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Member: Thomas Elliot

E-mail: thomaselliott@plan.aau.dk

Questions

1. Name of Proponent(s)*:

Thomas Elliot

2. Country(ies)*:

Denmark

3. Title of Proposal*:

Industrial Ecologists in Action (podcast)

4. * WHAT IS THE CENTRAL IDEA OF THE PROPOSAL?

Many of our community are drawn here to make a positive impact on the world, typically guided to this field by our set of social and environmental values. We often face internal conflicts between these values, the world we struggle to improve, and the impact of our work (and sometimes activism). This is especially and increasingly the case for many early career industrial ecologists, which we can expect to become more visible as memberships transition and these members move into leadership roles within the ISIE. This project is a podcast called Industrial Ecologists in Action (IEIA) consisting of minimum 10 episodes recorded and produced over one year. In each episode I will have a conversation with someone in the industrial ecology field about their views on the state of the environment and its governance and focus on ways in which they are living their values and/or encouraging others to do so.

5. * WHAT IS THE BENEFIT TO THE SOCIETY AND MEMBERS?

The IEIA podcast would benefit the society in two main ways. First, this would bring visibility to the society through a popular medium that hasn't been fully exploited by the ISIE thus far. Many young researchers use podcasting as a way to expand their networks, to learn about the history of and the development of new fields within their research fields. For example, our friends in the European Society for

Ecological Economics have their own podcast called Economics For Rebels, in which members are interviewed about their context within the field. This is expected to have ripple effects to boost ISIE membership, supporting awareness and engagement and community building of industrial ecology thinking and practices.

Secondly, this would help early career researchers to be heard on matters that are important to them, unveiling potential opportunities for the society leadership to stay attuned with contemporary currents of thought. The podcast episodes would be released regularly every month and the full series of minimum 10 episodes would be completed within one year of the project funding.

6. * WHO WOULD GOVERN OR OPERATE THE PROPOSAL?

Thomas Elliot, based at Aalborg University. I have experience podcasting with my show called “Two Guys One Paper” in which I discussed publication challenges with six early career researchers in various sustainability research fields. This podcast resulted in a number of reflections on the state of peer-review which are articulated in a forthcoming article entitled “Hear me out!”: reflections of Early Career Researchers on academic publishing through podcasting. I was responsible for producing, interviewing, recording, editing, and publishing the podcast. Given my recent experience producing this podcast, I believe I am well-positioned to operate a successful, and podcast with a wide audience beyond the traditional IE community.

7. * WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL (e.g. Administrative, Financial, personnel)

The project would be supported by the Department of Sustainability and Planning at Aalborg University in certain administrative ways. Time spent on administrative tasks to produce the podcast would occur in the AAU office space using AAU software (e.g. Audacity) and my salaried time to do these tasks. Technical equipment and travel for recordings would not be financed by the department, so it is intended that the IE Project Grant would be used to cover those expenses (see budget explanations further below).

8. * IS THIS PROPOSAL DEFINED WITHIN A SINGLE ISIE SECTION OR ACROSS SECTIONS?

This is not defined within any specific section. I am a member of most ISIE sections, and a board member of the Sustainable Urban Systems section, and willing to expand this proposal to include members from other sections if that would benefit the project. Regardless of which sections this proposal is defined within, I anticipate the guests of the postcast will be members spanning all ISIE sections, thus reflecting as full a range of ISIE perspectives as possible.

9. EVIDENCE OF SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSAL (FROM WITHIN OR ACROSS SECTIONS OR REGIONS)

The proposal is supported by my colleagues in the board of the SUS section.

10. IF ISIE MEMBER FOR <2 YEARS, PROVIDE NAME OF SUPPORTING ISIE BOARD MEMBER OR SECTION LEADER

This is not the case, as I have been an ISIE member since April 26, 2023.

11. APPROXIMATE BUDGET IF APPLICABLE (Financial estimates and explanations)

Travels for recording sessions:

EUR 800 per overnight trip. It is anticipated there would be 10 interviews. Many of these can be conducted at conferences to avoid additional costs (e.g. ISIE 2027, regional ISIE conferences, etc) although I anticipate some interesting interviewees may not have financing or time to attend our conferences. As such five additional trips are budgeted for coming to EUR 4000

Recording equipment:

2 microphones (Røde NT.USB Mini) costing EUR 120 each or EUR 240 in total

Hosting platform:

Subscription to hosting platform such as Acast, costing around EUR 220 for 1 year.

Total budget requested: EUR 4460

12. OTHER

I have considered doing this podcast together with another ISIE member. However, to stay within the budget and to avoid doing interviews online (experience tells me that loses a lot of the zest), I have framed this proposal just for me to do the discussions. However, I am open to feedback and potentially reorienting the proposal, e.g. halve the number of episodes but include budget for a second ISIE member to co-host the episodes.