

DION Board Meeting Minutes

Date: June 9th, 12:00 – 15:15

Place: Zoom

Meeting chaired by: Idd Andrea

Attending: Idd Andrea, Elodie, Lisa, Masab, Faiga, Aida, Irina and Anne Kristin

Agenda

Welcome/ Meet and Greet

The meeting starts with a quick greeting and then Idd went through the agenda of the meeting.

1. Role and goals of the group

Who are we as a board?

Each board member shared their perspective about the DION role, (particularly regarding the COVID-19 situation and its long-term effects). Different topics that DION should focus on and will be beneficial for all the PhDs, Postdocs and temporarily staff discussed.

Mental health and Career development were the common concern of board members, and all members believed that DION should do its best to support all the PhDs, Postdocs and temporary staff as a proactive board and reflect their thoughts and requires.

Meanwhile, organizing more happy hours was on top of the list to create happy moments for both the staff and their families.

2. Corona-related issues

2-1. Survey

Sending out the survey obtained by the IE institute (as a proper sample) was discussed, and board members believed that because of the summer vacation and multiple surveys that have been already sent out, it is better to postpone the DION survey. Besides, in this way, the survey might target newly aspects of the long-term effects of COVID-19 and be more informative.

Meanwhile, having a short survey regarding the communication still could be helpful and 4 of the DION board members, including Elodie, Lisa, IDD and Aida were volunteered to work on that. They will have a meeting in the coming week.

2-2. Exchange with the unions

The replies from NAR/Forskerforbundet and Tekna discussed, and members agreed to publish them via DION social media.

Masab will provide a summary of Forskerforbundet webinar was held on June 4th related to the rights of PhDs and post-docs in corona time.

2-3. Discussion with fellow Norwegian organization

Elodie presented the main points of the meeting they had with the fellow Norwegian organization regarding the COVID-19 situation on 29th May and, board members discussed the future plan and, the necessitate actions to be taken by DION. There will be another meeting on 19th June.

2-4. Forskerforum

Idd has spoken to forskerforum about temporary employment in academia and, board members agreed to promote the story on the DION Facebook page.

3. SiN survey

Lisa explained the SiN survey regarding the "Career development for PhDs for a career outside of academia" and the SiN request for sending out the survey by DION. All members agreed that it aligned with the DION purpose and, the SiN survey should promote. However, the possibility of sending out the SiN survey through the NTNU PhD list requires to be checked and, Lisa will follow this and ask from Kine Sørli.

4. Cases

The board talked about the cases DION received and also possible ways that DION can support them. Meanwhile, Erland from the former DION board joined the meeting to present the latest update regarding the old cases he is still in contact with them.

5. Events: current and future

5-1. Social media takeover: STATUS

Masab provided a summary about the "social media take over". He said that he received great feedback and, so far, there are six volunteers in the queue for sharing a day of their life on DION social media. Board members discussed allocating a budget for this social event to give a gift card for the most popular status. This sort of activity will help DION to promote its social media.

5-2. Happ-e hour for June

Masab suggested having a BBQ in July. Board members believed that having outdoor activity will be boosted the staff' morale. However, necessitate advice and rules regarding the COVID-19 situation have to consider.

The next meeting will be after summer vacation, in August.