



AARHUS UNIVERSITET

Minutes (referat)

Uddannelsesnævnet for Engelsk (Uddannelsesnævnsmøde Engelsk)

04-12-2024 14:15 - 16:15

1481-366

Participants:

UN members VIP: Anne Schjoldager, Sandro Nielsen, Ken Ramshøj, Ushma Chauhan Jacobsen, Joseph William Sterrett, Trine Susanne Johansen

UN members students: Peter Katballe-Kristensen, Lærke Orup

Observers: Peter Mortensen, Ann Carroll-Bøgh, Imke van Bentum, Marley Daniel Christoph Kaiser, Kamilla Brok-Jørgensen, Mai Ingemann Asmussen, Jane Lücke Didriksen, Frederikke Øhlenschläger (student counsellor), Nis Grøn, Anne Bjørn Friis (minutes)

Punkt 1: Approval of the agenda

(Anne Schjoldager).
The UN is to approve of the agenda.

Minutes:

The UN approved of the agenda.

Punkt 2: Approval of minutes from last meeting and any follow-ups

(Anne Schjoldager).
2.1 Preliminary minutes of the UN meeting on 20 November 2024

The UN is to approve of the minutes from the last meeting (*document 2.1*).

Minutes:

The UN approved of the minutes from the meeting on 20 November 2024. Anne Bjørn Friis (ABF) followed up on the discussion regarding UVAEKA's new model for teaching planning, which was introduced in the newsletter from Arts Studies in October. ABF informed the UN that the new model will not introduce any changes in the Department of English. The reason for this is that the model was in fact first introduced by the Department of English and has since been implemented across the departments of the Faculty.

Punkt 3: Messages

Documents:

3.1 Kandidatudvalgets-afrapportering_20.11.2024

3.2 Politikerne skal træffe endelig beslutning om kandidatreformen

In connection with the messages from the Head of Department, the UN is given a copy of the report from the ministry masters reform committee (*Kandidatudvalget*) from 20 November 2024 (*document 3.1*). The UN is also given a copy from the university newsletter regarding the report (*document 3.2*).

The minutes of the SN meeting on 27 November 2024 have not been approved yet and can therefore not be given to the UN. The UN will be given the SN minutes in January 2025.

The UN will receive any updates and news from:

- 3.1 Head of Department
- 3.2. Academic and administrative staff
- 3.3. Students
- 3.4 Student counsellors (Studievejledning/VEST)

3.5 Internationalisation coordinators

3.6 The School of Communication and Culture's Board of Studies (*Studienævn: SN*).

Minutes:

The UN received updates and news from:

3.1 Head of Department

A meeting has been held in the department with The Head of School. The department was able to give their input and ask questions regarding the MA (and BA) reform and the process. The Head of School listened attentively and promised to look into the issues raised by the department, among other things regarding the ICS programme. Anne Schjoldager (AS) commented that CLM should be brought into focus as well due to the planned merger of SLK and IVK programmes in the German-Romance Department, because this means that the collaboration regarding CLM (and BA IVK) between the two departments will necessarily have to change. Another factor is the reduced bachelor's intake, which will affect the MA intake. Admission requirements for CLM English might be changed in a revision version. At the beginning of 2025, students will be involved in the next phase of the reform process regarding the future structure (*studiestruktur*) of the programmes of Arts.

3.2. Academic and administrative staff

Nothing.

3.3. Students

Nothing.

3.4 Student counsellors (Studievejledning/VEST)

Nothing.

3.5 Internationalisation coordinators

The deadline for outgoing exchange passed this week, and a total of 1420 applications from AU were submitted, of which 441 were from Arts. The UN will be informed of the specific numbers for the department of English when they have been registered.

3.6 The School of Communication and Culture's Board of Studies (*Studienævn: SN*). Sandro Nielsen (SN) had participated in the SN meeting in November and informed the UN of the discussions:

- The SN discussed an increase in joint courses/joint teaching between programmes in the future, and the SN wants input from the UN's. In January, The UN will have a discussion on the best options for joint teachings on the agenda.
- The SN approved of the proposed changes to the academic regulations to be passed on for the approval by the Vice-Dean for Education.
- SN questions for teaching evaluations: There was not complete agreement on the decided questions, and it was discussed that the SN should be able to make changes after the first year if the decided questions do not work as intended.

Punkt 4: Information: News from Arts Studies

(Anne Bjørn Friis).

Document:

4.1 December 2024_Nyhedsbrev fra Arts Studier_DA_ENG EXTRA 4 December

The Newsletter from Arts Studies is to be published on 4 December 2024, which is on the day of the UN meeting.

The UN is to be given an update from the Arts Studies based on the headlines from the newsletter, which Anne Bjørn Friis will present orally.

Minutes:

ABF presented the headlines from this month's newsletter from Arts Studies:

Useful information:

- Guidance sessions for students who have fallen behind – autumn 2024
- The exam period is just around the corner
- Status of admissions to further and continuing education
- Update to admission requirements and selection criteria for Master's degree programmes
- Learning spaces on Brightspace ready for spring 2025
- Updated Power BI reports
- Action plans for the assessment of the teaching environment are now on the study portal

Events:

- Three events for Master's thesis students in the spring semester 2025
- Elective courses and courses with changing topics for autumn 2025: The process starts now!

Punkt 5: Information: Letters of reference for student representatives

(Anne Bjørn Friis).

If students would like to have a letter of reference in connection with their participation in the UN, they should write to the UN secretary Anne Bjørn Friis by e-mail (abf@au.dk) and state their full name, date of birth and the period of time they have been active the UN (as a member or in others ways, including as the UN Vice chair).

Normally, letters of reference are written in Danish, so please state if they should be written in English.

Punkt 6: Information and follow-up: The procedure for end-of-term evaluations in the Department of English

(Peter Mortensen, Nis Grøn)

6.1 Retningslinjer for kursusevaluering på IKK_26.06.2024

The UN will be updated on the decision by the Head of Department regarding whether courses in the department are to be evaluated at the lecture level or at the seminar level

as from spring 2025. To inform his decision, the Head of Department received input from the UN in November.

According to the School's (IKK's) policy for course evaluations (*document 6.1*), procedures for end-of-term evaluations are to change as from spring 2025. One change concerns the number of evaluations that may be carried out per course: From now on, each course may only be evaluated once, either at the lecture level OR at the seminar level (and always via Brightspace).

Previously, such decisions have been taken by individual teachers/course responsables, but now the Head of Department is to decide on this for the department's degree programmes. Consequently, as from 2025, the procedure will be the same for *all* the Department's courses.

Minutes:

Head of Department Peter Mortensen (PM) informed the UN of his decision regarding the procedure for end-of-term course evaluations in the future. PM has decided that all courses should be evaluated at the seminar level, which means that seminar teachers will be in charge of activating evaluations and leaving time for students to fill in the evaluation survey. Students are expected to evaluate both seminars and lectures (if any) in their evaluations

Punkt 7: Information: Titles and teachers for electives in autumn 2025

(Peter Mortensen).

The UN is to be informed of titles and teachers for electives in autumn 2025. This procedure was decided by the UN at the meeting on 24 August 2022.

In autumn 2025, the department plans to offer the following electives:

Focus area electives, BA IVK English, 3rd semester:

- Focus Area: Communicating Values (Antoinette Fage-Butler)
- Focus Area: Exploring Interculturality (Ushma Chauhan Jacobsen)
- Focus Area: Risk Communication (Carmen Daniela Maier)

Focus area electives, BA SLK English, 3rd semester:

- Focus Area: Biology, Emotion, Language, and Fiction in Stephen King's 'The Shining' (Ken Ramshøj and Mathias Clasen)
- Focus Area: Political Polarization (NN/new Americanist and Matthias Stephan)

BA-project electives, BA SLK English, 5th semester:

- BA-project elective: Modern Irish language and Literature (Stephen Joyce and Sten Vikner)
- BA-project elective: Recreational Fear (Mathias Clasen)

- BA-project elective: Conflict Studies (Sara Dybris McQuaid and Jacco Visser)

Next step:

In February 2025, the UN is to approve the course descriptions for electives in autumn 2025.

Proposal for decision:

In June 2025, the UN is to be informed of the plans for electives in spring 2026. In January 2026, the UN is to be informed of the plans for electives in autumn 2026.

Minutes:

AS informed the UN that some of the information in the proposed plan is tentative and might be subject to change. Already known or expected changes:

- Focus Area: Biology, Emotion, Language, and Fiction in Stephen King's 'The Shining' – this title will be changed to “Mindscapes: the Evolution of Language, Stories and the Brain”
- Focus Area: Exploring Interculturality (Ushma Chauhan Jacobsen) – this will probably not be offered, due to Ushma Chauhan Jacobsen's other teaching obligations. Instead, another course (on a different topic) will be offered.

Next time, the UN will not see a tentative plan before January (2026).

Punkt 8: Information: Titles and teachers for IV-fag to be offered by the department in 2025/2026

(Peter Mortensen).

The following IV-fag (internationalisation electives) are to be offered by the Department of English in spring 2025:

- Tabish Khair, Mark Eaton: *Popular Culture and Protest in Recent History and Literature*
- Carmen Daniela Maier: *Social Marketing Communication*
- Ken Ramshøj Kristensen, Mathias Clasen: *The Creative Mind: On the Psychology and Evolution of Language and Fiction*

All three courses are to be available for both ordinary and exchange students.

The department has proposed to offer the same courses in spring 2026.

Next step:

IV-fag to be offered in 2026 will be officially approved by the Head of Studies at a meeting in December 2024 .

Minutes:

International coordinator Ann Carroll-Bøgh (ACB) commented that *Social marketing* has been offered exclusively for exchange students in autumn 2024 with 40 participants, which has been positive for these students and their course planning. PM promised to look into the possibility of offering this course again in autumn 2025 (in addition to offering it in spring 2025).

Punkt 10: Information: Items for future meetings

The UN is to be informed of planned items for upcoming meetings. UN members can comment on these and/or suggest additional items. In addition, UN members are welcome to send comments and suggestions to future UN items to Anne Schjoldager (asc@cc.au.dk) and/or Anne Bjørn Friis (abf@au.dk).

January 2025:

- Decision: Establishment of the new UN – as of 1 February 2025
- Information: Introduction to the work of the UN for new student members
- Information: Next month's discussion of the end-of-term teaching evaluations for autumn 2024

February 2025:

- Decision: Approval of course descriptions for electives in autumn 2025
- Discussion: End-of-term teaching evaluations from autumn 2024
- Information: Academic regulations/changes to academic regulations following a review by the Dean's Office to take effect on 1 September 2025
- Information: Annual evaluations of Project placements

March 2025:

- Information: Status on the Degree Programme Evaluation of ICS (English)

April 2025:

- Discussion and decision: Annual status review 2025 (April or May)

Minutes:

In addition to the items listed for January 2025, the UN will discuss experiences with joint courses (as mentioned in item 3, Messages).

Punkt 11: Deadline for submitting documents for the next UN meeting

Any documents for the UN meeting in January 2025 should be sent to Anne Schjoldager (asc@cc.au.dk) and/or Anne Bjørn Friis (abf@au.dk) *no later than on Monday, 6 January 2025.*

Punkt 12: Any other business

Nothing.