

SiN AGM, 3. May 2012

Date: 2012-05-03, 12:30

Place: UiT, Tromsø

Present: Ricardo Rosado, Melania Borit, Jon Kerr Nilsen, Heidi S Nygård, Julian Bourrelle, Konstantinos Antypas, Konstantin Zaikov.

Referent: Konstantinos Antypas

Minutes

1. Presentation of SiN (Ricardo).

Approval of the last meeting.

Explanation of activities of SiN, when it comes to policy-making level, and comments on documents mainly through Eurodoc. Examples of cases we could get involved (Bergen medical student case).

The minutes were approved.

2. Eurodoc Annual conference: Participative democracy system. AGM and seminar about important issues, meeting in Krakow. Very well-organized with low-budget, extended use of volunteers. New board 2012, Ricardo is Vice-President. Luke Herbert for ideas for funding. Involvement in Erasmus-Mundus projects, Ricardo coordinating promodoc.eu. Another project is Doclinks linking with doctors from Africa.

WG Career Development: Status of implementation of Charter and Code in Norway. Implemented for example in NTNU but in general in line with regulation in Norway. Point system rewarding use of Charter and Code. Promotion of Charter and Code by SiN one possible activity. To discuss it with NFR, on how to coordinate it. Try to organize an event in local organizations.

Eurodoc Survey to policy research: History, started in 2006, collected data 2008-2009, published in 2011. Invitation by EU to identify important indicators for PhD education.

3. Annual report: (Ricardo) Problems with Internet presence, 2 meetings in person, rest board meetings through Skype. Interest expressed by other organizations. Official KunststipendiatForum membership request to be discussed later today.

Discussion regarding funding. UHR, has SiN as member (improvement from before). They suggest KD and NFR to ask for support. Up to now, voluntary collaboration. Discussion with student union in a national level on how to collaborate (to share an office and share address, wasn't very successful). Worked very well to collaborate with student union, in case of DION. Try to find

an institution that could offer secretarial support.

Position of SiN as an organization working on the level of education, as a partner of KD and official governmental bodies. Regarding Career framework, post-doc education position, with PhDs are considered as Early Stage Researchers (the first 8 years as researcher). Ideal would be to have 1 representative in each local organization, to facilitate the two-way communication. The report to be finalized and sent to the mailing list of SiN.

4. Financial report (Jon): Presentation of the report. If an organization doesn't pay they cannot vote in SiN. Melania talking about situation in UiT (members of board reimbursed by the central admin, unlike DION that its members are reimbursed in faculty level). Suggestion of UHR to universities is not necessary heard by the Universities. Agreement to do it anyway. Sponsoring SiN by the universities is a possibility (easier if one university starts, for example UiT). Not all the local organizations have funding from the university, funding from SiN should be considered in this. Recommendation by KD could also be very helpful.

5. Presentation of membership application. Reference to the Musikhøgskole and their interest in becoming members directly. No problem to have two organizations representing different levels of one organization. Approval of their membership.

6. Discussion with Curt Rice. UiT is giving 10000 NOK to SiN. Discussion on the lack of participation of Norwegians in the local organizations. NTNU and Veterinarian School presented their experience. UiT is using and wants to use TODOS to get feedback on administrative issues. Involve more actively PhD students in UiT by sending issues to TODOS to comment on. Issues for debate and discussion: career paths, temporariness in academia, post-doc and phds ratio and also the conversion to post-doc of some PhD projects (250 funded by the university of 650 of all PhD students. 60 PhDs announced per year. Around 5% can be turned to post-docs by the university). Common starting period for PhDs would be a solution?

Discussion regarding quota PhD students: None UiT, use in large extent in Ås and in to some extent in NTNU. Discussion on ideal steady budget (100000 NOK). Budget and organizing issues of Norwegian Student Organization and DION as a good example. SiN has contacts on national level. Issues of participation and engagement in challenge in all levels of academia. Action to ask for other Universities to match the offer from UiT.

7. SiN board elections: Jon and Julian are the election officers (sign the papers). Presentation of the board roles (Ricardo).

The following were elected to the board:
Melania Borit (President)

Ricardo Rosado (Vice-President and Treasurer)

Regular board members:

Håkon Stene

Heidi S. Nygård

Julian Bouelle

Konstantinos Antypas

Substitute:

Konstantin Zaikov

It was noted that Ricardo Rosado will take over the SiN bank account from former Treasurer Jon Kerr Nilsen.

Melania Borit
President

Konstantinos Antypas
Referent

Julian Bouelle
1. election officer

Jon Kerr Nilsen
2. election officer