

Mødedato: 20-11-2019 14.15-16.00

Mødested: 1481-324

Mødeemne: Uddannelsesnævnsmøde Engelsk

Participants:

Tabish Khair, Sandro Nielsen, Sten Vikner (UN chair), Tenna Blindbæk (UN vice chair), Katherina Cornelia Plenter Vowles-Sørensen (Interkulturelle studier), Emily Virginia Hus (Engelsk), Sofie Lavall Nøjsen (IVK Engelsk).

Observers:

Ann Carroll-Bøgh (international coordinator), Dominic Rainsford (head of Dept. of English), Anne Schjoldager, Mejse Voss (afdelingskonsulent, engelsk & tysk/romansk), Simon Skaarup Axelsen (Studievejledning), Amalie Katrine Kjærulff (IVK Engelsk), Trine Susanne Johansen (koordinator, IVK-tilvalget i strategisk kommunikation), Martin Skovsgaard Nielsen (SNUK).

Apologies: Dale Carter, Emma Kærsgaard (Engelsk), Mathilde Nisbeth Brøgger, Sara Dybris McQuaid, Ushma Chauhan Jacobsen (member of IKK studienævn).

1. Approval of the agenda

Approved.

2. Approval of the minutes

Approved.

3. Results of the elections for the student representatives in the UN

(see <https://medarbejdere.au.dk/strategi/valg/>)

The elected student representatives in the UN in 2020 are:

Johanne Amalie Cordt Corneliussen (Engelsk) (member of IKK studienævn)

Sofie Lavall Nøjsen (IVK Engelsk)

Amalie Kathrine Kjærulff (IVK Engelsk)

Tenna Blindbæk (Engelsk)

Emily Virginia Hus (Engelsk)

Emilie Bak Sand (Engelsk)

Emma Hundahl Kærsgaard (Engelsk) (suppleant til UN)

Henriette Feldborg Olesen (Engelsk) (suppleant til UN)

Frederik Gaardhøj Christiansen (Engelsk) (suppleant til UN)

No representatives from Intercultural Studies were elected. Katherina Cornelia Plenter Vowles-Sørensen will attend the UN meetings in the spring as an observer to represent the students from Intercultural Studies.

4. Briefing and decision concerning the posting of UN minutes on the AU website

(Martin Skovsgaard Nielsen). The minutes of this meeting (and all future meetings) will be posted on the web. The UN can decide whether or not to make the minutes from February until October 2019 available as well. See <https://studerende.au.dk/studier/fagportaler/arts/kontakt/udvalgognaevn/uddannelsesnaevn/kommunikation-og-kultur/>, and open the section concerning *UN for Kunsthistorie, Æstetik og Kultur samt Museologi* to see an example of a UN that already has its minutes on the web.

The draft minutes for approval will be in the folder for the following meeting on the O: drive. The approved minutes will be in the archive folder on the O: drive (as it is now) and on the web.

Decision:

The UN decided not to publish the minutes from February to October 2019.

5. Newsletter from Arts Studies

(Martin Skovsgaard Nielsen).

Bachelor's Supplementary Subjects:

The 15 new Bachelor's supplementary subjects which are offered for the first time in 2020 are now online at <https://bachelor.au.dk/tilvalg/> in a first version. In several places, the students are notified with a disclaimer that "The supplementary subject is currently being developed and may be subject to changes until 1 February 2020. Please check the website on a regular basis".

Contemporary Communication in English is among the 15 new Bachelor's supplementary subjects.

New and revised academic regulations for 2020:

Most of the academic regulations have been considered by the degree programme boards and are dealt with by the Boards of Studies in November and/or December. The boards of studies may nominate the academic regulations for approval by the Dean's Office, which deals with the academic regulations in January for final approval.

6. The assignment of supervisors of MA theses (*specialer*)

(Dominic Rainsford). Discussions of whether the system can be improved to yield a more equal distribution between supervisors.

Within SLK and ICS, there has been a tendency such that some potential supervisors are selected very frequently, but others not very much at all.

Some reasons for this may be:

- Some teachers are very successful, which is good.
- With fewer electives, the students meet and get to know fewer teachers.
- The deadline for choice of supervisor is very early and that may influence the students because they may only have met a few teachers.

When many students apply for the same supervisors, the dept. has to say no to more students. There may be a need for a new way to choose supervisors.

One possible change of procedure could be that students should choose topics, not supervisors. Teachers have different perspectives but a student should be able to do any subject with any supervisor. To make it a decision based on the person is problematic. The students should be encouraged to think about topics or fields instead of supervisors. The student could fill in three or more potential topics, and students would then be distributed among the available supervisors.

The student representatives said that students would be very unhappy if they no longer had any say in the choice of supervisor. Personal chemistry may also play a role when students list their preferences, but personal chemistry is not a matter of disrespect.

One possible step could be to let supervisors present their subjects at the Thesis Fair. However, the fair is primarily meant for more general inspiration.

It is not easy to allocate a new supervisor to a thesis. It requires a lot of work. The fact that the period for writing a thesis has been cut down to four months has also made it much more difficult to change supervisor, which again increases the importance of allocating the right supervisor.

More elective slots and more different elective courses might alleviate the problem. This should be kept in mind next time the academic regulations are revised.

7. Changes to the academic regulations for the BA English (SLK)

(Sten Vikner).

Before the proposed change, the academic regulations made the ordinary exam (active participation) much less appealing than the re-exam (exactly the same tasks as in active participation, but without the attendance requirement, and with the tasks already having been discussed in feedback sessions). The proposal was to make it possible for the re-exam to contain similar but still different tasks to the ordinary exam. This would make it less appealing to skip the ordinary exam and go straight to the re-exam option.

Decision:

The UN approved the proposed change.

8. Briefing concerning the new academic regulations for the new BA supplementary subject in Contemporary Communication in English

(Sten Vikner). This has already been accepted by us and sent to the SN.

Additional comments can still be made orally by our representatives at the SN meeting on November 27.

The only comments in the mail hearing were regarding language.

The UN has no additional comments.

9. Briefing concerning the new academic regulations for the MA IVK (cand.ling.merc.) in English, French, German, and Spanish

(Sandro Nielsen, Sten Vikner). This has already been accepted by us and sent to the SN. Additional comments can still be made orally by our representatives at the SN meeting on November 27.

All comments from the mail hearing has been considered in the work group and some changes were made based on these comments.

The lecturers decide which language they teach in. Teaching in Danish or teaching in English are the two options. This is partly due to staffing, as some teachers are from other departments or subjects and may not wish to teach in English.

The German/Romance UN had basically the same comments as the English UN.

The UN has no additional comments.

10. Briefing concerning changes to the academic regulations for the BA IVK English (Anne Schjoldager).

This semester is the first semester that the new BA project courses (i.e. according to the 2017 academic regulations) have been taught. It did not work very well because the BA project teaching was split up into five different courses - as it is on the BA English (SLK). In the future it will run as one course with five seminar groups. This will give students better opportunity to work in groups. Students choose a topic in May but the choice is not binding. This information will be used to place the student in one of the five groups. The student must make their final choice in October. Every student in the 5th semester will be signed up for the course.

The student representatives approve of the proposed changes.

11. Items from the Agenda of the School of Communication and Culture Board of Studies (IKK Studientævn) (Dominic Rainsford, Sandro Nielsen, Emily Hus).

No points from the UN for the SN

12. Any other business (Sten Vikner)

All IV-fag for has been accepted except Screening the North – a course for exchange students.

All three IV-fag offered by the department this academic year have run or will be running:

Autumn 2019:

- Beyoncé, Trump, Potterheads, Sherlockians: Celebrity and Fandom Studies - Matthias Stephan, Susan Yi Sencindiver
- Social Marketing Communication - Carmen Daniela Maier, Trine Susanne Johansen

Spring 2020:

- Language and Cognition - Ken Ramshøj Christensen

Course coordination:

Course coordination used to require less time and effort, perhaps because there were fewer courses that required coordination, and therefore some courses nowadays are not coordinated as well as they should be. In a future meeting, the UN will discuss course coordination and whether more and better remuneration is called for.

Course coordination will be an item on the agenda for the UN. Tabish and Anne will write a *bilag* for the agenda.

Next meeting Wednesday Dec. 4. 15.15-17.00 in the usual room, 1481-324.
The meeting is a week before the December SN meeting.