

## **DION board meeting minutes**

Date: 14.12.2021

Time: 16:00-17:30

Place: MS Teams

Attendees: Martin, Amanda, Payel, Siamak, Olga, Ludwig

Guest: Rialda Spahic

Meeting chair: Martin

Minutes by: Ludwig

1. Opening 16:00
  - meet and greet, some go home for Christmas, others stay in Trondheim
2. Previous protocol
  - approved
3. Previous events and work
  - Free to think seminar did not take place, postponed to January
  - Martin talked to Forskerforbundet to give them an overview of what we are currently doing (board), corona extensions, Campussamling -> they are interested and want to continue with us
  - Ludwig went to the FTS to represent DION
  - SiN AGM: Siamak is newly elected board member for social media (from January), will cover the news to know what's going on; Martin and Siamak networked with the other representative organizations, national politics within the universities and big words; all other organizations are struggling with the same problems, so SiN is a great platform for exchange and unification of demands/politics; Corona extension survey at AGM showing how the pandemic affects the PhD students and their projects (80 PhDs in research group in Bergen) -> >50% effected, regardless of labwork/workplace/situation, most people don't know about it, extension not always the solution cause it isn't over
  - Potluck: Did not happen, all orders luckily cancelled, ~15 people would have attended, maybe 2<sup>nd</sup> week of January, uncertainty about Innsida messages and rejected room bookings, Rialda mentions that it maybe was not really visible, sending out e-mails is not possible, Amanda puts in a mailing list so that people can receive mails. Olga plans on creating a Whatsapp/Facebook Group "DION updates" for people to get messages better. In Gjøvik, the event was cupped to 20 persons, cancelled on very short notice due to rejection from NTNU, even though it was planned outside of NTNU.
  - Secret Santa: 15 people signed up, a platform choses the distribution of the gifts.
  - Holiday Movie Night: Happened last week (Friday), Nightmare before Christmas was shown, about 30 people attended

Upcoming work:

- Research council this Friday, covid situation on agenda, Martin wants to criticize but misses numbers and evidence about what's going on, at Martins institute only half extensions (maybe to show that they give some?). Still open application at Payel, but no follow up so far, cannot be justified with first lockdown, therefore difficult to apply. Reginas department had a meeting, should be possible to re-apply even with rejection last year. Siamak got "full" extension due to experimental work, IV might be better situated. Martin heard from Forskerforbundet that the teacher education institute gave all PhDs a general extension. Official document states that all institutes should handle this the same, but it clearly is not followed. The money needs to be supplied from the institutes, even though it should have been established on a central level, therefore rich departments are less reluctant on giving extensions. Some universities had corona bonus for employees (35kNOK). Anne Borg wanted to put the money into salary negotiations, but it went into the professor's salaries. Bothering Martin.
  - Regina got a contacted from NIRS regarding skiing, so we could organize a skiing event.
  - Dancing class (Regina)
  - Thai Chi class (free) if possible (Payel)
  - Stress management by SiT (Amanda)
4. Feedback from MHAW
- Amanda did the survey regarding the MHAW, 22 participants
  - people were happy, positive overall feedback
  - Innsida best source, Facebook afterwards, WhatsApp group should be discussed
  - Physical events in non-visible rooms, technical support during events, outdoor events, relation to mental health not clear, more time to socialize
  - good positive comments
  - We should make an experience report before the AGM
5. Other questions
- about 10kNOK left in the budget, maybe missing 4kNOK
  - we can argue that we didn't use up the money due to covid
  - budget for 2022 should be the same as 2021
  - NTNU proposes a budget, but we don't need to follow it -> make our own
  - Promotional material can be reduced, not really used a lot in 2021 (Amanda), should be better distributed among the board members (Regina)
  - budget is godkjent by the board

Next board meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Meeting closed at 17:02. Afterwards, Rialda asked for input from the organization of mental health awareness events. At the Institute for Cybernetics, she wants to implement a monthly event. She was happy about the things we could tell her.