

Funding, Responsibility and Specification of DCS

Goal:

The primary duty of the Distinguished Center Scientists (DCS) are for the promotion of the research excellence of the NCTS. They are to be leading scientists from different institutes in Taiwan or from the international community. The center will provide them with ample of resources in order to support their research.

Funding:

In addition to their personal research grant from MoST, a generous research funding (the actual amount may be varied slightly to reflect the need of support of the DCS and the associated research community) will be provided by the center that can be used for the appointment of postdoctoral researchers to enhance his/her research team, and for visitors, travels, equipments and for workshops and programs organization. The Director will also allocate a flexible budget to respond to the emergent need of DCS, for example, organization of rapid response workshop.

In addition to the regular salary from their home institutes and research projects from MoST, the center will provide a monthly project management fee and stipend for working with the center.

NCTS would sign a memorandum with the employer institution of the DCS in order to arrange for a reduction in teaching (maximum one course per semester) as well as administrative load for the DCS.

Responsibility:

Distinguished Center Scientists have the following responsibilities:

(i) to promote and enhance the level of frontier research by using the financial and administrative support from NCTS;

(ii) to form a research team with local researchers as well as international collaborators, so as to enhance the international visibility of the scientist's research program, as well as helping the other domestic scientists in the team to build stronger bridge and deeper collaboration with the international community.

(iii) to contribute to the center by advising the related thematic groups and/or by personal contribution (say, seminar, workshop, regular stay, visitors etc.).

(iv) if the DCS is employed in a unit different from the host university of the NCTS, the person should demonstrate a substantial and regular presence at the center in order to help out with the operation of the academic programs of NCTS.

Person Specification:

(i) DCS should be a full professor/researcher in Taiwan. He/She should be an active renowned researcher with high standing in physics or a physics-related area, and have obtained respectable honors in Taiwan or internationally.

(ii) We emphasis adding value in research. Therefore DCS should not already have

well established research teams with ample of funding support by MoST or other sources as the added value of the NCTS funding would not be significant and it would make it hard for the NCTS to claim a lion's share in the impact and results made by the DCS and his/her team.

(iii) DCS is expected to lead internationally competitive research teams, involving researchers in Taiwan and worldwide. So he/she should have a demonstrated leadership quality.

(iv) To maximize the impact of DCS and its research team, it is important that the area of research of the DCS is well represented in Taiwan. Therefore to be able to involve a high number of local researchers in Taiwan (to increase interaction and collaboration), as well as international collaborators (to enhance the international visibility) is an important criteria for selecting a good candidate for DCS.

(v) Another desirable quality for a DCS is that he/she has the background and a demonstrated record to work in a wide range of research topics and collaborate with other DCS and Center Scientists.

(vi) In case the DSC is not a faculty member of the host university, he/she needs to demonstrate a substantial presence, e.g. once a week, at the center in order to justify its association and contribution to the NCTS.

Selection and Review:

Nomination of DCS are open to the community. It can be made to the center by the head of the department/institution of the proposed candidate, together with three tenured faculties or researchers of equivalent level. Nomination can also be made by the center director directly. The collated nomination list is then put forward to the NCTS Distinguished Center Scientist Selection Committee for review and selection. The final list produced by the selection committee is conferred by MoST. The DCS position is for 3 years. Renewal subjected to need of research and performance.