

Aarhus Universitet

Meeting	Forum	Time	Place	Meeting #
19 April 2023	Academic Council	16:15-17:30	ONLINE	2023-2

Participants	<p>Anne Jensen (ANJ/ENVS), René Gislum (REG/AGRO), Jens Malmkvist (JEM/ANIS), Björn Andresen (BJA/ECE), Aliakbar Kamari (for Søren Wandahl (SWA/CAE)), Thomas Lykke-Møller Sørensen (TLS/BCE), Martin Heide Jørgensen (MHJ/MPE), Emre Karaman (EMA/QGG), Maria Holst Kjeldsen (MHK/ANIVET)), Dean Eskild Holm Nielsen (EHN)</p> <p>Ahmad Madary (AHM/TAP), Stine Wendelbo BJORHOLM (SWB/TAP), Louise Fischer Koue (LFK/TAP)</p> <p>Stine Munkholm Jespersen (SMJ/stud.), Aske Høj Merrild (AHM/stud), Emil Lunau Bentsen (EWLB/stud.), Matouš Najman (MAN/stud.)</p> <p>Brian Vinter (BVI/Tech dekn.), Hanne Vester Rasmussen (HVR/ADM), Mie Lundgaard (MLU/Tech DKN)</p>
Apologies for absence	Annette Baattrup-Pedersen (ABP/BIOS), Hanne Lakkenborg Kristensen (HLM/FOOD), Mie Lundgaard (MLU/Tech DKN), Hadi Sehat (HAS/ECE)
Guests	Punkt 3: Lone Ryg Olsen, Ole Hertel
Minutes	Ida Marie Gerdes (IMG)

Item #	Time	Item and appendices	Owner
1	16:15-16:20 (5 min.)	<b>Approval of agenda</b>	AJ
The agenda was approved, item 2 was approved after item 3. Anne welcomed Aliakbar Kamari. Aliakbar Kamari in substitute for Søren Wandahl, while Søren acts as interim head of department. The members introduced themselves			
2	16:20-16:25 (5 min.)	<b>Approval of minutes</b>	AJ
The minutes were approved			

Item #	Time	Item and appendices	Owner
3	16:25-16:55 (30. min)	<b>Principles for crediting (merit) researchers' skills and experience in knowledge dissemination</b> <b>Guest: Lone Ryg Olsen, AU erhverv og Innovation</b>	AJ/BV
<p>Anne Jensen welcomed guest Lone Ryg. Ole Hertel, Vice Dean for public consultancy was also in the meeting as guest, as was Kasper Ragborg Olesen (AU Erhverv og Innovation).</p> <p>Lone gave a presentation about the principles for merits (concerning research, teaching, external collaboration, public sector advise, innovation etc). A final paper from the working group at Danske Universiteter is expected within a couple of weeks. The Academic Council will receive the paper for comments.</p>			

It was commented, that in order to have good agreements with companies, AU needs more expert support for outlining the correct contracts, as the data from these collaborations are used in many meriting activities.

It was asked how to secure that there is time for publishing results from collaboration with external parts etc. Lone Ryg responded that this important issue does not lie within the group working with merits. However, it is extremely important, since many companies are not aware of this.

Ole Hertel commented that getting merits for the activities is different from getting time for publishing results, but that in establishing contracts this is one issue that is discussed. Ole also mentioned that it also is important to get merits for advisory work that does not necessarily lead to a publication.

Lone Ryg mentioned one very important issue from the faculty management meeting, namely that the nuances in research-based consultancy work is reflected in the new system.

Brian Vinter added a few comments from the faculty management meeting – the qualitative nature of this makes it difficult to create precise metrics for excellence, we should be inclusive of all issues related to outreach and collaboration. The new system will be used in evaluating candidates, but the activities have always been part of it, now it just becomes more visible.

Ole added that this kind of activities are already in the score template used for evaluation candidates. One recommendation from the working groups participation in the faculty service check is that more credit should be given to science-based advisory work, as this is where you have a direct impact on society e.g. legislation, management etc.

Anne Jensen asked if the working group was also looking into merits for collaboration with NGOs, local governments, etc. and others we provide advisory work for.

Lone Ryg answered that on top of what we are doing here, the universities should be better at showing our contributions to society in general.

Brian Vinter mentioned that we must make sure, that the model is also applicable on applicants from abroad, that might not have these issues on their CV.

Anne Jensen urged everybody in the Council to discuss this with their departments, also before the council receives the draft.

Brian Vinter reminded that the document will be for all Danish universities, not only for AU or Tech so this should be kept in mind.

4	16:55-17:00 (5 min.)	<b>For approval: Preparation of the council chairmen's meeting with the board</b>	AJ
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Anne explained that the annual meeting with the Board is coming up, and that the summary has been prepared for this.

Anne also asked for ideas for issues to be discussed with the Board.

Jens commented that even though we have already discussed research practice, we need some more discussion – e.g. how do we handle predatory journals, the increased pressure for publication

Ideas for discussions with board:

- Stine Munkholm mentioned that good communication from the university to the student is very important
- AI based technologies and programmes

Brian Vinter mentioned that open science could be a future item on the agenda of the Academic Council. If more information becomes available, Anne will consult the Council after the meeting with the chairs before the meeting with the Board.

5	17:00-17:10 (10 min.)	<b>Preparation of Sandbjerg seminar. ideas/input</b>	AJ
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Anne asked for ideas and inputs for the Sandbjerg seminar that takes place on 24-25 August. The topic has not been settled yet, suggestions so far: Pleas don't steal my work/authorships, external funding and how it impacts the research, teaching reform.

Stine mentioned that the seminar should also be relevant for the students in the Academic Councils. Anne replied that the planning tries to make it relevant for all members.

Rene approved highly of having the impact of external funding as overall topic

Brian Vinter suggested mission driven research. There has been a programme on Tech with training mission driven research leaders. Everybody would like to do it, a discussion with all academic councils could be very fruitful in order for all councils to participate.

Anne Jensen noted that this item also links to funding and interdisciplinarity and could also be a suggestion for the discussions with the Board.

The planning group is working hard for it to be in English if there are English speaking participants.

Anne invited all to provide additional input by mail.

6	17:10-17:20 (10 min.)	<b>CSC – Chinese Scholarship council</b>	BV
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Brian informed the council about what has been decided about the Chinese Scholarship Council PhD students. It is an entanglement between freedom of research and security concerns. The terms under which CSC students come to Denmark are not in compliance with our definition of freedom of research, as they have limitation in what they can say and where they can go afterwards. Students from China can still apply but they must have full academic freedom. The decision was made by the university management on 8 March 2023. A plan is made for visitors with funding from CSC. Tech has 33 CSC PhD students. We can still hire Chinese applicants for all positions – but not if they come with a CSC PhD grant. Such a rule can not be made in a vacuum, but it must cover everybody who comes from outside of Denmark with a government scholarship must now live up to our principles for academic freedom. Guidelines will be made, as it does not constitute racism against people from China.

Aske asked if it affects visiting PhD students. Brian Vinter answered that the university is investigating how to handle visiting CSC PhD students. Aske followed up with a question if there has been dialogue with China. Brian answered that this is a task for "Rektorkollegiet" and they have tried to get in touch with China with no luck so far, but the current security situations makes it even more difficult. Aske mentioned that DTU had argued that the salary is too low, but Brian said that there has already been decided a minimum, so the remarks from DTU are strange.

Anne Jensen asked if this links to URIS. Brian explained that the URIS work links to the passport not the funding source (like the CSC case does). People from certain countries must have a security check. So the CSC case is not linked to URIS. Aliakbar asked for an update regarding self-financed applicants, that have been paused. Brian Vinter answered that we do not have any news regarding this at the moment as this is a very complicated matter.

7	17:20-17:25 (5 min.)	<b>Confidential Item</b> Orientation on case with PhD defense	BV/AJ
The discussion was confidential, no minutes from this item and the information must not be shared.			
8	17:25-17:30 (5 min.)	<b>PhD degrees since last meeting</b>	
Anne Jensen asked for comments for the 13 PhD degrees. There were no comments apart from a congratulation to all, also to a former member of the Council.			
9	17:30-17:35	<b>Any other business</b>	

Announcements 17:35-17:40

Item #	Time	Item and appendices	Owner
10		Pilot project for delegation of decision- making mandate at Tech	BVI
11		Analysis of offensive behaviour	AJ
12		Orientation about annual feed back on action plan for gender equality, diversity and inclusion	BVI
13		Guidelines on distance work	AJ
14		Annual wheel – updated version	AJ