

**Meeting on:** 05.04.2018, 10:00 – 11:30

**Minutes**

**SDC-Office, Denmark**

**The Danish SDC Board, 31<sup>st</sup> meeting of the board**

**Present:** Inger Askehave (AAU), Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard (CBS), Philip John Binning (DTU), Jørgen Staunstrup (ITU), Lars Bo Nielsen (AU), Morten Laugesen (SDC) and Kristian Vork Jensen (SDC)

**Present via Skype:** Martin Zachariasen (SDU)

**Absent by notice:** Peter Kjær (RUC) and Nils O. Andersen (KU)

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Establishment of the Danish SDC Board
3. Approval of the minutes from the 30<sup>th</sup> board meeting, 15.12.2017
4. Announcements from the SDC Director
  - a. Status for Applications to SDC 2018 MSc-programmes
  - b. Transfer of the Master's programme in Omics
  - c. Human Analytics
5. Compensation for the Danish Graduate Schools
6. Accounts for purchase of furniture for the SDC Building
7. SDC's annual accounts 2017
8. AOB

As longest serving member of the SDC board (along with Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard) Jørgen Staunstrup commenced the meeting with a short status since the last meeting and took the opportunity to welcome Lars Bo Nielsen and Nils O. Andersen as new board members.

## 1. Approval of the agenda

No remarks, the agenda was approved.

## 2. Establishment of the Danish SDC Board

Jørgen Staunstrup informed the board of the nomination process, which involved the Danish Rectors' Conference who unanimously recommended Philip John Binning as a candidate for the position as Chairman of the Danish SDC board. The SDC board unanimously supported the recommendation and elected Philip John Binning as its Chairman.

Philip Binning thanked for the vote of confidence and suggested that Inger Askehave was elected Vice Chairman of the board, which the remaining board members supported. The Chairman and the Vice Chairman will from this point on – in close cooperation the SDC-secretariat – be responsible for future meeting agendas.

## 3. Approval of the minutes from the 30<sup>th</sup> board meeting, 15 December 2017

The minutes from the last board meeting on December 15<sup>th</sup> 2017 was approved.

## 4. Announcements from the SDC Director.

### a. *Status for Applications to SDC 2018 MSc-programmes*

The total number of applicants from the Danish universities has increased by approximately 25 % (from 121 applicants in 2017 to 150 applicants in 2018). The number of Danish applicants has also increased. Especially Neuroscience and Neuroimaging has experienced a significant increase in the number of applicants – almost doubled compared to last year.

The board discussed the figures and asked the SDC office to prepare a more detailed overview dating back to 2012 so possible trends can be more easily identified.

### b. *Transfer of the Master's programme in Omics*

The Ministry for Higher Education and Science has now formally approved the transfer of the Omics MSc-programme from SDU to DTU. The new students starting this summer will thus receive their diploma from DTU while already enrolled students will be unaffected and still receive their diploma from SDU.

Martin Zachariasen informed the board that SDU will continue to contribute to the Omics Master's programme and continue to support the development of SDC.

### c. *Human Analytics*

Morten Laugesen informed the board of his meeting with Andreas Roepstorff (AU) and Kristoffer Nielbo (SDU) about data science and the potential of strengthening existing collaboration and expanding existing Danish-Chinese networks. China is

already a major player within data analytics and informatics and the Chinese government invests many resources in this field. The board briefly discussed the potential and asked Morten Laugesen to continue the investigations in a way that involves all relevant research environments.

Page 3/4

*d. SDC Building*

Morten Laugesen informed the board of his meetings with the Danish Embassy and UCAS in Beijing in mid-March and the subsequent meetings in Denmark with CEO Mads Lebech from the Danish Industry Foundation and Director General Hans Müller Pedersen from the Danish Agency for Science and Higher Education on how to plan the signing of the hand-over protocol. UCAS has still not forwarded the commissioning tests results to the Danish side, which must happen before a formal hand-over can take place.

*e. UCAS issues*

Morten Laugesen informed the board that the National People's Congress on March 17<sup>th</sup> elected UCAS President Ding Zhongli as one of its Vice Chairmen. He continues to serve as President of UCAS and Vice President of CAS.

Vice Premier of the People's Republic of China, Ms. Liu Yandong, visited SDC on January 17<sup>th</sup> to learn more about the partnership and talk with SDC students and staff. The visit was widely reported in Chinese media (both written and televised) and SDC is continuously accentuated as an ideal model of collaboration.

*f. Principal Coordinators (PC) and Joint Managerial Committee (JMC)*

Morten Laugesen informed the board that PC for nano science, Prof. Flemming Besenbacher is stepping down. The SDC office will start the process to identify a new PC. The board suggested SDC to consider the possibility of retaining him in an honorary position. Morten Laugesen also mentioned that the transfer of the Omics programme from SDU to DTU could be a good time to look for a new PC for the Life Science theme.

## 5. Compensation for the Danish Graduate Schools

The SDC board agreed to provide compensation amounting to DKK 100.000 per incoming student to the Danish Graduate Schools with to cover tuition fee among other things for Chinese SDC PhD students who come to Denmark as part of their training. The SDC office will draft a more detailed set of regulations and inform the Danish Graduate Schools.

## 6. Accounts for purchase of furniture for the SDC Building

Morten Laugesen presented the accounts for purchase of furniture for the SDC Building ready to be send to the Danish Ministry for Higher Education and Research. The board approved the accounts but asked for a few adjustments in the accompanying memo.

## 7. SDC's annual accounts 2017

Morten Laugesen presented the accounts for 2017. The board approved the accounts.

## 8. Any other business

- The next board meeting will be in Beijing. Many board members plan to participate on location. Since the meeting will be held in Beijing it was suggested that the duration will be extended in order for the board to have a possibility to meet with students, employees and teachers.
- It is considered to reduce the annual number of meetings from four to three and instead extend the duration of each meeting
- The board decided that a fixed item on the agenda for future meetings on status of development of activities will be added.
- A short presentation of SDC for the new board members and a brush up for existing board members will be a part of the next board meeting – Morten Laugesen will give the presentation.
- The rules of procedures for the Danish SDC board will be revisited
- Since no rectors are now members of the SDC board it is important to find a way to keep the Danish Rectors' Conference updated on SDC. How to do it should perhaps be an item on the agenda for the next board meeting.
- The Danish SDC office will make an annual report that can be used to keep the leadership at the participating universities informed about the SDC activities.