DION board meeting minutes

Time: 24 March 2014, 09:00-11:30
Place: Studenttinget, Stripa, Sentralbygget, Gløshaugen

Present: Torbjørn Pedersen (TP), Kristoffer Lund Langlie (KL), Clara Good (CG), Evert Bouman (EB), Magnus Steigedal (MS), Merete Falch (MF)

Absent: Marthe Emelie Buan, Phillip Spenhoff, Margrethe Nergard, Ahmet Tezel.

1 NTNU Board Cases

Topics for discussion of the NTNU board are:

i) Joint master program for MSc in supply chain excellence, IPK-IVT. The board has to acknowledge every change in the master programs. It is the expectation the board will approve the program.

ii) The report to Kunnskapsdepartement has been finished. It is written in a better way and has become much more accessible. The report contains the current status and plans of NTNU 2013-2014. Something that is different this year, the KD will ask the board questions about the plans. This is organized every second year. The number of PhD students has decreased in the last few years, but we never have a picture compared to the other universities. The graph on page 9 in the report appendix shows that the number of NTNU PhD candidates is decreasing compared to other universities. We can expect in 4 years’ time to have less completed PhDs and therefore less funding. What surprised TP was the decrease in publication of books by NTNU professors, though this is thought of as natural variation. There is a plan to focus on recruitment for language programs and technology.

iii) Case on TTO. There is no requirement anymore to have an external candidate in the TTO board.

iv) A new HUNT (Helse Undersøkelse Nord Trøndelag) research is due. It is important that NTNU is involved. The HUNT material is expensive, but has generated many positive outcomes of NTNU in terms of graduated PhD students. However, the number of people that want to participate in HUNT is decreasing.

v) Building status. There is some need to reduce the backlog in building maintenance at the cost of 100-140 MNOK per year. Some of this might be come from research budget. This does not include the funding needed for new building. Over the past years the state of the buildings has been improved in Dragvoll due to the need to reduce mold. Approximately one building per year has been renovated. NTNU plans to sell some property. Some of the renovation will be directly funded from the government. There
will be a board seminar on the 22nd of April regarding the new campus development and vision report. The board needs to have a vision about the new campus development.

vi) Toppforskning is important for NTNU to become better at competing for the most prestigious research funding and not only the applied funding where we are relatively good. Existing ways of funding are Forskningrådet, EU and Kavli funding routes. The Jebsen foundation is funding medical research. NTNU wants to launch some measures to enable NTNU researchers to get in position to get funding. A Stjerneprogram is launched for high potential young researchers. Researchers that got funded through FRIPRO/fellesløftet, get included in a mentor program with extra funding, in order to increase chances of receiving high level grants. In addition there will be one person from each faculty included in the program. Some concern that 200,000 NOK may not be not for some types of research. A short discussion is held on whether teaching is something to be shielded against, which is not desirable.

2 TOPP
- The next STOPP event will be on April 10. The topic is Zero emissions buildings. N.B. Due to low turnout the event was canceled (turned into Nabopils).

3 AGM
The AGM is planned 23 April, 16.30. More details are discussed in the following board meeting. After the AGM we will organize another STOPP. The speaker will be May Liz Bjørnevik Tho on the topic of Know your rights. Food will be provided for PhD students.

4 Status
Plan for internalization: NTNU works on a new plan for internationalization. This will be circulated to board members.

5 PhD Cases
Several PhD related cases were discussed.