

Travel subsidy - Jean laquinta

Justification for the subsidization

Working in the INES project (Infrastructure for the Norwegian Earth System modelling) I am employed in the Geosciences Department at the University of Oslo, and **there is simply no funding available for the vocational training of the “technical and administrative personnel” like me.**

Research Software Engineers have to provide technical support for the effective use of HPC for students and academic staff, however all the money available goes to the research (we only get our expenses paid to travel once every other year for a project meeting in Bergen).

This has long been identified as an issue and reported to the University unions and management, but in the meantime the IT infrastructures become increasingly complex and we really struggle to keep up with the latest developments.

One cannot simply rely on his existing background, knowledge and experience in such a rapidly changing working environment with new concepts, technologies and tools: pre-exascale, AI, GPUs, cloud computing, containers, performance analyses, etc.

The University of Oslo being relatively small and quite isolated in a small country, it is extremely difficult to find local expertise in these technical areas, especially in the Department or in the Meteorology and Oceanography Section.

This summer school represents a unique opportunity for me to get access to high-level training and be acquainted with other software engineers and scientists, but without full subsidy, I will not be able to attend.

Requested level of subsidy: Travel subsidy and full package registration.

Tentative cost estimate (for travel subsidy): Total: 2067NOK (≈171GBP)

Including:

Train from Oslo-Central station to Oslo-Gardermoen and return: 396NOK

Plane from Oslo-Gardermoen to London-Gatwick and return: 1371 NOK

Train from London-Gatwick to Reading and return: 300NOK