

**Minutes from the meeting of the Danish board of SDC 13 December 2016,
 16.30 – 18.00 in Copenhagen**

Minutes

Present: Brian Bech Nielsen (AU), Thomas Bjørnholm (KU), Martin Bendsøe (DTU), Inger Askehave (AAU), Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard (CBS), Peter Kjær (RUC), Jørgen Staunstrup (ITU), Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen (SDC), Morten Laugesen (SDC), Søren Walbum Høst (SDC)

Absent with notice: Martin Zachariassen (SDU)

- 1. Approval of the agenda for the 27th meeting of the Danish board of SDC**
- 2. Approval of minutes from the meeting of the Danish board of SDC on 27 September 2016**
- 3. Briefing from the Director**
- 4. Consolidation of educational and research activities at SDC**
- 5. Omics**
- 6. SDC Budget 2017**
- 7. SDC Forecast 3, 2016**
- 8. Any Other Business**

1. Approval of the agenda for the 27th meeting of the Danish board of SDC

The board decided to address item 7 (SDC Forecast 3, 2016) before item 6 (SDC Budget 2016). The board then approved the agenda.

2. Approval of minutes from the meeting of the Danish board of SDC on 27 September 2016

The board approved the minutes.

3. Briefing from the Director

3.1 *Quality assurance of the SDC Master's programmes*

Based on the information in the memo on a quality assurance policy for the SDC Master's programmes Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen briefly accounted for the process. A draft assurance policy is expected to be completed in spring 2017 and will be presented to the board for discussion before approval by the Danish universities and UCAS.

3.2 *Agreements on the issue of double degree for Chinese PhD students*

Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen explained the reason for the letter to all the Danish graduate schools and informed the board that the issue seems to be solved now. The board

agreed that it is important the Chinese PhD students meet the high level of quality while at the same time acknowledging that the PhD students are part of a partnership with obligations on both sides.

3.3 *House of the Danish Industry Foundation*

UCAS predicts that the SDC building will be completed for approval by the Chinese authorities by June 2017. Inauguration of the building is planned for between 24-26 September 2017. The inauguration programme will consist of an academic symposium, workshops, the inauguration ceremony and more.

The Danish Board of SDC, rectors, lecturers, alumni, industry representatives will be invited. A more detailed plan for the programme will be presented to the board at the next board meeting.

3.4 *Visits to the Danish universities by the director*

Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen and Morten Laugesen have paid visits to RUC and SDU and will visit the other Danish universities in January to meet with rectors. In relation to the meetings SDC compiles data of relevance for the universities, e.g. distribution of SDC funding, the individual universities' contribution to the partnership, etc. A report from the meetings will be presented to the board at the next meeting.

4. Consolidation of educational and research activities at SDC

The board reaffirmed its support to the strategy of strengthening the ties between educational and research activities, which was also approved by the JMC. The research and educational activities at SDC are dynamic and should be mutually supportive to ensure the basis for creating synergies between the teaching activities and SDC's research environments.

The board also briefly discussed the letter from Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen to the PC for Sustainable Energy and supported the decision which was believed to be in accordance with the strategy.

5. Omics

The board discussed the memo from Martin Zachariassen about SDU's commitment to SDC in general and the Master's programme in Omics in particular.

Martin Bendsøe mentioned that DTU will be willing to formally host the Master's programme in the future. The board decided to ask Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen and the SDC office to look into the possibilities for transferring the formal responsibility for the Omics master's programme to DTU.

Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen informed the board that SDU and the SDC office has decided to hold a follow-up meeting in January to further discuss SDU's involvement in the SDC partnership.

Martin Bendsøe asked the SDC office for a governance plan describing the processes for decision making when it comes to establishing new or terminating existing activities within the SDC partnership.

6. SDC Forecast 3, 2016

Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen briefed the board on SDC's accounting practices based on the memo sent to the board members.

The board took note of Forecast 3.

7. SDC Budget 2017

Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen gave a brief account of the budget for SDC 2017.

The board took note of the account and asked the SDC office to make the long-term budgets as detailed as possible in order to have a better basis for decision making in the future.

The board approved the budget.

8. Any Other Business

Thomas Bjørnholm informed the board that research environments at KU are interested in strengthening ties with Chinese colleagues within the area of physics as it has also been suggested by the Chinese SDC Director Wu Yueliang. The board asked the SDC office to draft a memo together with representatives from KU's Niels Bohr Institute for the next board meeting.

SDC Board meetings in 2017

16 March 2017: SDC board meeting 14.00-15.30 at Aarhus University

23 June 2017: SDC board meeting in Beijing

19 September 2017: SDC board meeting 14.00-15.30

15 December 2017: SDC board meeting 10.00-11.30 in Copenhagen

Inauguration of the SDC building

September 24-26 2017 in Beijing