Strategic Plan 2011 – 2015

The Research Unit for Musculoskeletal Function and Physiotherapy (Forskningsenheden for Muskuloskeletal Funktion og Fysioterapi - FoF) became a research unit in its own right from 1 January 2010. It is part of the Institute of Sports Science and Clinical Biomechanics within the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Southern Denmark. The Research Unit provides a unique forum to study musculoskeletal health and exercise with researchers from Physiotherapy, Sports Science, Orthopaedic Surgery and Clinical Epidemiology.

**Purpose**

Our purpose is to establish the role of exercise and physical activity in the prevention and treatment of musculoskeletal diseases.

**Mission**

We strive for research excellence in musculoskeletal function and exercise, specialising in the following four research areas:

1) Motor control and pain
2) Joint dysfunction, injury and osteoarthritis
3) Systematic reviews and evidence synthesis
4) Patient-reported outcomes.

The common theme through all four areas is to determine how exercise and physical activity can enhance musculoskeletal health.

**Vision for 2015**

We are regarded by our peers and funding agencies as an internationally leading group in our chosen areas of research.

**Strategic priorities**

Four strategic priorities will be addressed to help position the Research Unit for on-going success:

1. To identify the Research Unit’s research priorities in order to focus the group’s efforts on developing research excellence in its chosen areas.

2. To establish a clear identity for the Research Unit to help differentiate its activities and promote its strengths to potential collaborators, students and funders.

3. To create and formalise a focused approach to secure funding for the Research Unit.

4. To raise the Research Unit’s profile in the national and international scientific community.