

DION Board Meeting Minutes (27.05.2021)

Date: May 27, 2021

Time: 1400 – 1600

Place: Zoom

Invited: DION board members 2021/2022

Attended: Martin, Regina, Siamak, Payel, Aida, Amanda, and Olga (partly)

Meeting chair: Martin

Minutes by: Amanda

1) Opening

The meeting started with a quick greeting and then Martin went through the agenda for the meeting.

2) Approval of the previous meeting minutes

The board approved the meeting minutes with some suggestions for improvements:

1. More bullet points
2. A little less text

3) Previous work

- Martin attended a PhD workshop with the faculty deans. They discussed how to increase PhD attractiveness in the private sector.
- Martin also attended an international development committee meeting. Should PhDs stay abroad?
- Amanda attended an innovation council meeting. They discussed how NTNU can increase innovation and entrepreneurship skills for PhDs. Aida asked about the TTO

office and the possibility of the TTO office giving a presentation for PhDs at her faculty. Amanda did not know as the TTO office is not part of the innovation council but could ask at the next meeting.

- The board voted for the 17th of may photo competition. The results were as follows:
 - Fireworks by Irina-Mihaela (Gjøvik): 4 votes - Winner
 - Cat and flags by Davit(Gjøvik): 3 votes
 - Exam reading/snow globe by Behnam (Trondheim): 4 votes - Winner
 - Car w/ flags by Ali (Trondheim): 3 votes

4) Upcoming work

- BBQ/25th birthday celebration for DION (Trondheim): The board agreed that we should host a BBQ event in June if possible to celebrate DION turning 25. However, due to the increase in covid-19 cases and restrictions in Trondheim, planning should wait until we are able to have such an event.
- Digital international cooking show: Because of covid-19, the board agrees more digital events should be held. One suggestion was to make videos of people making a dish from their home country (perhaps one a month). The board should make the first couple of videos and then announce that other PhDs can also make cooking show videos with the food costs covered by DION.
- Mental health awareness week: The board agreed that the mental health awareness week should be held from 11.10.2021 to 15.11.2021 (week 41). We should start slowly planning ASAP.
- DION grants: announce DION grants. The event should be held before August 31, 2021. The deadline for applying was set to Monday June 15, 2021; however, the deadline can be extended until a few days before the June board meeting. PhDs/post-docs can apply for up to 2,500 NOK to host an event. The board needs to make sure to advertise the grants in all three NTNU cities.
- Summer/July hikes: The board is encouraged to host a summer hike in July. Most people are vacationing in July, but perhaps it can be a fun and relaxed event for the people still in Trondheim.

- Board meeting date: The board agreed to have a board meeting on the last Thursday of every month.
- PhD masterclass: Olga suggested doing a “master class” for PhDs where PhDs can share skills and hobbies with each other. Also, a Humans of New York style video of PhDs sharing their stories.
- Social media: Regina and Payel will post some pictures and stories about board members on the DION Instagram so people can get to know the board better. Aida also suggested that we can post people’s favorites spots in their city (parks, restaurants, etc.) Amanda suggested posting facts about the rights of PhDs/post-docs on the Instagram. Olga suggested doing a series of PhD expectations vs reality.
- Upcoming committee/council meetings: SiN meeting is coming up soon.

5) Promotional equipment

- Shirts: Kine has some shirts in her office that can be picked up after home office is no longer mandatory. Some shirts have also been sent to Gjøvik. Her office is located at Berg, F-288, Gløshaugen, Sem Sælandsvei 1.
- Banner: The board needs to check prices for printing a new banner. Perhaps NTNU can print one.
- Pens etc.: Amanda will check prices for pens and notebooks with DION logo.
- QR-code: Payel added a QR code for the social media to the banner uploaded to teams. Should we design a new banner?
- Pamphlet to new PhDs: Olga mentioned including a pamphlet about DION given to new PhDs at her department.
- Boosting social media posts: Should we pay FB to boost the visibility of posts?

6) Other questions

- Payel: Can we add a link to the Instagram account on the DION webpage?
- Grants: print out flyers for grants/DION for the break rooms at the instittues.
- Think about a social event for board members.
- Inquiries: Should we advertise the SciLife prize? What are the rules about the inquiries? Siamak and Ludwig will discuss with Martin if they are unsure.
- Olga: Should we use jetpack to back up the DION webpage? Can we backup manually and upload to teams?

7) Adjournment

Meeting ended at 15:50.

The next meeting is the 24th of June from 1400 –1600.