DION board meeting summons

Time       Thursday August 13 2015
Place      Room 207, The old physics building, Gløshaugen
Present    Øyvind Storesund Hetland, Kam Sripada, Vegard Hagen, Hammad Majeed, Mohammad Saud Afzal, Alexander Busch
Absent     Shareq Mohd Nazir, Elli Verhulst
Observers
Secretary  Andreas Noteng

Agenda:

1 Welcome /Øyvind
Since last time the board has had an informal/social meeting at Brygghus 9 on the 30th of July. The project group for the duty work and funding projects had three meetings. Talk with Sigurd in Tekna this morning. Wants to collaborate on an event related to the merger. Tekna is the biggest union at the university and especially on the Gløshaugen campus, but DION has to make sure we also collaborate with the other unions. (ie. Forskerforbundet, Nito, Naturviterne). Kam attended the immatriculation ceremony and the lunch afterwards. She had some chances to network and talk about DION. The Gjøvik and Ålesund university colleges have some PhD candidates, but they are not well organized. We should reach out to them. DION should look into the seniority rules.

2 Discussions related to the Board of NTNU
The students and the temporary academic staff’s representatives was unfortunately absent, but the students’ representatives send a short summary of the discussions regarding the proposed changes to the part of the Act relating to Universities and University Colleges regarding the leadership of universities and university colleges. DION was not invited to reply to this hearing, but will support SiN’s reply. The SiN reply will be circulated in the board list, if no one objects to the contents DION will support the hearing.

3 Discussion of SiN/DIONs reply to Hearing on the “KD Hearing on Seniority” /Øyvind
It was decided that DION will not send an independent hearing reply, but support SiN’s reply. Forskerforbundet changed their stand on the case, and wants to subtract only the learning bits...
(credit points) approx. 6 months. This opens for a short term temp employment after the end of the PhD contract but at the same time it doesn’t open up for a massive increase in temporary positions. The board agrees that this is a good solution, as it opens up for short term engagements immediately following the PhD contract, but it also prevents the arrangement from being abused to increase the amount of temporary employees.

4 Update on the Duty Work & PhD Budget projects /Alex
The group has met a few times to put together a letter that was sent off at July 27. We are still awaiting the replies, and the deadline has been set for the 15th of September. After the deadline, the group will compile and analyze the answers, and decide from there what to do next. The results will be made public. The DION FAQ on the website will be updated once we have a clear overview of our findings.

5 Current issues in SiN /Vegard
Update and discussion on current activities the Association of Doctoral Organizations in Norway/Stipendiatene i Norge (SiN)
- UHR hearing on seniority
  - The ministry forgot to add SiN to the list of hearing bodies so an extension on the hearing deadline was granted. Vegard will distribute the proposed hearing reply to the DION board mailinglist.
- UHR hearing on board composition
  - SiN was excluded from this hearing too, but the ministry denied an extension of the deadline.
- Web site has been updated to make it easier to find documents
- Conference in Tromsø on October 15; “Attract, Train and Keep Global Talents”
- Reply from EUDOC regarding the seniority hearing
- Workshop in Trondheim on August 27; “Living and learning. Building a researcher career development framework”
- Plan for a workshop in the Oslo area, it could be interesting for DION to send someone to this workshop.
- Trying to start a doctoral organization in Bergen

6 Events
It was agreed not to plan the details of the events in the board meeting. Someone should be appointed coordinator for each event. The coordinator could plan the details and ask the board for input.

The plan before Christmas:
- PhD movies 1 and 2
  - Movie number 1 in September
  - Responsible: ?
  - Øyvind will check when movie nr. Two is ready
- Welcome event
  - Responsible: Hammad and Saud
- Pub nights
  - Pub night on the 3rd of September, “first Thursday”
Look into how to apply for some money for events. We should apply to both SiN and NTNU’s Pro-Rector for Research. We should ask NTNU to share our Facebook page on their Facebook page.

7 PhD Cases /Øyvind
Update and status on PhD/PostDoc cases.
Not public.

8 Creation and Delegation of active DION projects /Øyvind
Postponed until the next board meeting.

9 A.o.b
Open point. Any topics can be announced before or at the meeting.

- Speaker at presentation of DION for new PhDs
  o Kam will talk at DMF on 17 September
  o Saud? will do it on NT if they ask
- Iranian Students – Official statement
  o The Iranian students lost in court
- Andreas will start in the new position from the 1st of September, but will continue working 25% for DION throughout October.
- A new searchable archive system is almost ready
  o Start the transition from the network folder to the new archive system as soon as possible.
- How to brand/market DION
  o Send the newsletter in the end of August
  o NTNU’s Facebook page
  o Welcome event for new PhDs
  o News for the Facebook page. Share interesting articles and news to increase out visibility.
  o There is some outdated information on the web site, Andreas will update.
- Next DION meeting: Where and when?
  o 16th of September at 8:15

The meeting was adjourned at 14:18