

DION board meeting minutes

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| Time | Tuesday, 12 April 2016, kl. 13.00-16.15 |
| Place | Gamle fysikk, room 207. |
| Present | Øyvind S. Hetland, Kam Sripada, Shareq Mohd Nazir, Vegard Hagen, Elli Verhulst, Alexander Busch |
| Absent | Hammad Majeed, Mohammad Saud Afzal |
| Observers | (One PhD student from former HiST was present at parts of the meeting) |
| Secretary | Kine Sørli |

Agenda:

26/16 Welcome

Øyvind welcomed to the meeting and oriented about the cases that would be discussed at the meeting.

27/16 Current issues in SiN

Vegard orients about the SiN AGM at Ås (Oslo) on Friday 27th of May. DION can send up to 2 delegates to the meeting.

Vegard got a question from an organization like DION at UiS (Stavanger) about the working conditions for PhDs (Requirements for personal work space: How many PhDs can be tolerated in an open office landscape solution?) and wants input from the rest of the board.

SiN is interested to share the DION reports about the duty work and PhD budget projects on their site.

28/16 Update on the Duty Work & PhD Budget projects

Alex orients about the two project and the reports. The findings and proposals will be presented to the rector and administrations, SiN, homepage, faculties and departments. The projects will be presented for the central research committee at NTNU on the 29th of April.

The reports will be send to Ragnhild Lofthus for comments and feedback before the presentations.

29/16 Events

The happy hour event at WorkWork last week was a success. Shuffleboard is a good way to encourage people to talk and mingle. DION should focus on such activities in the future, as it brings people together.

The bowling event on April 21 seems to be popular. The maximum amount of people should be around 40 people to limit the costs according to the budget. Is the board willing to pay for an expansion of the event? The interest for the event is pretty high and that can be very valuable for recruiting for the new board. The board decided to re-open the registration page, and extend the event, duration of the event and budget. We now hope to be 60-80 participants.

The AGM is set to May 10th. Kam has a couple of speakers ready for the AGM. The theme of the talks are experiences from research stays abroad. The recruiting for members to the board is an important task ahead for DION. Kine will find out how we can distribute information to all PhDs and postdocs. DION should send out a main e-mail and reminder ahead of the AGM to all members of DION.

30/16 Active DION projects/investigations/cases

Update on FAQ- Project update

Elli will write a small note about the case from the student that got rejected her thesis and send the note to Kine who will put it up on the homepage.

Language courses for PhDs- Plan of action- Shareq

Shareq and Saud has done some research about Norwegian language courses for foreign PhDs at NTNU. Their findings are summarized in a note and will be published at the homepage after the board has given its feedback by email.

Insurance etc. for temporary employees

Øyvind has found some information about travel insurance for temporary employees. Forskerforbundet has some good offers on travel insurance, but it should be clarified with NTNU on what guidelines that are relevant for these issues.

Outreach to HiST, Ålesund and Gjøvik

Kine will hear with the communication department on how we can reach out to the PhDs and postdocs at the earlier university colleges.

Questionnaire/Survey for postdocs

Elli orients about the process on how DION can support postdoctoral researchers at NTNU. She has made a survey that will be distributed to all post-doctoral researchers along with the AGM summons. The participants on the survey will be put into a contest of two cinema

tickets, maybe the winners will be drawn at the AGM? The survey will be sent out when we got the e-mail lists.

DION promotion material/ new Pull-up

This will be a task for the new board.

Academic Regalia at NTNU- plan of action

Øyvind orients about the inquiry on academic regalia. The current plan of action is to gather some data about the requirements of needs and if there is anyone that has needed to wear it on any academic ceremonies. Britta Hale will do the research. DION will ask NTNU, through the responsible design studio, if they can provide a design for a representation/graduation robe along with the new designs that will be made for the new deans at NTNU.

31/16 PhD Cases

32/16 Discussions related to the Board of NTNU

Øyvind orients about the cases that the board of NTNU will discuss on the board meeting on Thursday April 14, based on a summary provided by Guro. There is one case about temporary positions and the situation/statistics of temporary employment at NTNU the last year. The university is working on decreasing the amount of temporary employees, but the numbers show that there has been an increase in the amount of temporary employees. This was discussed in brief, and Guro's proposed comments for the NTNU board meeting were supported in full. The board decided that it would be out of place for DION to comment on the new faculty names.

33/16 A.o.B

Kine and Øyvind will attest the compensation for DION members. Øyvind will ask Ragnhild about the compensations for postdocs.

Øyvind points out the lack of presentation of DION for new PhDs at the IVT faculty. IVT is the only faculty that don't have any welcome-events for new PhDs, but they have a similar introduction course. How can DION inform new PhDs about DION? Kine will check if IVT responded to the inquiry about DION presentations, which was sent out on ePhorte in 2015.

The homepage has been moved, but the domain address is the same. Øyvind will ask if it is possible to redirect the site also from dion.ntnu.no.

Next board meeting:

The bowling event and then a preparation meeting on the same day as the AGM.

The meeting was adjourned at 16.15.