

**Minutes from the meeting of the Danish board of SDC, 24 June 2016, 16:00 Minutes
 – 17:40 in Beijing**

Present in Beijing: Thomas Bjørnholm (KU), Martin Zachariassen (SDU), Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard (CBS), Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen (SDC), Morten Laugesen (SDC), Søren Walbum Høst (SDC)

Present via WebEx: Inger Askehave (AAU), Peter Kjær (RUC)

Absent with notice: Brian Bech Nielsen (AU), Martin Bendsøe (DTU), Jørgen Staunstrup (ITU)

- 1. Approval of the agenda for the 25th meeting of the Danish board of SDC**
- 2. Approval of minutes from the meeting of the board of SDC on 1 March 2016**
- 3. Briefing from the Director**
- 4. Evaluation of the SDC**
- 5. SDC Forecast 1, 2016**
- 6. Any Other Business**

- 1. Approval of the agenda for the 25th meeting of the Danish board of SDC**

The agenda was approved.

- 2. Approval of minutes from the meeting of the board of SDC on 1 March 2016**

The minutes were approved.

- 3. Briefing from the Director**

3.1 Article in Weekendavisen

The board discussed the critical article published in Weekendavisen and possible actions to take. It was decided that Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen should contact Brian Bech Nielsen and discuss the next step.

3.2 House of the Danish Industry Foundation

The SDC Building is expected to be completed in Winter 2016/17 after which local authorities will spend approximately three months for formal approval. A date for the

Opening Ceremony has not yet been settled yet but it is expected that the 2017 batch of SDC students will study at Yanqihu-campus.

3.3 Student Recruitment

65 students have been enrolled through the Danish universities in 2016 but the actual number of students arriving for the semester start in Beijing is expected to be slightly lower. In addition, 101 Chinese students have been enrolled so the 2016 batch of SDC students is the biggest so far.

3.4 Change of SDC staff in Beijing

After 3½ years in Beijing, Torben Dahl will retire by the end of September. SDC has already identified his successor.

4. Evaluation of the SDC

Prior to the meeting, Jørgen Staunstrup, ITU and Martin Bendsøe, DTU have submitted written feedback to the evaluation report since they were prevented from taking part in the board meeting.

The SDC board finds the report highly satisfactory and has taken note of its recommendations. The board is highly appreciative of the concrete and forward looking recommendations, and asked Director Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen to prepare an action plan in response to the findings and recommendations for the board meeting in September. The action plan should consist of prioritized goals in short, middle and long term perspectives.

The overall objective of the action plan is to bring about the transition from project to institution as recommended by the International Assessment Committee.

The board made special mention of the following key action areas:

- Student recruitment efforts including the establishment of alumni network
- Optimization of educational portfolio
- Uniqueness
- Recruitment basis
- Relevance to both sides
- The Sino-Danish balance
- Continued government backing of and involvement in SDC
- Continued involvement of all eight Danish universities
- Involvement of industry and appointment of the Industry Advisory Board
- Boost of activities at SDC in Beijing: Researchers on long term stays, seminars, workshops, involvement of international profiles

The board suggested that the Director meets with the management of all eight universities in the autumn of 2016 to discuss each university's interests in and contributions to SDC.

5. SDC Forecast 1, 2016

The Director foresees adjustments in the next preliminary accounts. The building will not be completed in 2016, which will most likely push the expenses for ICT etc. to 2017. The Director invited the universities to submit wishes and suggestions for additional activities in 2016.

An updated forecast will be presented at the next board meeting in September.

6. Any Other Business

6.1 Visa Issues

The difficulties associated with obtaining visa have been brought to the attention of the leadership at UCAS. Furthermore SDC is in contact with the Chinese embassy which has been very forthcoming in finding solutions. It should now be possible to apply for visa with standard CAS invitation letters again.

6.2 Quality Assurance

The responsibility for the quality assurance of the SDC MSc programmes lies with SDC. SDC has begun the work of defining a comprehensive quality assurance system which can be submitted to the Rectors of the Danish universities for approval.

Minutes by Søren Walbum Høst

Meetings of the Danish board of SDC

27 September 2016: SDC board meeting (AU with videolink to CPH) 14.00-15.30

13 December 2016: SDC board meeting (Danske Universiteter, Fiolstræde) 16.30-18.00

2017:

16 March 2017: SDC board meeting (AU with videolink to CPH) 14.00-15.30

23 June 2017: SDC board meeting in Beijing

19 September 2017: SDC board meeting (AU with videolink to CPH) 14.00-15.30

15 December 2017: SDC board meeting (AU with videolink to CPH) 10.00-11.30