

Meeting on: December 15th 2017, 10:00 – 11:30
The Danish SDC Board

Minutes

Present in Aarhus at AU: Brian Bech Nielsen (AU), Jørgen Staunstrup (ITU), Morten Laugesen (SDC) and Kristian Vork Jensen (SDC)

Present in Lyngby at DTU: Philip John Binning (DTU) and Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard (CBS)

Present (partly) on the phone: Thomas Bjørnholm (KU)

Absent with notice: Peter Kjær (RUC), Inger Askehave (AAU) and Martin Zachariassen (SDU)

Agenda

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of the Minutes from the last SDC Board meeting on June 23rd 2017
3. Announcements from the SDC Director
 - a. Status of the SDC Building
 - b. Admission of UCAS BA students to SDC's MSc programmes
 - c. Other topics/issues
4. Forecast 3, 2017
5. Budget 2018
6. AOB

1. Approval of the Agenda

- No remarks, the agenda was approved

2. Approval of the Minutes from the last SDC Board meeting on June 23rd 2017

- The minutes was approved – remarks are specified under article 3c

3. Announcements from the SDC Director

- a. Status of the SDC Building

- UCAS, The Industry Foundation and the Danish Ministry of Higher Education and Science were all very satisfied with the inauguration of the House of the Danish Industry Foundation.

Page 2/3

The building has still not been formally handed over to the SDC. The contractor is working on the issues stated in the list of deficiencies by the Danish side. It is uncertain whether the necessary commissioning tests have been conducted by the contractor and the Danish side still awaits data from these tests. Hopefully the building will be handed over to SDC before the Spring semester starts on March 5th, 2018.

- Hans Müller Petersen has been appointed new Danish Chairman of the building steering group.

b. Admission of UCAS BA students to SDC's MSc programmes

- The original plan to enroll up to five Chinese students per MSc-programme in a 3+5 model is not in accordance with Danish legislation. The Directors are currently looking into alternative models.
- UCAS has informed the Danish side that they hope a new model will be approved by Chinese MoE from 2019.
- It is important that the Danish graduate schools are involved from the very beginning and fully understands their obligations but also the possible benefits.
- The board stressed the importance of securing the support from the universities' management.
- It was agreed that the SDC office produces a list of answers to the questions raised from some of the board members on behalf of their university.
- By entering into this agreement, the balance between Danish and Chinese PhD students may be affected but there is awareness of this consequence.

c. Other topics

- The transferring of the Omics MSc-programme is in progress and all major obstacles seem to have been removed cf. article 3a in the minute from June 23rd 2017

- The food specialist at DTU will reconsider their involvement in the Food programme, cf. article 3b in the minute from June 23rd 2017
- The SDC secretariat in Aarhus will update DTU on the potential astro- and particle physics research collaboration
- The decision regarding the suspension of the funding to some of the sustainable energy subthemes will take effect from 2018. The Director has asked PC Birte Holst Jørgensen to redevelop the content and focus on the theme.
- The Director will arrange individual meetings with all Danish HEP's and PC's in February/March 2018 for status talks on research activities and educational activities.
- Chairman of the board Brian Bech Nielsen announced his resignation as chairman and board member. He will give notice to The Danish Rector's Conference. Jørgen Staunstrup and Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard will draw up a formal nomination for a new Chairman. Aarhus University's dean of the Health Faculty at Aarhus University, Lars Bo Nielsen, is appointed Aarhus University's new board member.

4. *Forecast 3, 2017*

- The Director informed the board on the figures in the forecast. The board had no remarks

5. *Budget 2018*

- The Director presented the budget for 2018. The budget was approved and commended for being ambitious.

6. *AOB.*

- The mandatory Chinese language courses for all foreign SDC students does not seem to cause any impediment for the SDC collaboration since all students have passed the test
- The SDC office will as soon as possible draft a meeting calendar for 2018 and 2019 for the Danish SDC board