

Meeting on: 11 December 2012
Universities Denmark, Copenhagen
Danish SDC Board Meeting

Present: Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen (AU, Chair), Nils O. Andersen (KU), Henrik Pedersen (SDU), Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard (CBS), Lene Lange (AAU), Martin Bendsøe (DTU), Ib Poulsen (RUC) Jørgen Staunstrup (ITU).
SDC Director Hans Gregersen, Morten Laugesen and Søren Walbum Høst represented the SDC-secretariat.

1. **Agenda**
2. **Approval of minutes from Danish SDC board meeting, 24 September 2012**
3. **Status for the activities in Beijing**
4. **SDC budget 2012**
5. **Other issues**

Date: 15 January 2013

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1. Agenda

The board approved the agenda

2. Approval of minutes from Danish SDC board meeting, 24 September 2012

The board initially discussed the form of the minutes from Danish SDC board meetings. It was decided that:

- The minutes must be recorded in English in a constructive and polite tone.
- The minutes must record the issues discussed at the meetings and the decisions made.
- If necessary, sensitive issues can be described in background documents.

The board asked that the minutes from the board meeting on September 24 be revised in accordance with the abovementioned instructions and with the few modifications proposed by the board members at the meeting. On these conditions the board approved the minutes.

The SDC secretariat will distribute the revised minutes as soon as possible to the board members.

3. Status for the activities in Beijing

Hans Gregersen briefed the board on the development of SDC in Beijing:

a) Study administration

SDC has strengthened its study administrative capacity in Beijing by employing a study administrator to be stationed in Beijing on a 2 year contract.

The rotation system through which study administrative staff from the Danish universities are stationed at SDC in Beijing for 3 months periods will continue throughout 2013 with employees from KU, AU, SDU and DTU succeeding each other.

b) Improving Sino-Danish cooperation

Hans Gregersen informed the board on the efforts made to ensure a closer cooperation between the Chinese and the Danish side, including how to further involve key actors at CAS/UCAS and improve the balance of contribution from the two sides for teaching in the master programme and in relation to PhD-students.

The board took note of the information and stressed the importance of balanced contribution from the Chinese and Danish side.

The board also asked Hans Gregersen to present a strategy for how to improve collaboration between the two sides with regard to both the educational activities and research activities, including the budgetary implications hereof.

c) The SDC Master's Programmes

Hans Gregersen informed the board that members of the teaching committees have now been appointed and their first meetings are being scheduled. Rules of Procedure for the teaching committees as well as for the SDC Academic College (SDCAC) and Student Forum have been drafted by the Danish side and approved by UCAS.

In mid-October, Hans Gregersen and Morten Laugesen held meetings with the Danish students from the four Master's programmes. The students raised a number of problematic issues related to the quality of the Master's programmes and the coordination between different courses. Subsequently, Hans Gregersen informed the Danish HEPs about the meeting and arranged follow-up meetings with the students.

The board took note of the information and supported Hans Gregersen's attempt to engage in a continuous dialogue with the students and stressed the importance of balancing expectations not only for the students before they apply for the programmes but also for the teachers before they go to China to lecture.

The board concluded that:

- All teachers must be well-informed about SDC prior to their teaching at SDC and their contribution to the specific programme must be well-coordinated by the respective HEPs. The board invited Hans Gregersen to consider arranging biannual seminars for Danish teachers in order to prepare them better.

- It is important to adjust students' expectations before departure as SDC is a young project and all involved partners constantly learn to deal with the difficulties that inevitably appear.

d) Building issues

Hans Gregersen briefly informed the board of the status of the SDC-building. Ms. Wang Yanfen, vice-president in charge of the new UCAS campus, is expected to meet with representatives from the Danish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Higher Education in Copenhagen before X-mas to discuss the unresolved issues.

4. SDC budget 2012

Hans Gregersen informed the board about the accounts for 2012, which is expected to sum up to approximately 40 million DKK. The board took note of the information.

A detailed budget for 2013 will be presented to the board in early February when the SDC secretariat has received all the activity plans from the Danish PCs. The board encouraged Hans Gregersen to present a visionary budget given the accumulated funds from previous years.

5. Other issues

No other issues

Jacob Fuchs and Christina Bording from FIVU participated in the last part of the meeting.