

2012/13

# Annual Report DION



Doktorgradskandidatenes  
Interesseorganisasjon ved NTNU

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## 1 Board Composition and Meetings

During the board year 2012/2013, the board had the following members:

Julien S. Bourrelle (President)

Ahmet O. Tezel (Board member, Vice President International Affairs)

Philipp Spenhoff (Board member, Vice President Special Project)

Torbjørn Pedersen (Board member, Vice President Technology)

Kirsti Jensen (Board member)

The last Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 19th October 2012.

Since the last AGM, six (6) board meeting we held: 2 in 2012 (5/11, 3/12) and 4 in 2013 (16/1, 25/2, 14/03, 23/04)

This annual report covers the period since the last AGM. Nina Quale started to work with DION in April 2013 as a higher executive officer.

## 2 Main Activities 2012/2013

### 2.1 Representation

- DION provided monthly support to the representative for temporary academic staff on the NTNU Board
- DION has been represented in the PhD Forum.

- DION has been represented in different committees, including the central research committee, the election committee and the IPR committee.
- DION president has been invited and attended one of the Dean meeting as an observer.
- DION gave opinions on the “participation” case and on the PhD survey report.

## 2.2 Contact with PhDs

- DION received and answered 24 enquiries by email.
- DION have had representatives in information meetings for new doctoral candidates and in Tekna events.
- DION has been helping individual doctoral candidates in cases including maternity leave, duty work, supervisor problems, termination of contract, and rights of doctoral candidates.
- The frequently asked questions section on the webpage has been updated.

## 2.3 Organizational

- Increasing DION visibility: updated webpage and put in use a Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/DION.NTNU>), created Twitter account (@DION\_NTNU).
- DION met with the Vice Rector for research and the coordinator of the Vice Rector for research staff to discuss how DION can help NTNU to reach out to PhDs and how the doctoral organisation can be better financed.
- DION met with the Head of Student Service in relation with the administrative support provided to DION. DION met with the Personnel Director and in contact with Student and Academic Division Director concerning the same issues.
- DION worked on a proposal for new statutes and internal regulations.
- DION started the process of asking for a grant from LNU (Norges barne- og ungdomsorganisasjoner)

## 2.4 Events

- DION has been hosting the Last Wednesday event organised in collaboration with the NTNU information division.
- DION, in collaboration with Biostruct, organized a talk with Jorge Cham (PhD Comics) at NTNU.

## 2.5 Strategic initiatives

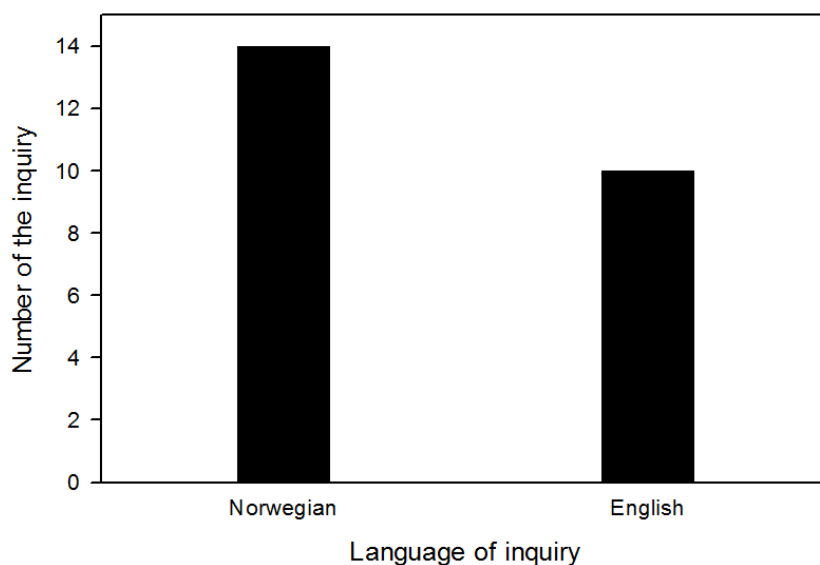
- DION handled cases on Norwegian learning for foreigner, English courses for PhDs, participation in the university system (medvirkningssaken), academic freedom of PhD candidates and a salary discussion.
- DION initiated a discussion on psychological support available to PhD candidates with the Head of Student Service, NTNU gender equality advisor and SitRåd.
- DION has been in discussion with the gender equality advisor concerning the gender policies at NTNU.

## 2.6 Collaboration

- DION has been in regular contact with the Student Parliament at NTNU (STi) and participated in some of their workshops and several of their meetings.
- DION and STi signed a letter of intent on collaboration in areas of common interest.
- DION has been in monthly contact with Tekna

## 3 Email Enquiries

Email enquiries were answered by all the board members. DION received 24 enquiries, both in Norwegian and English. The enquiries were mostly related to working conditions, application for PhD position and supervision. DION acted as a low threshold contact point for PhD candidates at NTNU and potential applicants.



## 4 DIONs Website

In 2012, DION's website received 6208 visitors of which 5114 were unique visitors. During the current board period (Oct'12-April'13) the website received 3430 visitors, of which 2714 were unique visitors.

The website structure and content have been revised. The FAQ section is now up to date.

## 5 Representation at NTNU

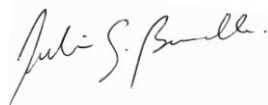
Torbjørn Pedersen has been DION representative to the central research committee and the IPR committee. Kirsti represented DION in the election committee. DION is a recipient of the Dean Meeting email list and receives summons and minutes. Julien was invited to join one of the Dean Meetings. DION has met with the temporary employee representative before each NTNU board meeting providing input on the board cases.

## 6 Representation outside NTNU

Julien S. Bourrelle has been a member for Norway's national doctoral organisation (SiN – Stipendiatororganisasjonene I Norge) from May 2012. Tezel Ahmet has been an observer in SiN board meeting in January 2013. Julien sits on the national research committee of the Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions (UHR) since August 2012. Julien met with the board of directors of the Research Council of Norway and UHR in relation with the Forskningsmelding 2013. Julien and Tezel have been the Norwegian delegates to the Eurodoc (European Council of Doctoral Candidates and Junior Researchers) annual general meeting. Julien participated in various seminars in Norway linked to PhD education.

## 7 Finance

<b>Income</b>	<b>15 000,00 NOK</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>- 12 209,00 NOK</b>
Yearly fees SIN	-2 000,00 NOK
Travel Expenses	-995,00 NOK
Food AGM	-2 971,50 NOK
Christmas dinner	-4 032,00 NOK
Print Brochures	-2 062,50 NOK
Other Expenses	-148,00 NOK
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2 791 NOK</b>
Capital DION per 01.01.2012	20 775,54 NOK
<b>Capital DION per 31.12.2012</b>	<b>23 566,54 NOK</b>



Julien S. Bourrelle  
President DION