

Minutes from the Danish SDC board meeting, 1 March 2016, 15:00 – 17:00 Minutes
Videolink meeting between the SDC secretariat and KU

Present at SDC: Brian Bech Nielsen (AU), Lauritz B. Holm Nielsen (SDC), Morten Laugesen (SDC), Søren Walbum Høst (SDC)

Present at KU: Inger Askehave (AAU), Thomas Bjørnholm (KU), Martin Bendsøe (DTU), Jørgen Staunstrup (ITU)

Absent with notice: Martin Zachariassen (SDU), Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard (CBS), Peter Kjær (RUC)

- 1. Approval of Agenda**
- 2. Approval of the Minutes from SDC Board Meeting, 15 December 2015**
- 3. Briefing from the SDC Director**
- 4. Evaluation of the SDC**
- 5. Status of the Focus Areas Selected by the Board**
- 6. Annual Accounts for 2015**
- 7. Symposium – 10 year anniversary for the establishment of Sino-Danish nano-collaboration**
- 8. Any Other Business**

Date: 11 March 2016

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1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of the Minutes from SDC Board Meeting, 15 December 2015

The minutes were approved.

3. Briefing from the SDC Director

3.1 JMC meeting and visit of the Minister for Higher Education and Science to SDC in Beijing

On December 17th, 2015 the fourth JMC meeting was held at UCAS in Beijing. The newly appointed Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Higher Education and Science, Ms. Agnete Gersing chaired the meeting together with Mr. Deng Yong from CAS.

Simultaneously with the JMC meeting, Esben Lunde Larsen and Danish Ambassador to China, Mr. A. Carsten Damsgaard visited SDC and met with Danish and Chinese SDC students.

3.2 Status on the Development of the Food & Health MSc Programme

In January, two Danish researchers held meetings with colleagues in China to discuss the possibility of establishing a Food & Health Master's programme. The meetings were fruitful and the work continues. A workshop is planned to take place in Denmark this spring.

The board expressed satisfaction that the intended programme builds on an interdisciplinary foundation, which will enable a broad involvement in terms of research environments and improve recruitment perspectives.

Some board members expressed concern that the introduction of a new Master's programme could be premature seeing that challenges, especially regarding recruitment, still remain in some of the existing programmes.

On the director's proposal, the board agreed that an opinion of the programme proposal should be obtained through the quality assurance system at Aarhus University prior to initiating the actual accreditation process.

4. Evaluation of the SDC

The internal evaluation group has prepared a self-evaluation report, which was presented to the board along with the individual reports on the research areas and Master's programmes prepared by the PCs and HEPs. The board saw a need for some revisions to the structure and content of the report and for a more matter-of-fact tone. The internal evaluation group was asked to make these changes and to resubmit the report.

Schedule for the Visit of IAP

Morten Laugesen presented the preliminary schedule for the visit of the IAP. Wednesday May 11 the board is invited to join a dinner with the IAP in Copenhagen.

5. Status of the Focus Areas Selected by the Board

The board has identified challenges, which the board in collaboration with the director and the secretariat have taken upon themselves to deal with.

The board asks the director to draft an action plan for the management of focus areas and present the plan at the next board meeting. The plan should include deadlines, milestones and budget.

6. Annual Accounts for 2015

The director presented the annual accounts to the board.

The board requested that it is indicated on the accounts, which parts the explanations in the attached memo relate to.

The board approved the annual accounts.

7. Symposium – 10 year anniversary for the establishment of Sino-Danish nano-collaboration

Thomas Bjørnholm has submitted a suggestion to make the celebration of the 10 years anniversary of the Sino-Danish nano-collaboration an overall SDC event in connection with the graduation ceremony.

SDC is working on creating synergies and building traditions and the celebration could be part of this. A symposium in connection with the graduation event could be a returning event. Furthermore, the event could be used actively to pave the way for new funding possibilities for Sino-Danish collaboration. The board supports the idea and agreed to further develop the programme and make it ambitious.

Next step will be to test the idea with the ministry. Chairman Brian Bech Nielsen will contact the permanent secretary.

8. Any Other Business

25 June 2016: SDC Graduation and board meeting in Beijing. The SDC secretariat will set a date for the board meeting and inform the board members soon.

Minutes by Søren Walbum Høst

2016 Meetings of the Danish Board

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