

Minutes for board meeting Thursday 13 May

Location: The lunch room, department of mathematical sciences, top floor SII, Gløshaugen.

Present: Silje, Kurt, Torun, Khalis, Andreas, Eirik.

Referent: Eirik

The main purpose of the meeting was to state what DION should focus on this year.

1. Questionnaire

It will take a lot of work to make a good study of the results from the questionnaire. We hope Ingunn Lysø will continue with this a bit longer. She has also suggested that a master student could be given the task of analysing this, possibly with pay. Another possibility is that our data is used in a course in analysis where they normally use fiction data. Eirik will talk to Ingunn again before next meeting.

All these solutions imply that a report will not be ready in the next six months. We cannot launch a new questionnaire this year. In the mean time, DION must focus on what we think is important, and use the results as background material whenever possible. Silje will see if Forskerforbundet is interested in using some of our results.

2. Communication channels

As many doctoral students are lonely, we discussed the idea of e-mail lists from the yearly meeting. An e-mail list and a PhD-party will probably be most effective at the department level. We had different views about the need for such e-mail lists and groups and how they would be used. Eirik will pass on this idea to Kristin Wergeland Brekke who might present it to the faculties. The questionnaire has shown that people are lonely in their work.

On Innsida it is possible to post messages to students. We think doctoral students should be a separate group as well. Eirik will present this view to ITEA.

3. Marketing of DION

We agreed that we need more board members, especially from HF/SVT. The easiest, and probably most efficient, is to contact friends at these departments and ask if they are interested. Kurt and Torun had at least one such friend each.

4. Quota doctoral students

DION will focus on this group, as they have few resources and very special problems. Khalis will try to contact everyone in this group at NTNU and arrange a meeting in August or September.

5. Patents and venture

After a lot of focus on this the last year, we believe that DION can say this case is mostly finished now. We will follow up the rules and the results of the hearings from last period and continue to give information whenever the situation changes.

6. Day-care places for children

There are very few day-care places available, and it is most difficult to find a place for children younger than three years old. We talked about the history and reasons that NTNU and DION should work to solve this situation. When doctoral students lost their status as students, they also lost the right to use student kindergardens. Doctoral students is a group of young people, so many have small children compared to most other working groups in the society. Kurt will check the situation, especially regarding the capacity and a common application form for all NTNUs available spaces.

7. PhD-agreement

As for the patent and venture discussion, this case has been thoroughly discussed in the last year. Now we must follow up to see if the agreement is changed. The most important thing in the beginning is that all the members of the board have read the agreement. We should also check the English and Norwegian versions, as we have been notified that there are differences between these. At the yearly meeting it was said that the English agreement require that you state what parts of the work you have performed independently and state what role other helpers have had, while this is not included in the Norwegian version. Eirik will find the agreement in both languages and send it to the rest of the board.

8. Comments from DION/SiN about the government statement on research

(In Norwegian: Stortingsmelding om forskning.)

We discussed the draft, and selected three themes that should be emphasized in our comment. These three are future employment, conditions to ensure that the degree is completed without unnecessary delays and quota problems. Under these points we wanted to present methods to improve the situation. Andreas will rewrite our draft, Kurt will send it to DION and SiN for comments and post it before the weekend.

9. Other

Andreas was given responsibility to check the DION snail-mail-box in Hovedbygget.

Torun will call for a new meeting in early in June, approximately between 14 and 18 June. We might do this as a dinner meeting.