland

- Provides funding for research projects including doctoral students working on their theses and postdoctoral researchers who have recently earned their doctorate
- Provides funding to advance the professional competence of young postdoctoral researchers (Postdoctoral Researcher's projects)
- Supports graduate schools and national researcher training courses
- Provides funding for researcher training abroad
- Supports doctoral studies of employed persons



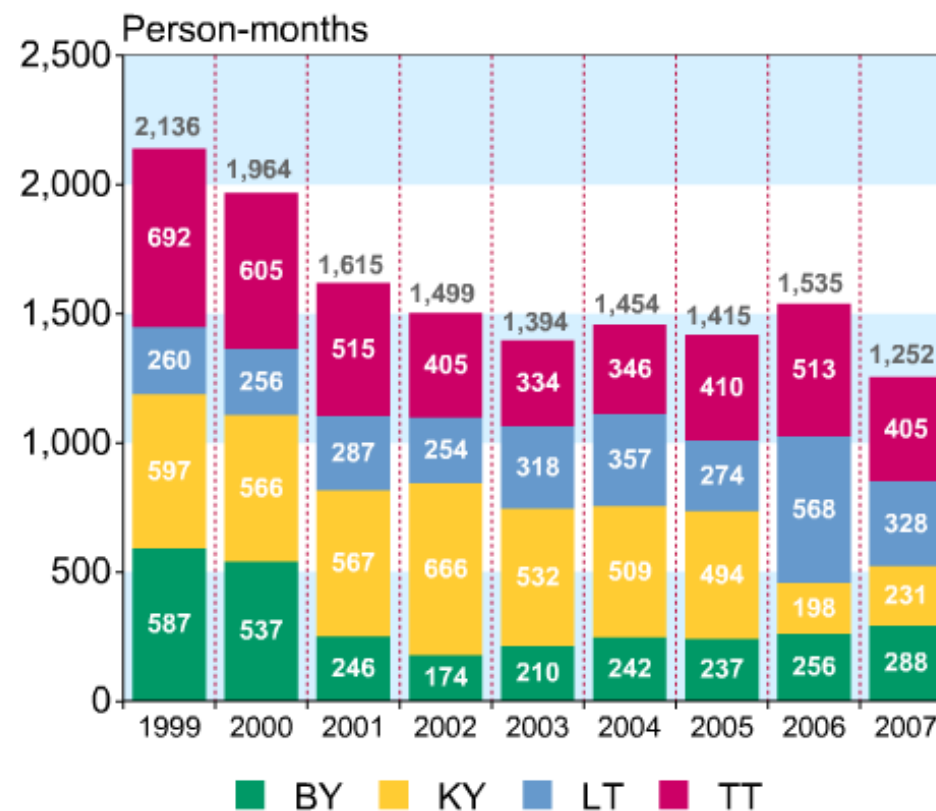
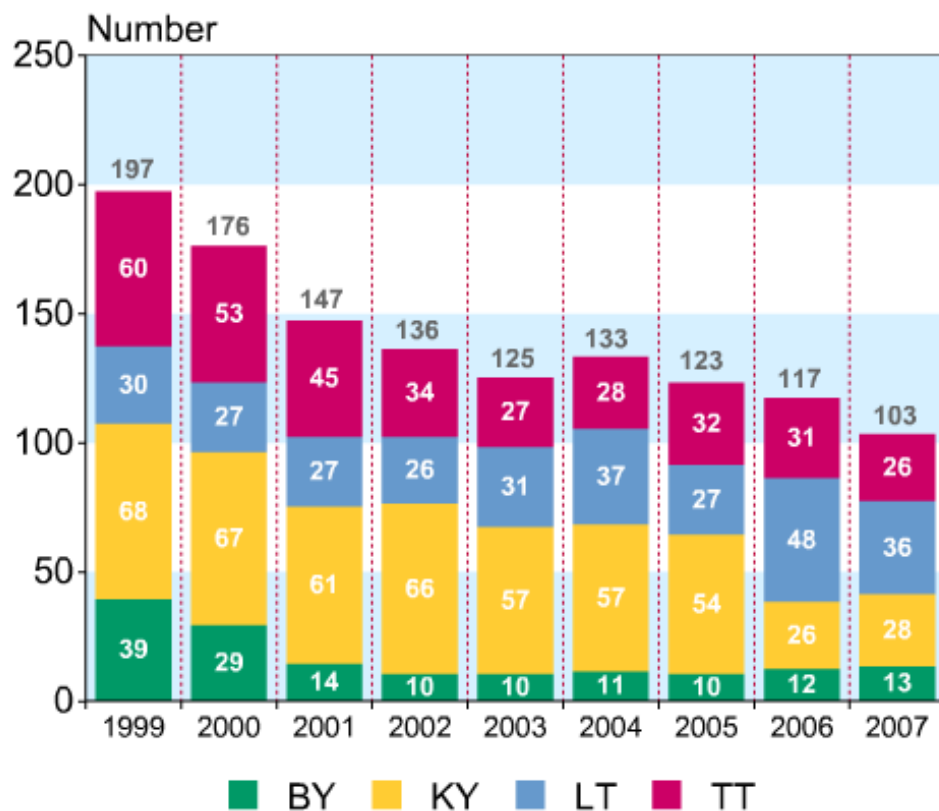
Academy's funding opportunities to support internationalisation and researcher mobility

- Finland Distinguished Professor Programme (FiDiPro)
- General research grants
- Academy Research Fellowships
- Postdoctoral Researcher's projects
- Research programs
- Grants for researcher training at the EUI and Postdoctoral Researcher at the EUI
- ERA-NET calls
- Researcher mobility and other contractual bilateral cooperation
- International joint project calls with foreign funding agencies
- Researcher training and research abroad
- Preparation of international joint projects
- Other opportunities



Grants awarded for researcher training and research abroad

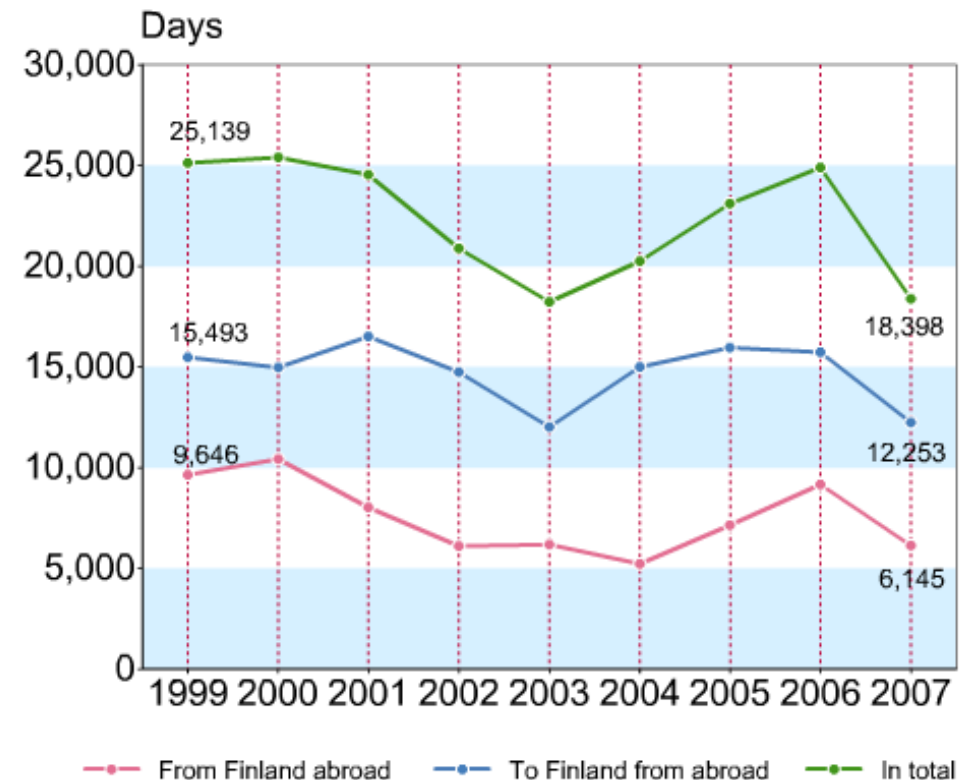
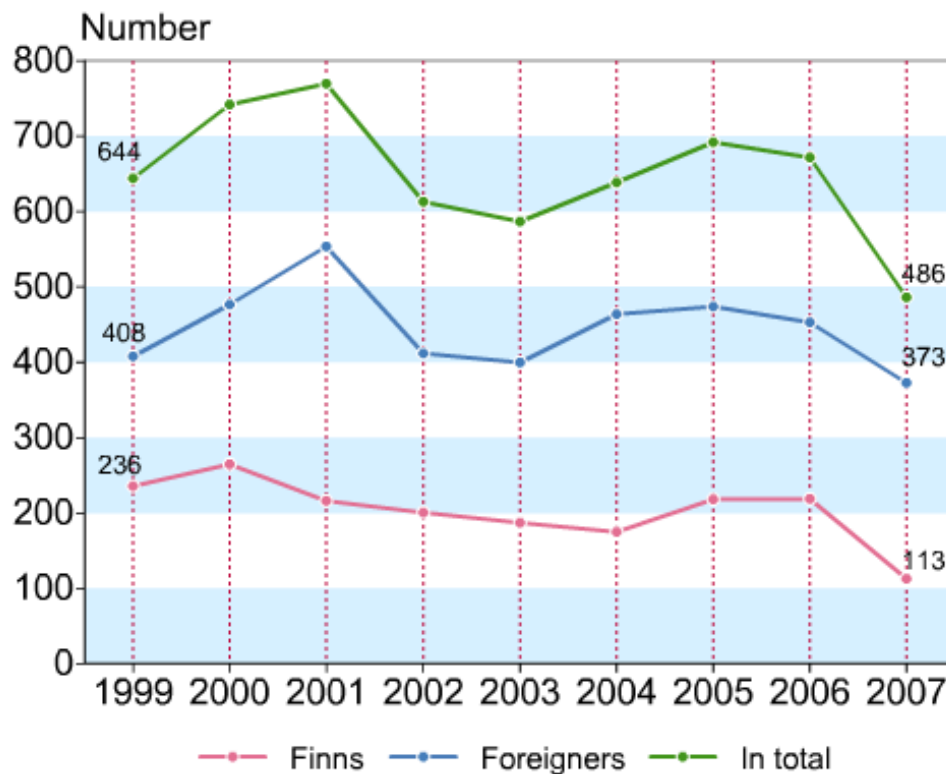
Number of researchers and person-months 1999–2007



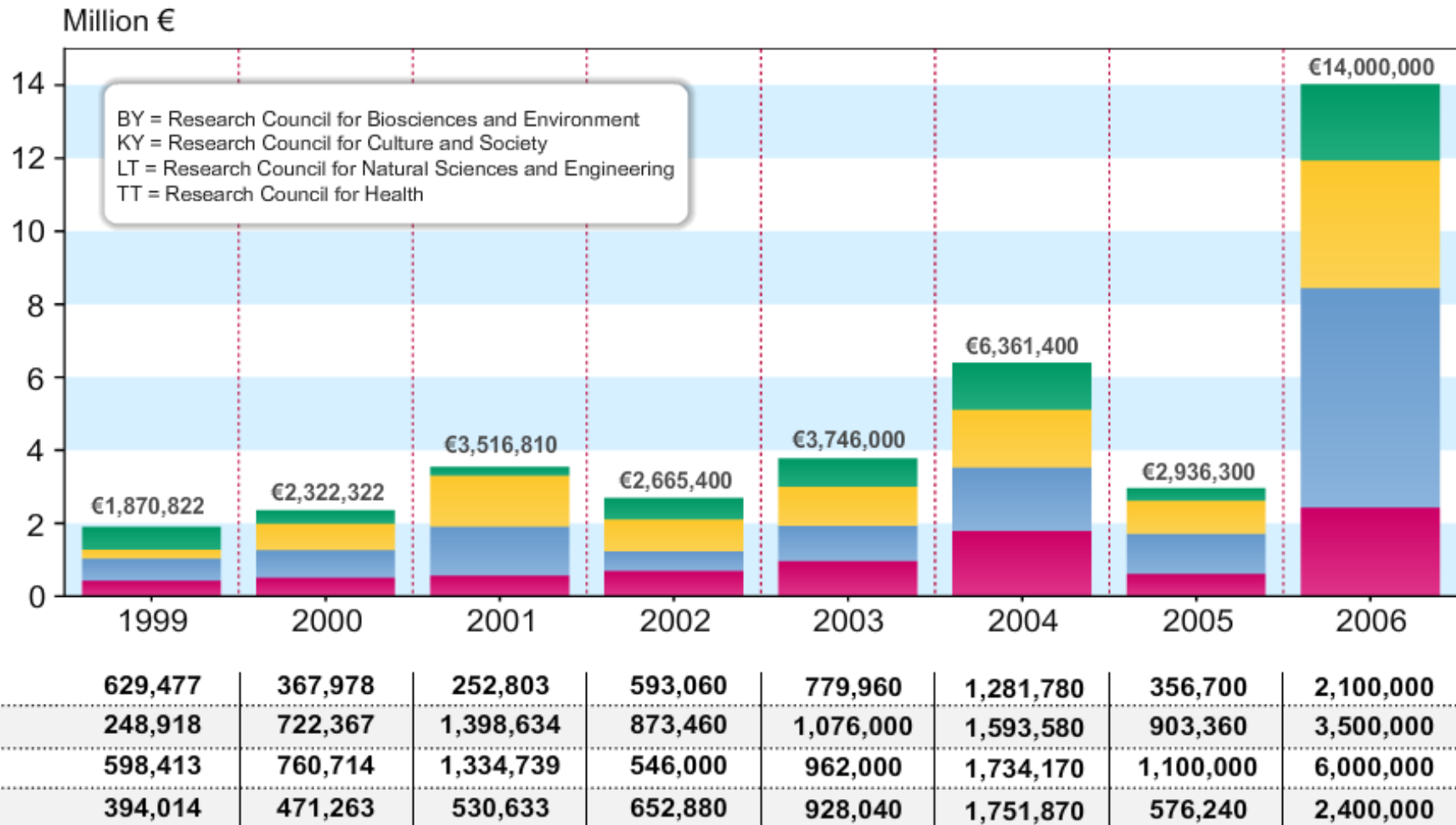
BY = Research Council for Biosciences and Environment, KY = Research Council for Culture and Society, LT = Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering, TT = Research Council for Health

Researcher mobility based on bilateral agreements

Number of days and persons 1999–2007



Research Councils' support to graduate schools and researcher training courses 1999–2007*



* Funding not granted in 2007

Internationalisation of research career

- Mobility as integral part of consistent research career path
 - More support and possibilities in all Academy's funding instruments
- Active collaboration with European and national partners to remove obstacles and barriers in mobility
- International networking and collaboration of graduate schools
 - Internationalisation strategy
 - Possibility to use of PhD student positions for internationalisation
 - Recommendation for PhD students: 6 months research visit abroad

Academy aims in line with the "People" specific programme in FP7

- Stimulate people to enter into the profession of research
- Request relevant research training (skills and competence) and career development
- Support partnership between industry and academia
- Increase mobility of researchers and strengthen resources of those institutions which attract researchers internationally (e.g. CoE)
- Reduce brain drain

Graduate school system in Finland

- Ministry of Education decided on graduate schools up to year 2007
- Academy of Finland will decide graduate schools from now on
(also administration and follow-up)
- Academy can now develop the whole research career starting from PhD students and ending to Academy Professors
- Development of graduate schools and estimation of future needs of PhDs in different disciplines will be done together with graduate schools, Universities, Ministry of Education and industry

Graduate schools in Finland

**In total 119 graduate schools,
1453 PhD student positions and 51 coordinators**



- Biosciences and environment
- Culture and society
- Natural sciences and engineering
- Health

Further development of graduate schools

In graduate schools

1. Quality of the operations and best practices
2. Different career paths for new PhDs (i.e. transferable skills, active career management)
3. More national and international researcher training and research collaboration between graduate schools (e.g. bilateral summer schools) and also interaction with society

In Academy of Finland

1. Application and evaluation of graduate schools
2. More ways to support international collaboration
3. Follow-up methods and evaluation of impact of graduate schools
4. International evaluation of graduate schools

Finnish-German researcher training cooperation funding by Academy of Finland (AF) and Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)

- **Aim is to enhance internationalisation in researcher training, increase mobility, upgrade quality of researcher training at Finnish and German universities and broaden scope of researcher training**
- First bilateral call was in 2007 → 8 out of 12 was funded
- Next call in January 2009
- Funding period maximum of four years
- In Finland, only the Ministry of Education graduate schools are eligible to apply
- In Germany, only the DFG research training groups are eligible to apply
- Funds can be applied for:
 - joint courses for doctoral students in joint doctoral programmes
 - mobility of doctoral students within the programme (short visits)
 - holding joint seminars and workshops for doctoral students
 - planning and coordination of joint researcher training
 - meetings of the supervisors
- More information: www.aka.fi or www.dfg.de, aki.salo@aka.fi or sebastian.granderath@dfg.de



THANK YOU

More information: www.aka.fi