



# Stipendiatororganisasjonene i Norge

The Association of Doctoral Organisations in Norway

## Annual Report 2015-2016

26th May 2016

editorial revision 13th June 2016

## **Contents**

<b>1 Overview</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2 Working conditions</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3 Environmental impact</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4 Gender balance</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5 Member organisations</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>6 Board composition</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>7 Main activities 2015-2016</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>8 Board meetings and workshop</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>9 Website</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>10 Representation</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>11 Replies to national hearings</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>12 Finances</b>	<b>7</b>

## 1 Overview

The last General Meeting (GM) was arranged in collaboration with DION, and held the 28th May 2015 at Gløshaugen campus in Trondheim. This annual report covers the period since the last GM, detailing the activities of the 2015-2016 board.

During the last period, SiN has arranged 11 board meetings and one workshop. SiN has replied to three hearings from the Ministry of Education and Research (KD), held presentations at three seminars, and has been present at conferences regarding young researchers. Continued financial support from KD has contributed to a stronger presence.

In 2015-2016 SiN was represented at a national level in the board of the Research Committee of the Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions (UHR), and at a European level by participation in the Eurodoc annual general meeting (AGM). SiN was also present at major national events concerning research politics in Norway.

During the recent Eurodoc AGM held in Luxembourg it was decided that SiN should host the 2017 Eurodoc AGM after submitting a bid. Extra funding from KD has been applied to for this purpose.

This board period SiN has continued to focus on increasing its visibility and representation in research politics at a national level. Information flow between the member organisations of SiN has been a topic of high importance during this period. In this regard a Facebook group has been established to lower the contact threshold between the boards of member organisations.

We hope that the new board will continue the work to ensure SiNs representation in matters relevant to PhD candidates and postdoctoral candidates in Norway.

Vegard Stenhjem Hagen  
President, SiN

---

Contact: [styret@stipendiat.no](mailto:styret@stipendiat.no)

Website: [stipendiat.no](http://stipendiat.no)

## 2 Working conditions

The working conditions is by the boards own opinion good. No measures have been taken to improve the working conditions, and there are no immediate plans to do so. The work language is primarily English with regard to the high share of research fellows not fluent in Norwegian. Some work nevertheless has to be carried out in Norwegian. Translation of this work is done upon request.

## 3 Environmental impact

SiN has no material production contributing to pollution. Any pollution is limited to transportation in associated with representation and meeting activity. Most of the board meeting take place using Skype to reduce pollution due to travel. No measures have been taken to reduce the environmental footprint, and no immediate actions are planned.

## 4 Gender balance

The gender balance in the January - May 2015 period was

- Women 50.0%
- Men 50.0%

In the May 2015 - May 2016 period the gender balance was

- Women 42.9%
- Men 57.1%

SiN has had no employees in the 2015-2016 period. The gender balance in the board is viewed as good, and no immediate measured are deemed necessary. No action is planned to combat discrimination in the organisation as this is viewed as non-existent.

## 5 Member organisations

SiN had nine member organisations until 1. January 2016 when DIOV and FODOS merged to become SoDoC. The current eight member organisations with their respective doctoral candidate contracts (DCCs) and full-time equivalent post-doctoral positions (FTEs) are

- UiODoc – University of Oslo (2954 DCCs and 474 FTEs)
- DION – Norwegian University of Science and Technology (2293 DCCs and 333 FTEs).
- TODOS – University of Tromsø (777 DCCs and 101 FTEs).
- SoDoC – Norwegian University of Life Sciences (507 DCCs and 63 FTEs).
- UiSDC – University of Stavanger (283 DCCs and 40 FTEs).
- PhD-UiA – University of Agder (179 DCCs and 11 FTEs).
- NIHSPO – Norwegian School of Sport Sciences (80 DCCs and 7 FTEs).

- KunststipendiatForum – Norwegian Artistic Research Program (51 DCCs and 1 FTE). Numbers are taken from Database for Statistics on Higher Education (DBH) for 2015.

As of 2015, SiN represents approximately 75% of the DCCs and post-doctoral FTEs in Norway. Recruiting the remaining higher educational institutions is an ongoing project in order to increase the representation.

## 6 Board composition

The SiN board consisted of seven board members and one deputy member in 2015-2016. The current board members are

- Vegard Stenhjem Hagen (NTNU) — President
- Teshome Mulugeto (NMBU) – Vice president
- Mayang Kusumawardhani (UiS) – Treasurer
- Erlend Dancke Sandorf (UiT) – Board member
- Ljubisa Gavrilovic (NTNU) – Board member
- Terese Wilhelmsen (NiH) – Board member
- Rachelle Esterhazy (UiO) – Board member
- Jesper James Alvær (KHiO) – Deputy member

## 7 Main activities 2015-2016

In 2015-2016 SiN has

- Arranged ten board meetings over Skype and one board meeting/workshop at the Norwegian School of Sport Sciences.
- Given its official opinion on matters important for PhD candidates and post-doctoral candidates in Norway through replies on the KD hearings concerning duty work and higher educational institutions board composition. A brief reply of support was also given to a KD hearing regarding strengthening the PhD education.
- Submitted an application for continued financial support from KD.
- Revamped its website at <http://stipendiat.no> to increase online presence.
- Held the lecture *Hvordan jobber SiN nasjonalt og mot Europa?* at *Nasjonal Forskerutdanningskonferanse* in Oslo 15th - 16th June 2015.
- Been represented on the conference *The Culture Factor – Attract, Train and Keep Global Talent* in Tromsø 15th September 2015.
- Attended and presented at the yearly research fellow seminar by The Norwegian Association of Researchers at Losby Gods 8th - 9th October 2015.
- Participated in UHRs conference *Karrierepolitikk – en nøkkel til høyere kvalitet* in Oslo 9th February 2016.
- Held a joint workshop with the member organisations named *Cooperate and promote* -

*strategic tools for strengthening your organisation* in Oslo 18th - 19th February 2016.

- Represented at the Eurodoc AGM and Conference in Luxembourg 22nd - 23rd April 2016.

## 8 Board meetings and workshop

SiN board meetings have mainly taken place over Skype in order to avoid unnecessary traveling and save money. SiNs official stance on current policies and proposed changes concerning PhD candidates and post-doctoral fellows have been discussed during the board meetings. Information exchange and organisation questions have also taken place during the board meetings, as well as preparing official replies from SiN. The meeting minutes are available on the SiN homepage at [stipendiat.no/documents](http://stipendiat.no/documents). Meeting dates are listed in table 1.

Table 1: Overview of SiN meetings in 2015-2016

Date	Event
28.05.2015	Annual general meeting 2015
08.06.2015	Board meeting in June
03.07.2015	Board meeting in July
25.08.2015	Board meeting in August
16.09.2015	Board meeting in September
23.10.2015	Board meeting in October
16.11.2015	Board meeting in November
15.12.2015	Board meeting in December
18.01.2016	Board meeting in January
19.02.2016	Board meeting and workshop in February
04.03.2016	Board meeting in March
27.04.2016	Board meeting in April
28.05.2016	Annual general meeting 2016

## 9 Website

Vegard Stenhjem Hagen has been responsible for the website in 2015-2016. The website had a redesign and moved over to the WordPress platform. All public documents should now be available on the homepage of SiN.

## 10 Representation

SiN has been represented at a national level by a board position in UHR FU by Terese Wilhelmsen, and by being present at major events related to research politics in Norway. SiN was also present at the Eurodoc conference and AGM.

## 11 Replies to national hearings

During 2015-2016 SiN replied to three hearings from KD

- *Forslag til endring av universitets- og høyskoleloven og egenbetalingsforskriften* concerning duty work.
- *Forslag om endring av styring og ledelse i universitets- og høyskoleloven* concerning higher educational institutions board composition.
- *Forslag til endring i forskrift om kvalitetssikring og kvalitetsutvikling i høyere utdanning og fagskoleutdanning* regarding strengthening the PhD education.

## 12 Finances

Mayang Kusumawardhani has been tending the finances of SiN during the 2015-2016 period. An overview of the annual financial results are found in table 2, while an overview of the board period financial results are found in table 3. Note that the main reason for profit is the support received from KD. This is however not true profit, as unspent support can be demanded to be refunded.

Table 2: SiN finances 2015

<b>Annual accounts</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Capital start of 2015</b>	<b>327 355.32 NOK</b>
<b>Income 2015</b>	
Membership fee	12 000.00 NOK
KD support	300 000.00 NOK
<b>Total income</b>	<b>312 000.00 NOK</b>
<b>Expenses 2015</b>	
Travel and board meeting expenses	63 619.48 NOK
Seminars and conferences	7 793.75 NOK
Eurodoc membership fee	2 703.60 NOK
Website	296.25 NOK
Bank transfer expenses	1 477.75 NOK
Accountant	6 250.00 NOK
Board compensation	100 200.00 NOK
Salary tax	49 800.00 NOK
Postbox	1 533.86 NOK
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>233 674.69 NOK</b>
<b>Operational result</b>	<b>78 325.31 NOK</b>
<b>Financial income and expenses</b>	
Interest income	357.96 NOK
<b>Total financial income</b>	<b>357.96 NOK</b>
<b>Annual result</b>	<b>78 683.27 NOK</b>
<b>Capital end of 2015</b>	<b>404 233.59 NOK</b>



Table 3: SiN finances board period 2015-2016

<b>Annual accounts</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Captial start of 29th May 2015</b>	<b>162 299.57 NOK</b>
<b>Income 2015-2016</b>	
Membership fee	4 000.00 NOK
KD support	300 000.00 NOK
<b>Total income</b>	<b>304 000.00 NOK</b>
<b>Expenses 2015-2016</b>	
Travel and board meeting expenses	37 337.16 NOK
Seminars and conferences	77 052.39 NOK
Sponsorships	9 924.89 NOK
Eurodoc membership fee	2 909.40 NOK
Website	296.25 NOK
Bank transfer expenses	1 772.75 NOK
Accountant fee	8 750.00 NOK
Board compensation	105 522.47 NOK
Salary tax	52 498.00 NOK
Postbox	1 533.86 NOK
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>297 597.17 NOK</b>
<b>Operational result</b>	<b>6 402.83 NOK</b>
<b>Financial income and expenses</b>	
Interest income	357.96 NOK
<b>Total financial income</b>	<b>357.96 NOK</b>
<b>Annual result</b>	<b>6 760.79 NOK</b>
<b>Captial end of 18th May 2016</b>	<b>169 060.36 NOK</b>