

2013/14

Annual Report DION



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1 Overview

The last Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 25th April 2013. This annual report covers the period since the last AGM.

Since the last AGM DION has arranged nine (9) board meetings; three workshops (3); and nine (9) social events. DION has also participated in eight (8) hearings; and answered 32 requests from PhDs with problems.

Compared to the previous years we have had many inquiries and high activity, and DION has been more visible than ever before. This is in large part due to our new social events. We are very happy with the amount of activity, and we hope that the new board will continue our work.

Note that minutes from DION meetings can be found at our webpage.

Torbjørn Pedersen,
President DION

2 Board Composition

During the board year 2013/2014, the board had the following members:

- Torbjørn Pedersen (President)
- Kristoffer Lund Langlie (Vice President)
- Clara Good (Board member, Technical Officer)
- Evert Bouman (Board member, Event Manager)
- Marthe Emelie Melandsø Buan (Board member, SiN leader)
- Ahmet O. Tezel (Board member)
- Philipp Spenhoff (Board member)
- Margrethe Nergaard (Board member)

“DION is the interest organization for temporary academic staff at NTNU. The main target group is PhDs and Postdocs.”

Nina Quale has been the higher executive officer, while Hege Spjøtvold has done budgets and reimbursements.

3 Main activities 2013/2014

- DION received and answered 32 enquiries from PhDs in need.
- DION has been helping individual doctoral candidates in cases such as: forced termination, voluntary termination, research ethics, juggling a PhD and children, sick leave, maternity leave, travelling grants, no work permit, PhD-supervisor conflicts, recalculation of end date, and duty work.
- DION has been hosting a total of 9 social events – Last Wednesday and STOPP –in collaboration with the NTNU communication department.
- DION has given its official opinion on a range of matters important for NTNU and/or the temporary academic employees at NTNU, such as the campus case, the employee environment study, the new PhD communication course, the internal communication study, the new Dr.Philos regulations, the “koking” hearing, and with the new University and University College law.
- DION has worked on increasing its visibility: through updating our webpages, active use of Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/DION.NTNU>), Twitter (@DION_NTNU), NTNU Innsida and by organizing events.
- DION has provided monthly support to the representative for temporary academic staff and students on the NTNU Board
- DION has been participating in several information meetings for new doctoral candidates.
- DION has been participating in different committees, including the research committee, the election committee, and the rector’s meetings.
- DION has met with the Vice Rector for research and the coordinator of the Vice Rector for research.
- DION has met with the Head of Student Service in relation with the administrative support provided to DION.

“Last Wednesday, which in 2014 changed name to Social events and Talks for Overworked PhDs and Postdocs (STOPP), is DION’s monthly social event”

- DION has worked on a proposal for new statutes and internal regulations.
- DION has published a new document on the organizational structure and history.
- DION has published a statement regarding employee appraisal interviews.
- DION has been in regular contact with the Student Parliament at NTNU (STi) and participated in some of their workshops.

4 Email enquiries

DION received 32 enquiries, both in Norwegian and English. The enquiries were mostly related to working conditions, regulations, sick leave, and supervision. DION acted as a low threshold contact point for PhD candidates at NTNU as well as potential applicants.

The 32 enquires does not include inquiries for a PhD position, help for applying for a position, information which should be forwarded to PhDs, or similar requests. These types of request are more common than the requests for help.

5 DIONs website and social media

From April 2013 – April 2014, DIONs webpage received 5516 visitors. The website structure and content have been revised. The webpage CMS system has been reprogrammed to conform with new NTNU server upgrade. The DION Facebook pages now have 323 followers, up from 197 at the beginning of the board period. In the same period, about 85 posts have been published.

6 Representation at NTNU

Torbjørn Pedersen, Kristoffer Lund Langlie, and Clara Good have been DION representatives in the research committee. Torbjørn Pedersen represented DION in the election committee. DION is a recipient of the Dean Meeting email list and receives summons and minutes. DION has met with the temporary employee and student representatives before each NTNU board meeting providing input on the board cases.

7 Representation outside NTNU

Marthe Emelie Melandsø Buan has been the president of Norway's national doctoral organisation (SiN – Stipendiatororganisasjonene I Norge) from May 2013. Ahmet O. Tezel has been responsible for the SiN webpages.

8 Finance

The financial year of DION follows the calendar year, and not the board period. This means that there is the full budget for 2013, and a partial budget for 2014.

Income 2013	15 000,00 NOK
Expenses 2013	- 11 037,50 NOK
Yearly fees SIN	-2 000,00 NOK
Travel Expenses	-2 311,00 NOK
Social Expenses	-5 575,00 NOK
Operational Costs	-1 151,50 NOK
TOTAL	3 962,50 NOK
Capital DION per 01.01.2013	25 069,54 NOK
Capital DION per 31.12.2013	29 032,04 NOK

The following is the current budget status. Note that this is only a temporary account status as per end of March 2014.

Income 2014	15 000,00 NOK
Expenses 2014	-5 311,33 NOK
Social events	-5 311,33 NOK
TOTAL	9 688,67 NOK
Capital DION per 01.01.2014	29 032,04 NOK
Capital DION per 31.03.2014	38 720,71 NOK

The DION capital per 31.03.2014 is 38 721 NOK. This figure does not include expenses for the annual general meeting, SiN yearly fees, or planned expenses for printing new informational material and a new DION banner in English. This means that, with the new board's expenditures during fall, we will most likely see a fall in capital per 31.12.2014. This is according to plan.

9 Appendix - Meeting overview

Date	Event
2013.05.06	Workshop – New DION board
2013.05.29	Last Wednesday – Supervisor Love Story
2013.06.10	Board Meeting June
2013.06.26	Last Wednesday – Summer BBQ
2013.08.26	Board Meeting August
2013.08.28	Last Wednesday – Welcome to Trondheim
2013.09.13	Workshop – Organizational Structure
2013.09.18	Last Wednesday – The Art of Networking
2013.09.24	Workshop - Campus
2013.10.01	Board Meeting October
2013.10.30	Last Wednesday – Making Ideas Profitable
2013.11.04	Board Meeting November
2013.11.27	Last Wednesday – Physical and Mental Health
2013.12.03	Board Meeting December
2014.01.20	Board Meeting January
2014.02.25	Board Meeting February
2014.02.27	STOPP – Present yourself
2014.03.24	Board Meeting March
2014.04.10	STOPP – The Future: Zero Emission Buildings
2014.04.22	Board Meeting April
2014.04.23	DION AGM
2014.04.23	STOPP – Know your rights