



Datum: 2023-09-25
Time: 18.00 Sep 25th - 19.00 Sep 25th
Place: Google Hangout

Attendees: 9 (see Appendix)

Welcome and opening

Ole Kristian Dyskeland greeted all the participants

Updates

- Forskerutdanningskonferansen 2023 was unfruitful
- Nicolas had a better experience at Forskerutdanningskonferansen 2022
- Ole Kristian was approached by Faculty of Social Sciences from UiO regarding the national platform/portal for PhDs courses as Nicolas had an op-ed about this last year but there wasn't a follow-up, they want us to do more
- Nicolas: we can write another op-ed, it has been a year since we called for it and everyone was in support, the technicalities behind the platform are supposed to be done but it is a question why the platform is still not active; Denmark has such a platform already
- Ole Kristian attended Forskningsetisk forum 2023
- National Research Committee has 4 units + a special medical
- main topic was guidance for training in research ethics for PhDs students; train supervisors and PhDs in research ethics
- Ole Kristian had a 30 min talk and focused on supervision ethics; he presented a model, which will be also presented at SiN's AGM
- Ole Kristian also presented some results from the survey about supervision by UiO and preliminary results from our mental health survey
- Ole Kristian met with UiSDC



Yearly wheel

- newsletter should be sent out at the beginning of October
- send out Save the date for the AGM
- government will announce a new budget at the beginning of September and it will be our first meeting with the new minister for education

PR review

- official rules for the sick leave have been changed: a contract extension is granted from the first day of sick leave
- the sick leave has to be official, i.e. attest from the doctor is needed
- previously an extension was only possible if a PhD candidate was on sick leave at least for 2 weeks
- Nicolas should summarize it and Regina sends it to the local organizations to make sure that all are informed
- the rule is retrospective from the 1st of July 2023
- a new article in Khrono with tips for PhDs from a PostDoc
- as usual, everyone is encouraged to write an op-ed

EuroDoc review

- will follow-up with the Nordic group of EuroDoc members
- not that much is going on with EuroDoc, things are slow

UHR review & Consultations

- nothing new
- consultation on open publishing is due to 1st of October
- Ole Kristian is going to help Friederike with the consultation



Working group status

Mental health and supervision working group

- ca. 150 replies to the survey
- a lot of anecdotal evidence
- based on the results we can advocate for more support and more supervision
- Should we write an op-ed based on the results?
- Ole Kristian has an idea about how to evaluate the results – make a report with citations
- establish a contact between the respondents who are willing to share their stories and the journalists
- Nicolas: we should talk to the new board and ask to make the same survey next year, so one can see if they some trends exist, and if yes, which; especially relevant in case of establishment of supervisor training to be able to compare

Finances working group

- people from the last board will get an updated tax card, but it won't be SiN's financial issue
- we have enough to cover the compensation and the auditor
- if we stick to the planned budget for the rest of semester we are not going to have any money left
- some aspects can be dealt with
- no resources to travel
- AGM needs to be kept as cheap as possible
- business agreements with Norwegian and Thon hotels, so we get cheaper tickets and accommodation

Career working group

- Effective Digital Presentations, event which was organized in cooperation with Forskerforbundet, was successful, although much less people (ca. 25) attended than signed up (ca. 70)
- Joar (contact person from Forkserforbundet) said that such an attendance issue is common for such events



- Forskerfobundet was very happy about our cooperation and encouraged us to organize more events
- evaluation of the survey in process, Regina and Friederike are supposed to meet and work on the report

AGM

- 11th and 12th of November in Trondheim
- suggestion by Ole Kristian is to reduce the size of the board to make it more effective and allow for a better compensation
- position of communication officer should be merged together with web master and social media manager
- position in KiF committee should be connected to the UHR responsibility, as they both require Norwegian proficiency; KiF requires 2 years term
- our positions are 1 year term and is not efficient as one has to leave when just got familiar with the role
- suggestion to make positions 2 years term; disadvantage - a PhD contract is usually 3-4 years and if you actively engaged in SiN, you maybe cannot afford a second year as you have to focus on your research
- suggestion to involve additional board members with only 10-15% employment; in this way possible to enable knowledge and experience transfer; additionally, it would be easier to handle such situations as: previous president may have said something which is different from the opinion of the current president, but currently no one knows what the president 3 years ago said as no real succession; would potentially give SiN more credibility
- the funding from the government is getting less with every year, it is reflection of our credibility
- Friederike is unsure how easy it will be to find people for the positions of additional board members; are we allowed to employ someone in the first place? Ole Kristian: yes
- Friederike: statutes have to be amended this year so that they can come into force next year
- Ole Kristian: to be able to do implement it a working group required, thus the suggested changes cannot be implemented during the next year and the earliest date when SiN can start in a restructured format is January 2025; in general someone who is interested in making this work needed; it also requires more budget; needs to be discussed at the AGM;



- Nicolas: interesting idea, however, extremely risky as SiN may fail as the organization as a result of such restructuring; but worth discussion; additionally to be able to implement the changes in 2025, someone from the next board 2024 has to continue as 10%-employee in 2025
- Friederike: these suggestions need to be sent out as a proposal in advance, e.g. a month in advance; restrict the discussion at the AGM to 30 min and then have short presentations (3-5 min) from each member organization
- Jareef: similar opinion as Nicolas, worth discussing
- Friederike: several advantages, we should propose it and discuss but in the end the new board will have to make the decision; implementation will be problematic in case no one from the current board continues next year
- Dimitris: need to work on sponsorship to increase budget before taking this idea further
- : Regina: high potential, but agrees that it is risky and difficult to implement as requires a lot of work and someone permanent as e.g. a consultant on the board
- Anum: is not sure if it is doable, maybe if we would have done it half through our board term, it would have been easier; agrees with Regina about the need for a consultant to implement it as otherwise difficult as everyone is already a full time PhD or PostDoc; course of action is difficult

PhD webinar

- Anum is thinking about a PhD webinar but speakers are expensive
- Anum should send Ole Kristian ideas and suggestions



SiN Monthly Meeting 2023-09-25
Google Hangout

Appendix: Attendies

Ole Kristian Dyskeland

Regina Paul

Friederike Schäfer

Zihao Wang

Yucong Ma

Dimitris Polychronopoulos

Jareef Bin Martuza

Nicolas Gibney

Anum Masood