

# DION Annual General Meeting – Minutes

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*Time: 22 April 2015, 16:00 – 19:00*

*Place: Room H3, Main building, Gløshaugen*

*Number of attendees: 23 (including DION Board)*

## **1 Presentation of the yearly report for the 2014-2015 term**

Clara Stina Good presented the highlights of the DION yearly report.

## **2 DION budget for 2014**

Clara Stina Good presented the annual accounts for 2014

The accounts were approved by acclamation

## **3 Changes to the DION Statutes**

Clara Stina Good presented the proposed changes.

There were some discussion on whether other temporary scientific staff besides PhDs and Postdocs should be included.

Suggestion by Torbjørn Pedersen

Line 56: change “All doctoral candidates or members of the temporarily employed scientific staff at NTNU,” to “All doctoral candidates or postdocs at NTNU,”

### Voting

Change DIONs English name	Passed unanimously
Logo changes	Passed by a majority of the votes
Suggestion 1 by Torbjørn Pedersen	Passed by a majority of the votes
Change of target group to include postdocs, including suggestion 1	Passed unanimously
Add the possibility to elect an election committee	Rejected unanimously
Add an upper limit of 7 board members	Passed by a majority of the votes

Decision:

See [appendix A](#)

## 4 Election

### 4.1 DION President for the 2015-2016 term

Candidates:

Øyvind Storesund Hetland

The candidate was given the opportunity to present himself and answer questions from the AGM

Voting:

Acclamation

Decision:

Øyvind Storesund Hetland is the elected President of DION for the 2015-2016 term.

### 4.2 DION Board election for the 2015-2016 term

Candidates:

Philipp Spenhoff (PhD, Germany, IVT)  
Morten Stornes (PhD, Norway, NT)  
Elli Verhulst (Postdoc, Belgium, IVT)  
Ljubisa Gavrilovic (PhD, Serbia, NT)  
Kam Sripada (PhD, USA, DMF)  
Vegard Hagen (PhD, Norway, IVT)  
Mohammad Saud Afzal (PhD, India, IVT)  
Hammad Majeed (PhD, Pakistan, NT)  
Alexander Busch (PhD, Germany, IVT)  
Shareq Mohd Nazir (PhD, India, IVT)  
Niranjan Reddy Challabotla (PhD, India, IVT)  
Nadeem Ahmad (PhD, India, IVT)

The candidates were given 1 minute to present themselves and why they are running for the board.

Voting:

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Elected?</b>
Kam Sripada	Yes
Vegard Hagen	Yes
Elli Verhulst	Yes

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Hammad Majeed	Yes
Mohammad Saud Afzal	Yes
Alexander Busch	Yes
Shareq Mohd Nazir	Yes
Philipp Spenhoff	No
Ljubisa Gavrilovic	No
Morten Stornes	No
Niranjan Reddy Challabotla	No
Nadeem Ahmad	No

## Decision:

The DION board members for the 2015-2016 term will be Kam Sripada, Vegard Hagen, Elli Verhulst, Hammad Majeed, Mohammad Saud Afzal, Alexander Busch and Shareq Mohd Nazir.

The meeting was adjourned at 19:05

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Clara Stina Good  
Departing DION President

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Øyvind Storesund Hetland  
New DION President

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Andreas Noteng  
Secretary

## Appendix A

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### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1. Scope of document

This document contains the statutes of Doktorgradskandidatenes interesseorganisasjon ved NTNU (DION). See also DION - Purpose, Goals and Structure<sup>1</sup> for more information about DION.

#### 1.2. Document version

This document was created during 2013 by the DION board of 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 in preparation for the annual general meeting of 2014. The statutes were approved at the DION annual general meeting 2014-04-23, pending some minor changes. The statutes were revised again for the AGM 2015-04-22 and were approved with these changes at the AGM 2015.

#### 1.3. Old statutes

The first version of the statutes was approved by the DION annual general meeting in 2000, and can be found in the DION archives.

### 2. Statutes

#### 2.1. Name

The name of the organization is “Doktorgradskandidatenes interesseorganisasjon ved NTNU”, usually abbreviated (DION). The English translation of the name is the “The Interest Organization for Doctoral Candidates at NTNU”. The organization was founded on 29 February 1996. The logo of DION is



Doktorgradsstipendiatenes  
interesseorganisasjon ved NTNU



The Interest Organization for  
Doctoral Candidates at NTNU

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<sup>1</sup> DION: DION - Purpose, Goals and Structure, Dec. 2013.



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## 2.2. Goal

DION shall be a resource and driving force for the joint interest of doctoral candidates and postdoctoral fellows (postdocs) at NTNU. In addition, DION should aim to promote the interests of other temporarily employed scientific staff.

The organization has the following main working areas:

1. Working conditions.
2. Quality of the doctoral education.
3. Economic issues.
4. Social benefits and integration.
5. Internationalization.
6. Ethics in science.

DION is free to prioritize other important issues for doctoral candidates and postdocs.

## 2.3. Membership

DION has no official membership, but represents all registered doctoral candidates and postdocs NTNU. Any doctoral candidate or post doc can notify DION that they do not wish to be represented by the organization.

## 2.4. Annual general meeting (AGM)

A general meeting is held annually, normally during spring. All registered doctoral candidates and postdocs at NTNU have the right to attend the AGM. The AGM shall be announced at the DION web page, by email, and by NTNU's official interactive channel "Innsida" at least two weeks before the meeting is held. The meeting documents should be made available at least one week before the meeting.

The annual general meeting is the highest organ of DION. The meeting shall:

- Approve the board's annual report.
- Approve the board's annual financial statement.
- Elect a new leader.
- Elect a new board.

DION is an organization for the whole of NTNU. The elected board should consist of members from most of the faculties at NTNU. It is also a goal of the organization to achieve a good gender balance between the members of the board if possible. Board members (including the president) are elected for one (1) year at the time. Considerations should be made to ensure that candidates from different faculties are represented during the election process.

All doctoral candidates and postdocs at NTNU who have at least one (1) year remaining of their employment can be elected to positions in the board. Candidates who have reserved themselves from being represented by DION may not be elected to the board. There is a language requirement (advanced Norwegian proficiency) to sit in some positions, since the official meeting language of NTNU is Norwegian. These positions include the president and vice president.

## 2.5. The election procedure

The president and board members are elected at the annual general meeting. The election is announced together with the annual general meeting. Ideally, candidates are announced before the general meeting, but candidates can be nominated during the meeting itself. Candidates

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Doktorgradskandidatenes interesseorganisasjon ved NTNU running for election must state which position they are running for (president or board member), and in which faculty they are employed.

A president and a minimum of four (4) and maximum of seven (7) board members must be elected. The president is elected first, and a separate election is held for the remainder of the board. One of the board members shall be elected as the vice president by the board at the first DION board meeting after the AGM.

If the annual general meeting is unable to fill these positions the election is declared invalid, and a new election should be held within one (1) month.

## 2.6. Extraordinary general meeting

An extraordinary general meeting can be held if three (3) board members, or the smaller number of 100 representatives or 5 percent of the doctoral candidates and postdocs, request this. The announcements should be made according to the normal procedures for the annual general meeting. Such a meeting should not treat any other cases than those part of the announced agenda.

## 2.7. Board

The DION board is responsible for the daily management of DION between the annual general meetings, as well as for preparing the required documents for the annual general meeting. These documents shall consist of:

- An annual report of DION's activities.
- The current financial state, budget and proposed budget.
- An activity plan proposal for the coming board period.

The board is entitled to replace board members between the annual general meetings if this is necessary. In case of large changes to the board, an extraordinary general meeting shall be held. A large change constitutes replacing more than one member during a time period of one month. A majority vote, more than half the board, is required to remove a board member. The DION board will nominate candidates to sit in the different committees, councils, and meetings where DION is represented.

## 2.8. Board meetings

DION board meetings should be announced no later than one (1) week before the meeting is held, including the agenda. Board meetings in DION are open to all doctoral candidates and postdocs at NTNU, other temporary academic employees at NTNU, union representatives and student representatives. Some parts of the meeting might only be open for the board and explicitly invited representatives, for example in relation to personnel matters.

The board meetings are announced at the website, in social channels, at Innsida (DION-channel), and to the DION's news-letter.

Minutes of the meeting shall be published no later than three (3) weeks after a meeting is held. A minimum of three (3) board members, including either the president or the vice president, must be present during any board meeting to make valid decisions.

## 2.9. Sub-chapters of DION

Sub-chapters of DION can be established at the different faculties if this is expedient. Any sub-chapter of DION should work with specific local agendas, for example:

- Issues on teaching and subjects.
- Representation in faculty or department committees.
- Social environment and integration strategies.

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Sub-chapters are free to decide how they want to organize themselves and their activities.

## 2.10. Change in statutes

Changes in the statutes must be approved during the annual general meeting. Approval requires that a 2/3 majority of the attending representatives at the AGM supports the proposed change.

