

DION board meeting minutes

Time	Wednesday, January 20, 14.00-16.30
Place	Gamle fysikk, room 217.
Present	Øyvind S. Hetland, Elli Verhulst, Kam Sripada, Vegard Hagen, Alexander Busch, Shareq Mohd Nazir
Absent	Hammad Majeed, Mohammad Saud Afzal
Observers	Kim Allgot(NTNU Board), Dennis Bogen(NTNU board), Sigurd Vildåsen(Tekna, NTNU Board), Kristoffer Bjørnerud Slåttsveen(Faculty of NT)
Secretary	Kine Sørli

Agenda:

01/16 Welcome/ Øyvind

Øyvind welcomed to the meeting and everybody around the table introduced themselves.

02/16 News from NTNU Board

Kim and Dennis give a brief about the work within the NTNU Board. Next week all the deans and leaders at NTNU will meet at Oppdal to discuss 2016 and the things that are going on right now. One of the biggest cases right now is the new faculty structure that the NTNU board will vote on at the meeting in February. They will also discuss maintenance of NTNU's buildings.

Øyvind will also participate in the seminar at Oppdal.

Before February 15th DION need to discuss the faculty structure and what principles the decision of organization of faculties should be based on.

Elements from the discussion around the table:

- How will the faculty organization affect the temporary employees?
- Does DION have enough facts to know what organization structure is best for temporary employees?
- Should a big/strong discipline be by itself?
- What does it mean if NTNU got 4-5 big faculties instead of to 8 smaller faculties?
- What principles are important for DION?
- If we get few faculties, would it be easier to navigate politically among the rights for the PhD-candidates and postdocs?
- There are different routines and rules on how the faculties approach to the PhD-candidates, how would the new faculty structure influence this?

03/16 MN8000/Øyvind

Øyvind summarized from the meeting about MN8000. It's very different how the faculties organize introductory courses for new PhDs. Some have a lot of hours with mandatory attendance and others barely have a couple of hours. This is a course that is necessary for every PhD-candidate.

The NT-faculty has originally organized it as a four-week course, where the candidates can't miss any classes. This causes some challenges for those who got duty work during these 4 weeks. DION has been in a meeting with the faculty and tried to find a solution. The faculty has already loosened up a bit on this, where the candidates get approved absence and they get a chance to be absent for a limited number of sessions.

Most of the courses that has compulsory activities demands 80% attendance. It is very unusual to demand 100 % attendance on a course, due to sickness and duty work.

DION should come with a statement about this challenge and maybe propose a solution that facilitate for the PhD-candidates and the faculties.

Is it possible that the planning of the courses across the faculties could be coordinated?

This discussion will be discussed on a later board meeting. Øyvind and Elli will meet the course coordinates on MN8000 January 21.

04/16 Financial updates and new funding allocation

Øyvind gives a briefing about the new funding.

Ideas on different activities:

- PhD and postdocs club where candidates can represent their work across their fields
- Is it an idea to have a meeting point where we can meet others across the fields and universities?
- What about a seminar or a conference for all the PhD- candidates and postdocs?

Kine gives a briefing about the process to split the accounts from Studenttinget. She will continue to work with this.

DION's budget for 2016 is estimated to this:

DION- estimated budget	Expenses
Compensation for the president and members of the board (President and 4-7 board members. 2 months to the president, 1 month too each member. Limited too 3 month per member	Kr 410 000
Secretary Salary for secretary in a 25 % position Expenses (funding from earlier years)	Kr 140 000 Kr 15 000
Meeting places for the Ph.D.-candidates	Kr 100 000
Total	Kr 665 000

05/16 Outreach activities/ budget

Kam orients about ideas for the budget.

DION needs to update its promotional materials.

- A new banner is very much needed
- The rollup is only in Norwegian and it's a wish to get an English one as well.
- Should DION have competition among the students to produce a new profile? Or can we have a voting about the new profile?

Kam takes the responsibility to come up with some suggestions on merchandise and promotional materials.

"Love your research" event at Digs 11 February

Elli informs about the event.

What poster does DION want to use? Several options are displayed, and feedback on design is given.

Elli and Kam will continue working on the poster and details around the event.

The next Happy hour

WorkWork is suggested as a place. Kam will check on dates next week.

06/16 News from SiN

Vegard gives an update on the current issues and events in SiN.

He got some bad news about the application DION sent in to cover some of the expenses the event of PhD-movie. The application is denied due to a missed deadline.

SiN is working on a workshop that is coming up in February. Saud and Hammad are going to participate from DION.

07/16 PhD cases

Not public

Update and status on PhD/Postdoc cases.

See attachment for further details.

08/16 Any other business

The duty work project:

Alex orients about the process.

Kine will help out the analysis.

Next DION meeting:

Øyvind will make a doodle for the next meeting. It should be scheduled for the week leading up to Feb. 15th.

Meeting was adjourned at 16:50.

