

Minutes of DION board meeting.

Time: Tuesday, 11 November 2010, 10:00 – 12:00 hours.

Place: Meeting room 160, Gamle Fysikk.

Present: Yngve Sommervoll, Alexander Olsen, Kirsti Jensen,
Lars Bungum og Ragnhild Berge.

Minutes secretary: Inger Selven Watts

Item 40/10 Presentation of NTNU alumni

Anja Tjeflaat represented Alumni and informed about how DION can join the Alumni web site. If DION agrees to become a member Alumni can send notification to all persons who are registered as PhD Candidates. Anyone who is interested among those who are invited can register, but DION will not be able to contact the PhD Candidates directly.

Alumni has a good potential in reaching new subscribers for DION.

Item 41/10 NTNU Board meeting by Alexander

S-sak 67/10 A strategic perspective of resource management

This is a complicated issue, and it is difficult to decide who should be prioritized.

S-sak 39/10 PhD education at NTNU

Rector states that research is very important and advises the NTNU Board to focus on ways that will strengthen the PhD education at NTNU.

DION welcomes this work, and says that even though PhD Candidates find many positive aspects concerning their work situation, there are sensitive issues that cause delays and termination of contracts.

DION recommends that the Board decides that a questionnaire should be made and sent to current and previously employed PhD Candidates. A survey would be helpful in answering some questions about why so many PhD Candidates are delayed or quit.

DION welcomes a PhD Manual. It is important that such a manual will change people's opinion and actions, and not just be a book collecting dust on the mantle piece. DION therefore sees it as vital that a PhD Manual should be approved by the NTNU Board. This will give the book penetrating power, and PhD Candidates can be sure that they have the Board behind them.

It is also important that this book relates to circumstances and challenges a PhD Candidate may meet at his or her department.

It is essential that the manual carries updated and true information, and that a newly employed PhD Candidates will find coherence between what is written in the manual and what is really done at their department.

DION assists PhD Candidates in individual cases, but it will not intervene in individual cases.

DION will continue to make sure that questions are answered correctly. DION suggests that an ombudsman could be employed. This person will answer question concerning PhD education and rights.

Recruitment of new and talented PhD Candidates: DION suggests that departments inform Master students about PhD work before they are employed by other agents.

O-sak 12/10 Health and safety investigation by the Directorate of Labour Inspection

The Principal takes the report addressed to some departments at NTNU very seriously, and amendments will be made in swift process.

O-sak 13/10 Strategy Process, Status.

DION sees positive results of the Strategy Process so far. It has made the many unities at NTNU look at how work is done and what possibly can be altered and done in a better way.

Item 42/10 NTNUs focus on PhD training

It is important that DION makes their opinion known and that more people are made aware of our work.

Kirsti will express DION's view on *S-sak 39/10 PhD Education at NTNU* in a letter to the Norwegian newspaper Universitetsavisa.

A.o.b.

Christmas gathering.

Meeting finished at 1510 hours.

Yngve Sommervoll/s/
Vice President DION

Inger Selven Watts/s/
Minutes Secretary