

# DION Board Meeting Minutes

## (13.09.23)

### Attendance

- Gabriela
- Gabriel
- Mobina
- Davit
- Diana
- Fei
- Shubham

14:00: Welcome

- Anastasia on sick leave. Davit and Diana said that they could collaborate to take care some of her tasks if needed.

14:05: Update on events, inquiries, newsletter etc.: everybody, but mainly Gabriel, Anastasia and Diana

- Questions about unions and vacation money
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> November Ric Lugo Mental Health: Two events, awareness and communication
- Davit: Share culture evening, slot to a country with presentation / tale / encourage to cook food from country. Cooking is optional.
  - o Maybe in mental health month?
  - o Meet in Gjøvik to discuss details
  - o No need to reimburse cooking?
- Newsletter:
  - o Quite cool!
  - o Trying to keep it as short as possible. Up to 3 pages
  - o Include date for AGM, and encourage to run for board, especially for Norwegian Speakers
  - o Events: previous and upcoming
- Yoga: A lot of people joined!
- Foraging trip: See folder for pictures. Very popular event. Note for the next board: more events like these, we can have many of them, and we can afford them. People are willing to pay too.

14:30: Updates from NTNU Research council, Innovation council, HR4SR, SiN (Davit and Gabriela)

- Next council meeting on Monday
- PhD supervisor training: Workshop on current status and recent evaluations. Now, from the PhDs' perspective on what is needed. It should be mandatory (everybody agrees).

- SiN: Gabriela. Disappointed because cases mostly on mental health but no real action plan.
  - o Suggestion from SiN: First bring awareness that being from red countries lead to discrimination. However, it seems that we cannot do much, and SiN is reluctant to take action.
  - o Did not ask for feedback about PhD <-> supervisor relationship in time before the conference they are attending.
  - o Suggestion: contact local diversity representatives in case of discrimination. But we do not have them.
  - o Local groups -> We have no power // Umbrella groups -> We should solve this locally
  - o Media coverage of this issue can help. Universities could create a joint letter in support of their employees. One rector expressed willingness to collaborate.
  - o General SiN meeting in Trondheim.
- HR4SR
  - o There is some kind of award or prize
  - o No career development courses for PhDs
  - o NTNU: Norwegian is main language. Hard for temporary staff. They are open to listening. Updates on language policy next meeting.
- Research council:
  - o They were unaware of the problems with PhD supervision problems
  - o They thought that everything was okay, but the reality is different.
  - o Ombudsperson: They are open to discussion. Changed their mind and proposed different options. They will start another working group.
  - o If we can provide data: much better. Anonymous survey. Just ask about the faculty, and ask them to describe stuff. Vice-deans of faculties, so important to be on faculty level.

14:45: Updates from external collaboration (YRN, Include): Gabriela

- YRN: Need to buy snacks. Included in the 5000kr?
- Researchers Night: We are still not co-hosts on Facebook
- INCLUDE: We have representatives on all campuses, so they can contact us for more visibility. Support for people with disabilities, we can act as promotion platform.
  - o All (external) info available is now in Norwegian, and that is a problem that Include pointed out
- Seminar Forskerforbundet. Presentation from Davit. They seem happy.
- Startup migrants. We will keep the collaboration.

15:00: Status on surveys, discussion about new surveys: Davit and Gabriela

- Davit and Gabriela: Work in progress

15:20: Mental health awareness month, events, preparations etc: everybody

- Fei: Got replies about collaboration. Follow up will come.
- At least two yoga sessions / yoga + meditation
- Sit: provide help too
- Occupational health services: no reply yet, but should give a seminar in Trondheim.
- Gjøvik: Ricardo

- Ålesund: Anastasia had plans, and more events would be coming.
- We can go a little over the budget

15:45: AOB (change of statutes: have you guys thought more about it?): everybody

- Proposal for more funds. Start in October. Ideas from Start-up migrants.
- Published on Universitetsavisen – wage negotiations
- Important to ask for consent to share pictures
- We had representation at the Pride Parade
- Think about lottery (?)

16:00: End of meeting

### **Action Plan:**

*(Gabriela)*

- Forskerforbundet and Tekna: email them for seminar in Trondheim
- Work on survey supervision problems
- Draft more budget
- Meeting Trondheim beginning October
- Word from the president for newsletter

*(Davit)*

- Innovation Council – participation
- Supervisor training workshop
- Meet in Gjøvik - cultures and Mental Health
- Language survey – start
- Help with funds application draft

*(Shubham)*

- YRN
- Newsletter

*(Fei)*

- Meditation
- Yoga
- Sit
- Occupation Health

*(Diana)*

- Meet Anastasia for MH month
- Meditation event maybe

*(Mobina)*

- New PhD – ask to follow media

- Keep social media

*(Gabriel)*

- Contact Ric and organize
- Inquiries
- Meet in Gjøvik to organise