



## Board Meeting 008 /2020 - Agenda

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**Date:** January 24, 15:00 - 18:00

**Place:** GLØSHAUGEN, Savannen

**Invited:** DION board members and observers

**Invited observers:** Francesca Bajada

**Meeting chaired by:** Angelina

**Minutes by:** Mattia

### **Agenda**

**Welcome / Quick check-in/ update from each board member: How do you do? (5 minutes)**

### **15:15 - 16:05: Mental Health Week (45 Min)**

*Francesca reached out to DION with her idea of organizing a theme week on mental health. In the last meeting we discussed several possibilities. What is new, what have we done so far and what are the next steps? There was also an outreach by someone organizing a mental health week "En Pyskt Vanlig Uke" for students. Can we collaborate?*

Francesca has been in contact with [Forskerforbundet](#). She also had a meeting with [Occupational Health Services](#), which "aids leaders, employees, work environment committees and safety representatives in questions regarding the work environment, to contribute to creating a healthy and safe work environment". [Tina Hagen](#) and [Borgny Wold](#), both from the OHS, respectively work as an occupational physiotherapist and an adviser psychosocial/organizational work environment. They would like to be involved in the organization of the event. They would like to give a short talk on OHS to remark some important points that people might not know (e.g. the fact that when you contact them, everything is confidential). They are part of the onboarding process for new researchers. Francesca needs help with the organization. They can help us if we give them some more concrete input on what the event will be like, who will be involved and what which is the main theme. We should invite the OHS persons to our next meeting.

On the other hand, following one of the enquiries we got via email, the board decides to distance itself from the one-week event organized in March by “En Psykt Vanlig Uke”, an independent voluntary organization in Trondheim (main contact: Julie Elisabeth Schult, julie@schult.no). Erland is in charge for communicating our decision to Julie.

We agree to contact [Kristian Kjesbu Drøsshaug](#), who gives stress management courses for SiT. We want to ask him if he is available and willing to lead a 2 hours event/course on stress management. Lisa, who attended a course from him, will get in touch. Stress management should also be related to time management.

We agree to have only a couple of main events during our mental-health awareness week. The plan is to daily send useful information (each day on a different theme) to let people be aware of the tools that they already have at their disposal at NTNU and affiliated. Somewhere in April (end of March/beginning of April for the World’s Health day on April 7th.

It can be a stand-alone event that we can insert in the week. Link to the event offered by SiT: <https://www.sit.no/en/kurs/mestringskurs/3108/Time-+and+stress+management>

Possible plan for the week:

- Mindful Monday\* (with OHS, Forskerforbundet and other relevant organizations)
- Time-management Tuesday (OHS has some tools that they can suggest)
- Workout Wednesday (DeskFit/Dragvoll ansatte trening)
- Thoughtful Thursday (with the SiT person, second option is Forskerforbundet)
- Feel-good Friday (a movie night/happy hour).

\*On the underlined days the two main events will be organized.

Contact Ålesund and Gjøvik to book a room, organize a local event and stream the main ones hold in Trondheim. The Monday event should take place in Gløshaugen, around 17-19. Another possible location is Klubben in Studentersamfundet, or also the OHS building close to Nidarosdomen (Kalvskinnet, Sverres gate 12, Akrinn, 6th floor; [Mazemap link](#))

We might think about conducting a survey to have some data on researchers here at NTNU. Erland suggests to allot 5000NOK as grant for a PhD researcher in mental health who can write it. We agree that it is unlikely to have the results before our event, but if well done it can allow us to collect useful information.

**16:05 - 16:10: Break (5 Min)**

## Events

### 16:10 - 16:30: Updates (25 Min)

- *Film event & Happy Hour (Tor Anders & Angelina)*. Cats has been chosen for December, a few people showed up at the happy hour.

- *Choir (Mattia)*. An amazing attendance (about 28 persons). Hopefully we will end up with 20 participants after a few weeks (and defections). Angelina suggests buying some cookies for each rehearsal, the board agrees.

- *PR material/Banner (Erland)*. We got roll-ups, which look very good and are very easy to carry and install. We should find a few places where to put them semi-permanently. NTNU shouldn't make a fuss, since we are the most official organization inside NTNU (and for NTNU). Tor Anders is responsible for finding a place in Dragvoll.

- *Faculty Presentations ahead (Mattia, Elodie)*. Everything is ok. 7<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of February presentations will be held by Elodie and Mattia to Natural sciences faculty and Engineering sciences respectively.

### 16:25 - 16:45: Updates II (15Min)

- *Forskningsutvalget, Task force PhD Research, Horizon Europe, Leader Seminar in Oppdal (Angelina)*.

- *Forskningsutvalget*. Angelina has been in a bunch of meetings lately and wants to share a few things with us from behind the scenes. We will officially be part of [Forskningsutvalget](#) task force. They are aware of DION and they are positive towards us.

We need to announce a permanent representative. What is that, precisely? Angelina got the email today and she doesn't have further details. This new representative role is also important for the role of DION in changing things at NTNU. We should specify how we elect this person and how it will be compensated. The elected member needs to speak Norwegian, since most of the meetings are held in Norwegian.

One issue that was brought up is that there is a huge mismatch between the number of courses offered and the number of students taking them (the ration is about 1.7 course/student). They are trying to start more broad courses (e.g. on methodologies, ethics, ...) that can be interdisciplinary. Further elements will be communicated within two weeks.

-*Horizon*: a person talked about [Horizon Europe](#) for university to work on sustainability. What can NTNU do to promote European ideals? The representative from Horizon was challenging the audience to evaluate universities according to quality rather than to number of publications.

*PostDoc reform.* There was a research committee meeting in September 2019 to change the role of PostDocs at NTNU. Nowadays it's just a PhD-like position, while it should be desirable to make it a way to educate and prepare people with a doctorate to a job, either in Academia or outside it. They briefly discussed the reduction of the number of PhDs, in order to invest more money on fewer of them.

### **16:50 - 17:15: Cases / Inquiries (20 Min)**

*We received several emails, specially about collaborations. What is new? What needs to be discussed?*

- In late November a termination of contract was sent to a PhD student at NTNU from an Asian country, motivated by a lack of required qualifications (Master's degree of one year after a Bachelor degree of 4 years). The student got an extension to write the defense of her case. Erland has written a support letter and we hope that her case will find a positive solution, since both the supervisor and the people who have recently worked with the student think that there is no lack of competence.
- Another PhD student appealed against a grade very late, but there is no strict rule about deadlines in this case. Erland told the student to contact the PhD responsible at the department, and this is what we know (and could have done) so far.
- Another student asked about extension of contract because he/she has been asked to become the main supervisor of a Master's student. Mattia pointed to relevant documentation and regulation on Innsida, and recommended contacting the PhD responsible at the faculty, who has to formalize the request to NTNU.
- One of our old queries involved a student who had troubles in obtaining a degree in artistic development (NTNU does not want to entitle him/her with a PhD). The solution is that the student will get a diploma from NTNU.
- Yesterday we got an email about the termination period of a PhD position. Apparently, the student and the main supervisor had verbally agreed on a shorter term, but now the supervisor is recanting his statement. He/she says that they have a verbal agreement. Erland is investigating the case and trying to get further details.
- We got an offer of collaboration for Barokkfeste in Trondheim. Mattia will organize a pre-event before the concert which will be held on February 1<sup>st</sup> (UPDATE: Mattia had an email exchange with the organizer and DION was offered free tickets for all its members to

Monteverdi's opera "Combattimenti" on January 30<sup>th</sup>). (UPDATE2: the event has been sold out!)

### **17:15 - 17:50: PLANING AHEAD (35 Min)**

*The next AGM.*

*Review of the year.*

Show the budget at the Annual General Meeting and get it approved. A person who is not in DION to set up the voting platform.

Each member of the current board has to write a short summary of what he did when applying for the 1-month extension.

In general, underline what the board has done for NTNU and the people that DION represents aside from the social events.

Angelina will set up a doodle to decide the day. Mattia will be responsible for the report and for booking the room. For the Ålesund representative: contact people directly. It doesn't really make sense to force the election of a candidate from Ålesund, but we should encourage people to run for the board. Reach out personally to the people who we know there (e.g. winners of grants) and who might be interested.

### **17:45 - 18:00: Closing**

Movie night on 14<sup>th</sup> February. Elodie is going to rent the movie and be paid back, organizing the event at NTNU Gløshaugen. Pizza will be offered.

## **Suggestion for the next DION board meeting and Wrapping up**

Quick summary of decision being made today and outlook on next meeting

- Date for next meeting: according to doodle, most people are available on February 24 from 13.00 to 16.00; the meeting will most likely take place at Dragvoll campus, confirmation needed
- Next month we invite representative from NIRS to talk about possible collaborations.