

Minutes of DION board meeting.

Time: Thursday, 23 February 2012, 10:00 – 12:00 hours.

Place: Meeting room 245 Sentralbygg II.

Present: Kirsti Jensen, Julien S. Bourrelle and Halvdan Haugsbakken

Minutes secretary: Inger Selven Watts

Item 5/12 NTNU Board meeting Monday 27 February 2012

Julien made a general introduction and raised some selected items for debate.

S-sak 6/12 Reports and plans 2011/2012

- Permanent employment and BOA. DION appreciates that NTNU clearly states the intention to increase permanent employment based on externally funded research projects. DION however recognizes that this is challenging. In particular, the acquisition of new projects to support an increased level of permanent employees should be addressed.
- The PhD statistics. The annual report shows that 33 % of the PhD Candidates have not finished (are still enrolled) after 6 years. While the current way of measuring the gender balance states that 40 % of the PhD population are females, they constituted 26 % of the PhD candidates admitted at NTNU the last year and 25 % of those who finished. The 40 % number is thus a misleading indicator that glosses over an accumulation of women in the “pipe line,” in part due to the increase in the number of PhD candidates admitted each year and in part due to the tendency that female candidates need extra time due to child birth. Better measures should be considered.
- Increase percentage of PhD candidates that are foreign citizens. DION acknowledges that the rising percentage is an advantage as well as a challenge. In fields where there are concerns about the need for researchers with Norwegian language and cultural skills, as well as intentions to stay in Norway after the PhD is completed, DION emphasizes targeted recruitment of talented students. When hiring non-Norwegian candidates, language skills in English or Norwegian (or one of the Scandinavian languages) should be emphasized, so that the candidates may more easily be integrated in the research community and are able to teach and supervise students.

S-sak 10/12 HSE Annual Report 2011

- DION stresses once more the importance of HSE and laboratory rules translated into English.

Item 6/12 Elections to the NTNU Board 2012/2013 (including electoral committee, candidates, election meeting and DION’s annual meeting)

Julien and DION have both been contacted by the electoral committee about the preparation of the election. Julien will attend as Board member; Kirsti will ask Lars whether he is willing to represent DION (she will attend the first meeting if he does not accept).

As usual, we will try to organize DION’s annual meeting in concurrence with an election meeting; planning of the combined event will have to be done via email, based on the information from the central electoral committee meeting on 28 February. Inger will book room when time is decided.

Item 7/12 Communication from DION

Postponed due to time limitations.

Item 8/12 A.o.b.

No issues.

Meeting ended: 1200 hours.

Kirsti Jensen/s/
President DION

Inger Selven Watts/s/
Minutes Secretary