

Meeting on 7th April 2022, 10.00-13.00
Technical University of Denmark
47th meeting of the Danish Board of SDC

Minutes

Present: Rasmus Antoft (Acting chair, AAU), Jakob Fritz Hansen (DTU), Kristian Pedersen (AU), John Renner Hansen (IKU), Peter Kragelund (RUC), Georg Dam Steffensen (ITU), Martin Jes Iversen (CBS – online from Singapore), Morten Laugesen (SDC), Gert Jørgensen (SDC)
Apologies: Bjarne Graabech Sørensen (SDU)

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1. Approval of Agenda

The board approved the agenda but decided to change the order of the items.

2. Briefing from the Rectors' Conference committee

Rasmus Antoft and Kristian Pedersen informed the board about the ongoing work in the Rectors' Conference committee.

The committee will according to schedule draft a report with recommendations for the future development of SDC to the Rectors' Conference meeting in early June. The report will

focus on various elements of SDC, including educational activities, research and outreach/collaboration with external partners with a main focus on how to increase the number of Danish students at SDC.

3. Self-evaluation of the board

The board discussed the self-evaluation and agreed that the evaluation revealed issues that need more attention, e.g. the possibility to undertake long-term strategic discussions at meetings.

As a consequence, the board decided it would be beneficial with a full-day board seminar focusing more on long-term development and invited the director to start the planning (preferably in Aalborg in August).

4. Applications for enrolment 2022

Morten Laugesen informed the board about the status of applications from the Danish side. The board took note of the briefing.

5. Approval of Annual Accounts 2021 and Forecast 1, 2022

The Annual Accounts 2021 were approved, and the board took note of Forecast 1, 2022. Georg Dam Sørensen (ITU) questioned the rationale of the Danish universities being asked to contribute the same financial resources to SDC despite the reduced level of activities due to Covid-19. The board asked the director to draft a brief memo explaining how Covid-19 has influenced the costs of operation on the Danish side.

6. SDC's Quality Assurance Policy

Morten Laugesen informed the board about the implementation of the SDC quality assurance policy. The board took note of the briefing and asked the director to draft a memo about the link between SDC's quality assurance policy and the Danish legislation about accreditation.

7. The SDC-building

Morten Laugesen informed the board about the completion of the rectification work of the SDC-building. The board complimented the director for the good news.

8. JMC-meeting 2022

Morten Laugesen informed the board about the coming JMC-meeting expected to be conducted in August 2022. The meeting will be conducted as an online meeting with the

Danish representatives present at one location in Copenhagen (NOTE: Meeting has since been postponed). The board discussed the suggested items on the agenda and suggested that the challenges related to collaboration on PhD training is addressed at the meeting.

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9. Termination of the MSC program in Chemical and Biochemical Engineering

Morten Laugesen informed the board about the plans for the termination of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering. UCAS has been informed and accepted the suggestion to terminate the program from the Danish side.

The board took note of the briefing.

10. Announcement from the SDC-director

Morten Laugesen informed the board about an inquiry from Universities Denmark to the Danish SDC-office asking for input to a reply for the Chinese Scholarship Council.

11. Composition of the Board

Rasmus Antoft (Acting chair) informed the board that Henrik C. Wegener with effect from the coming meeting will represent University of Copenhagen in the SDC-board. The board appointed Henrik Wegener as chairman of the board. Rasmus Antoft was appointed vice chairman of the board.

Rasmus Antoft on behalf of the board warmly thanked John Renner Hansen for his contribution to the Danish SDC-board.