

Minutes SiN board meeting 7. March 2011

Time: 17:00-19:00

Place: University of Bergen

Present: Sverre Lundemo (DION), Ann-Kristin Molde (STIP-HF, UiB), Jon Kerr Nilsen

(UiODoc), John-Wilhelm Vinje (PhD-UiA)

Agenda

- Annual meeting 2011. PhD-UiA will arrange the next annual meeting of SiN in May. The event, which should last approximately from 12:00-16:00, will start with lunch followed by two talks before the annual meeting commences. All parts of the event will be held in English. In addition to the annual meeting there will be a short seminar focusing on the present situation in Europe concerning research and doctoral education. We can try to include a person from e.g. the administration of University of Agder, as well as have a report from the recent annual general meeting of Eurodoc (the European association of doctoral candidates and junior researchers). It is desirable to gather representatives from as many of SiN's member organisations as possible, and SiN will therefore cover travel costs of one person from each organisation. Sverre will send out a request (Doodle) to the info-list about which dates that may fit best for the weeks 19-21.
- Changes in SiN's statutes. There are several years since there were made any changes to SiN's statutes, and it may be useful to go through the text properly and revise it where necessary. Ann-Kristin will make a draft proposal and send it for consultation to the info-list.
- Discussing an increase in SiN's membership fee. As previously mentioned, the board has discussed whether it could be useful to increase the membership fee to secure more funding for regular activities. (e.g. from NOK 2000 to 3000 per year). According to the regulations (cf. § 5.1) this should be discussed during each annual meeting, and will be addressed as a separate issue in the agenda.
- Response to NSO regarding political platform on research and higher education. Norsk Studentorganisasjon (NSO) is going to create a political platform on research and education, and has contacted SiN to get our input on the draft. The document describes the situation in a very general way, and it may therefore be difficult to give concrete suggestions for changes and elaborations. It can, however, seem like the document could use some revision regarding regulations concerning doctoral education, e.g. Forskrift for akkreditering av doktorgradsutdanning. Sverre answer on behalf of SiN.
- About the possibilities to work the doctoral dissertation after finishing the employment contract. This issue was only discussed briefly. The board would like to know more about how today's regulations affect those in this situation; finishing the doctoral dissertation while applying for unemployment benefit (dagpenger) from NAV. A possible way of approaching this could be to contact Forskerforbundet (FF), and later address the issue in UHR-FU. Sverre will contact FF to ask about this.

• Eurodoc 2011. John-Wilhelm can unfortunately not participate at the event as a SiN representative, and Sverre Lundemo and Ricardo Rosado (DIOV) will thus be SiN's delegates at the meeting. Sverre will report the names and contact information of the delegates to the Eurodoc board.

A.o.b.

- SiN's survey "Demokratiske muligheter blant doktorgradskandidater og andre midlertidig vitenskapelig tilsatte i Norge i dag". Ann-Kristin will send out a reminder with a short deadline for comments on the document. After the consultation round, Ann-Kristin will finalise the document which could be then sent to UHR-FU, as well as being used to write an article on the issue for Forskerforum.
- SiN's survey among its member organisations. Ann-Kristin has compiled a document based on the answers from the member organisations. She will send the document for a consultation round on the info-list, after which it can be uploaded to SiN's web page.
- SiN's information folder. John-Wilhelm has gotten little response so far on his draft of an information folder. He will send a new reminder on this to the board. The document will then be finalised, uploaded to SiN's web page and sent out to those interested.
- Funding for SiN activities. Ann-Kristin will together with John-Wilhelm contact the Ministry of Research and Higher Education to investigate what opportunities exist to apply for funding to secure a wider funding basis for SiN, as well as contributing to building up new local organisations.
- *Marketing SiN*. SiN should have access to various items for promoting the organisation at meetings, conferences etc. where this may be useful. Such items can be t-shirts, pens, umbrellas, banners, and information folders.