

Meeting: 22 June 2022, 15:15-17:00

Building 1481, Room 366

Uddannelsesnævnsmøde Engelsk

Participants:

UN members:

Trine Susanne Johansen, Sandro Nielsen, Anne Schjoldager, Sten Vikner, Majbritt Kastberg Grønbæk, Rikke Oddershede Laursen, Christina Maria Møller, Emma Hove Petersen.

Observers:

Jane Lücke Didriksen, Louise Wennemoes Hansen, Dominic Rainsford, Marianne Rasmussen.

Apologies:

Tabish Khair, Mark Eaton, Claire Isabel Hendrick, Helena Fjeldsted Jensen, Ann Carroll-Bøgh, Mejse Voss, Lærke Orup, Miranda Elkjær-Christensen, Jonas Trøstrup Steuernagel.

Minutes (referat)

Uddannelsesnævn Engelsk

Date: 27 June 2022

Ref: Louise Wennemoes Hansen

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Side 1/8

1. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved.

2. Any follow-ups on the approved minutes of the last meeting

See document *UN-Engl-2-Minutes UN meeting English 18 May 2022*, also found in *O:\ARTS_CC-ENG-UN\Archive\Referater*.

For information about UN English, including approved minutes, see the link:

<https://studerende.au.dk/studier/fagportaler/arts/kontakt/udvalgognaevn/uddannelsesnaevn/kommunikation-og-kultur#c2498337>

The UN followed up on the approved minutes from the UN meeting in May:

- Item 4: The UN was given a status on the BA IVK study-start programme, and the most important points mentioned by the UN were changed in the programme, but because of the reduced intake of IVK students, the number of classes (*hold*) will need to be reduced from five to four classes.
- Item 5: The UN was given a report of the staff seminar at Moesgaard on 17 May 2022 by Head of Department Dominic Rainsford (DR). It was a good and pleasant seminar on the themes of diversity and inclusion. The Department of English is complex, for instance, because of VIPs and students with diverse ways of approaching English studies. DR will start a project in the autumn that will focus on the internal structure of the Department and hours given to teachers, area coordinators and the UN Chair.
- Item 6: The UN was given an update on the plans of action 2022 submitted by DR. The plans of action 2022 was approved by the UN by e-mail 16 June 2022, and DR forwarded the approved plans of action to the SN secretary. DR wants to

use the plans of action more actively and discuss them with the area coordinators, and DR plans to meet with the area coordinators in the autumn semester before the next annual status. In this way, the plans of action will be a work in progress throughout the year.

- Item 11/Messages: Problems and confusion regarding *hytteture* were taken up by UN Chair and SN representative Anne Schjoldager (AS) in the Board of Studies (SN) and these will be discussed at the SN meeting in June. The UN was given a status by AS and Department secretary Jane Lücke Didriksen (JLD).

3. Information: News from Arts Studies

UN secretary Louise Wennemoes Hansen (LWH) informed the UN that there was no newsletter from Arts Studies in June. See previous newsletters via this link: <https://medarbejdere.au.dk/fakulteter/ar/til-undervisere-paa-arts/nyhedsbrev-fra-arts-studier/>

4. Discussion: BATV IVK English 2023 feedback from students

See documents:

- *UN-Engl-4a-Presentations from the BATV IVK meeting*
- *UN-Engl-4b-Notes from BATV IVK meeting* (in Danish)
- *UN-Engl-4c-Preliminary suggestions for study overview BATV IVK English 2023*
- *UN-Engl-4d-Preliminary study overview BA IVK English 2023*

The IVK working group has been in contact with BATV IVK students about a revised version of the academic regulations for BATV IVK English.

The UN was presented with preliminary study overviews for both BA IVK and BATV IVK English 2023 in documents *UN-Engl-4c* and *-4d* as well as some background information about meetings and discussions in documents *UN-Engl-4a* and *-4b*.

LWH informed the UN of the latest news about the BATV IVK:

- The 1st semester of the BATV IVK must have a 15 ECTS course and not a 10+5 ECTS combination, as it is now in the current academic regulations. This was decided both by the Vice-dean and the Director of Studies. The decision was made in relation to the *uddannelseseftersyn* and *tilvalgsparadigmet* ([dogme 18](#)), which states that BATV must have a 15+15 ECTS structure in the 1st semester, where one of the 15 ECTS courses is the Bachelor's project. The working group will therefore have to discuss which of the two suggested BA IVK courses (*Professional Texts* and *Corporate Communication and PR*) is to be included in the 1st semester in the BATV IVK.
- Furthermore, the 2nd semester of the BATV IVK can only offer three 2nd semester BA IVK courses (*Communication Theory and Practice*, *Politics and Culture for Business* and *English Language in Theory and Practice*) and cannot offer a 4th semester BA IVK course (*Global Englishes*) as students cannot be asked to choose between courses. This was decided by the Director of Studies with support from the Vice-dean.

The UN will see a draft version of the study overviews again in August.

5. Decision: Future meeting times for UN English

The UN discussed whether to change its meeting times. While the UN now meets for one hour and 45 minutes, it was suggested that, as from August 2022, the UN will meet for two full hours, as other UNs do, including the German-Romance.

It was assumed that UN English will continue to alternate between meeting at the same time as the German-Romance UN (which meets at 14.00-16.00) and one hour later, so that Department Coordinator Mejse Voss (MV) can attend the final part of the UN English meeting in those months that she attends the German-Romance UN meeting.

The UN was to decide between the following options:

1. The UN continues with the *current meeting times*, alternating between 14.15-16.00 and 15.15-17.00.
 - a. The UN meets for one hour and 45 minutes.
 - b. In alternate weeks, MV can attend the UN English meeting from a little later than 16.00.
2. The UN starts *15 minutes earlier* than now, alternating between 14.00-16.00 and 15.00-17.00.
 - a. The UN meets for two full hours that is for 15 minutes longer than now. Five of those minutes could be spent on a short break, say, at 15.00-15.05/16.00-16.05.
 - b. Some VIPs and students may be late when the meeting starts at 14.00 because of classes that finish at 14.00.
 - c. The standard agreement with UVAEKA regarding 'constraints' is that there should be no teaching after 14.00 on Wednesdays, but they may be persuaded to keep UN members and observers free from teaching from 13.00 on Wednesdays (so that members and observers can have time to come to UN meetings at 14.00). This, however, might disrupt people's timetables too much.
 - d. In alternate weeks (when she attends the German-Romance UN meeting until 16.00), MV can attend the UN English meeting as she does now.
3. The UN finishes *15 minutes later* than now, alternating between 14.15-16.15 and 15.15-17.15.
 - a. The UN meets for two full hours that is for 15 minutes longer than now. Five of those minutes could be spent on a short break, say, at 15.00-15.05/16.00-16.05.
 - b. UVAEKA's constraints will not have to be changed.
 - c. In alternate weeks (when she attends the German-Romance meeting until 16.00), MV can attend the UN English meeting a little longer than now.

Decision: The UN decided on option 3. Starting from August, the UN will therefore meet in the following timeslots: 14:15-16:15 or 15:15-17:15. JDL will update the already booked meetings.

6. Information and discussion: Removal of prerequisites (*forudsætningskrav*) for taking exams

See documents:

- *UN-Engl-6a-Removing prerequisites for taking exams (a letter from the vice-dean)* (in Danish)
- *UN-Engl-6b-Plan for the process of removing prerequisites for taking exams* (in Danish)
- *UN-Engl-6c-Sagsfremstilling Fjernelse af forudsætningskrav* (in Danish)

On 01.09.2022 a new examination order comes into effect, containing major changes regarding the prerequisites (*forudsætningskrav*) with which students must comply if they wish to pass certain exams. This will result in changes in most, if not all, academic regulations in the Faculty of Arts as of 01.09.2023. The main reason is that the ministry has established that “prerequisites for taking exams” refer to *the activities that students must take part in* to pass a specific exam. This challenges prerequisites that help to enhance students’ active participation in teaching activities. In view of the complexity of deciding which prerequisites may remain and which will have to be removed from the academic regulations in the Faculty of Arts, it has been decided that, as from 01.09.2023, the use of prerequisites for taking exams is to be avoided in the Faculty of Arts. More information and some background for this decision is available in document *UN-Engl-6a*. The vice-dean for education and directors of studies are currently setting up the framework for the revision work with affected academic regulations.

The UN could start an initial discussion of how to handle the task of removing prerequisites from academic regulations in the department. The UN could decide what to discuss, which depended on the extent to which prerequisites for taking exams are used at present in the department. A list of possible discussion points was presented via document *UN-Engl-6c*.

SNUK has drawn up a process plan for revising academic regulations in connection with the removal of prerequisites (see document *UN-Engl-6b*). According to this, the process was initiated in February/March 2022, and the final part will involve approval and implementation meetings in the UN (December 2022) and the SN (January 2023), after which the approved changes will be sent to the Dean’s office. The changes in the affected academic regulations are to be implemented by 01.09.2023. Any questions about the regulations and the process may be directed to Camilla Mark Thygesen (camillathygesen@au.dk) or Christian Hansen (hach@au.dk) at SNUK at any time during the process.

The UN discussed the removal of prerequisites and agreed that this was not a good idea, but accepted that, in view of the ministry decision and the Faculty of Arts decision, there was nothing to be done about it.

The UN asked questions about the *Thesis Research Colloquium*, which is a prerequisite for taking the exam in *Project Placements*. LWH informed the UN that this is one of the unresolved issues that the Vice-dean needs to deal with. It will be decided after the summer vacation whether the prerequisites in relation to *Project Placements* have to be removed, and the UN will hear more about it. Even though revised BA academic regulations will start from 01.09.2023, prerequisites for exams in previous academic regulations will also have to be removed if these exams are offered after 01.09.2023.

7. Information: Changes to Master's admission requirements in the Department of English

As from 01.09.2022, the admission requirements and prerequisites for some of the Department's Master's degree programmes are to be changed. The changes will affect the student intake as from September 2023. The UN received an overview of these changes from DR.

The requirements for MA Intercultural Studies (ICS) will continue to be broad. Regarding the MA English (SLK), DR is looking at changing which specific BAs may give access to the MA, and what the requirements should be for other BAs concerning knowledge of English linguistics, literature and/or history, society and culture. The UN pointed out that it is important that BA IVK English graduates can still be admitted to MA English (SLK), though only to the Track A.

For information about the current admission requirements and prerequisites for MA ICS and MA English (SLK), please check section 1.3 in these degree programmes:

- MA English: <https://eddiprod.au.dk/EDDI/webservices/DokOrdningService.cfc?method=visGodkendtOrdning&dokOrdningId=12928&sprog=en>
- MA ICS: <https://eddiprod.au.dk/EDDI/webservices/DokOrdningService.cfc?method=visGodkendtOrdning&dokOrdningId=13856&sprog=en>

The UN asked if admission requirements and prerequisites to MA CLM English are also to be changed, but this will have to be looked into.

The UN will be informed about any changes to academic regulations in the Arts Studies newsletter in September.

8. Discussion: Results from the Danish Student Survey 2021, SMU

See documents:

- *UN-Engl-8a-SMU BA English 2018-2020-2021*
- *UN-Engl-8b-SMU MA English 2018-2020-2021*
- *UN-Engl-8c-SMU BA IVK English 2018-2020-2021*
- *UN-Engl-8d-SMU MA CLM English 2018-2020-2021*
- *UN-Engl-8e-SMU MA ICS English 2018-2020-2021*

The Danish Student Survey was sent to all students on Danish higher education degree programmes by the Danish Agency for Higher Education and Science. The responses were collected in autumn 2021, and a total of 9,926 AU students (30.4%) completed the questionnaire. At Arts, 2,928 students completed the questionnaire (32%). In the 2021 survey, students were asked about a variety of topics, including the social and academic environment, their general sense of belonging to their programme, time spent on tasks, loneliness and stress.

The AU draws on the results of the Danish Student Survey in connection with AU's ongoing efforts to provide a high-quality learning environment for all students. Every three years, the results also form the basis for AU's assessment of the teaching environment. The last assessment took place in 2020, and the next will take place in 2023. Read more about the student survey at: <https://studerende.au.dk/studieundersogelse/>

Here are some examples of topics that could be discussed by the UN:

- **Satisfaction with the academic and social environment:** 86% of the students at Arts responded that there is a good academic environment in their degree programme, compared to 90% in 2020. 74% of the students at Arts responded that they are satisfied with the social study environment in their degree programme, compared to 76% in 2020.
- **Students' well-being – a decline in positive sense of belonging:** 72% of the students at Arts agree or strongly agree that they feel a positive sense of belonging to their degree programme. In 2020, this figure was 79%.
- **Continued challenges with loneliness and stress:** 17% of the students at Arts often or always feel lonely. In 2020, this figure was 15%. 21% of the students at Arts have experienced severe symptoms of stress in connection with their studies, compared to 20% in 2020.
- **Decline in time on task:** On average, the students at Arts reported spending 32.7 hours per week on their studies, compared to 33.9 hours in 2020.

The UN discussed the results of the Danish Student Survey 2021 SMU:

- 2020 results were better than 2021 results, which could be caused by students' general tiredness due to the Corona lockdown. In 2020, the lockdown was still new and perhaps also somewhat exciting, while, in 2021, the lockdown and restrictions were very challenging for both students and teachers. The UN concluded that the fact that numbers had dropped from 2020 to 2021 did not necessarily give reason to worry. The UN will look forward to receiving the results from the 2023-SMU.
- Furthermore, response rates were rather low and made it difficult to interpret or conclude on the results. However, it was positive that results indicated that students were pleased with their social environment, which was also supported by students present at the meeting.

It was suggested that if any UN member wishes to discuss a focus area from the results further, they should contact AS, and this will be added to the UN agenda as a discussion point.

9. Discussion: Results from the Danish Student Survey 2021, Graduates 1-2 years

See documents:

- *UN-Engl-9a-Graduates 1-2 survey English 2021*
- *UN-Engl-9b-Graduates 1-2 survey CLM English 2021*
- *UN-Engl-9c-Graduates 1-2 survey ICS 2021*

The results of the 2021 Danish Student Survey, Graduates 1-2 years after graduation, are ready. Here are some examples of topics that may be discussed by the UN:

- To what extent does the degree programme prepare graduates for the job market?
- Do graduates see a connection between what they learned in their degree programme and the competences that employers are looking for?
- What is the connection between competences acquired through degree programmes and competences required in jobs?

The Danish Student Survey, Graduates, is aimed at people who graduated 1-2 years ago. The survey was conducted in the autumn of 2021 and was sent to 3,360 Arts graduates.

1,328 responded, resulting in an overall response rate of 39% at Arts (35.8% at AU level). The results of the survey will be used in the university's quality assurance work. For further information about the survey's application, implementation and methods, please see the [quality portal about the graduate survey](#).

The UN briefly discussed the results from the Danish Student Survey 2021 Graduates 1-2 years after graduation. For instance, the UN concluded that some competences are more needed by employers than others. Furthermore, it was pointed out that the responses for MA CLM English related to the previous academic regulations and not to the current version from 2020. The UN suggested that the area coordinators look further at the results and contact AS if they think anything needs to be presented to and discussed by the UN.

10. Items from the Agenda of the School of Communication and Culture Board of Studies (*IKK Studienævn*)

See document *UN-Engl-10-Board of Studies (SN) agenda for meeting on 29 June 2022*.

UN also had opportunity to see some of the documents for the upcoming SN meeting on the o-drive.

For information about the SN, including agendas and approved minutes, see the link:

<https://studerende.au.dk/studier/fagportaler/arts/kontakt/udvalgognaevn/studienaevn/kommunikation-og-kultur>

Potential points to be discussed included:

- **Item § 4. Handleplaner fra årlig status (beslutningspunkt)**
SN-repræsentanterne forbereder svar på spørgsmålet nedenfor: Find én handling fra din afdelings handleplaner, som du synes, andre skal kende til.
- **Item § 5. Indstilling af uddannelse til dialogmøde med prodekanen for uddannelse (beslutningspunkt)**
- **Item § 6. Årsberetninger fra censorformandskaberne (drøftelsespunkt)**
Bilagsmaterialet til dette punkt er meget omfattende og derfor primært til orientering. Hvis SN-repræsentanterne har opmærksomhedspunkter fra drøftelsen i UN, eller fra censorårsrapporterne fra deres egen afdeling, kan de bringes op på SN-mødet, og det øvrige SN kan benytte bilagene til at finde de relevante punkter frem under mødet.
- **Item § 7. Orientering om hytteture på IKK**
Zenia Børsen, Lone Koefoed Hansen, Anne Schjoldager og Lars Kiel Bertelsen orienterer om deres møde hvor de diskuterede hytteture, som aftalt på forrige SN-møde.

The UN was informed of the SN items and briefly discussed the items:

- In relation to item §4, it was suggested to bring up AU's alumni network (*alumnenetværk*), mentioned in most of the plans of action.
- In relation to item §5, the UN had no specific focus areas or degree programmes in mind for the dialogue meeting with the Vice-dean.
- In relation to item §7, the UN pointed out that the *hyttetur* is an important activity for students as an activity that strengthens the social and academic environment as well as relations between students. The students pointed out that it is beneficial to get to know each other outside of the university walls. The UN pointed out that legal and financial rules and responsibilities for the *hyttetur* need

to be clarified. The UN suggests that these rules and responsibilities are clarified in writing by September 2022, when the *hyttetur* planning for 2023 will begin.

11. Messages

The UN received updates and news from:

Head of Department:

DR informed the UN that he has written to the Director of Studies in relation to keeping the exam form for the BA IVK English course *English Language in Theory and Practice*, and that he has not received a response yet.

Academic and administrative staff: No new messages.

Students:

The students informed the UN that 2nd semester students in BA English (SLK) have been confused and upset about their meeting times for the oral exam in Literature in English 2. Students were told to figure out for themselves when to meet for the exam, which meant that many had waited around the exam room for quite a long time before their respective exams began. It seems that this might have been due to a misunderstanding. DR will look into it and talk to the examiner(s) in question.

Arts Studies: No new messages.

Student counsellors (Studievejledning/VEST): No new messages.

Internationalisation coordinators: No new messages.

12. Any other business

It was pointed out that the agenda on the O-drive lacked page numbers. This was a mistake, and AS will make sure that this does not happen again.