

Meeting: 2nd December 2020 at 11.00-13.00

In Zoom:

UN-meeting, LICS

Minutes

Present:

UN members:

Ethan Weed (chair of the meeting), Jan Rijkhoff, Kristian Tylén, Peter Bakker, William McGregor, Mikkel Wallentin

UN LICS

Dato: 02.12 2020

Observers:

Johan Keller Jensen (student representative), Peter Thramkrongart (student representative), Helle Skjøth Sørensen (student representative), Mads Jensen, Riccardo Fusaroli, Byurakn Ishkhanyan, Alexandra Kratschmer, Cordula Vesper, Kristina Duun (student counsellor), Chris Mathys, Rebekah Baglini, Joshua Skewes (head of department), Jakob Steensig, Camilla Mark Thygesen (SNUK, minute taker)

Side 1/4

1. Approval of agenda and follow up on the minutes from last meeting

The UN approved the agenda and there were one follow up on the minutes from the last meeting:

It was asked what the colors in an URKUND report means, which has now been answered by the people from the AU library who visited the last UN meeting:

The highlighted words show the exact differences between the submitted text and the matching text, by highlighting the differences in the matching text. Words highlighted in yellow means that they have been substituted and red that they have been removed or added.

2. Briefings (orientation)

2.1 News from the Board of Studies

It was informed that the Board of Studies had approved the new academic regulations at the institute and changes to current regulations, along with the change to the BA-project at Linguistics.

It was mentioned that the rest of the Board of Studies, did not agree with the wish from the LICS department to change all exams into virtual exams. The UN discussed their frustrations about not being heard in this process.

2.2 News from the Institute Forum

It was informed that there had not been a meeting since the last UN meeting.

2.3 News from the student guidance

The Master's day (kandidatdag) had been a great success and a lot of third semester students attended. Maybe it can be discussed how to reach other students as well.

Cognitive science was not included in the regulation Master's day, but Head of Department had held a separate event for this degree programme.

2.4 News from staff and students (fagrådet)

Cognitive science:

The fagråd is constituting in February. All mentor meetings have been conducted, and the students seem to do very well considering the circumstances at the moment.

Linguistics:

A couple more students attended the last meeting in the fagråd. The structure is still working, and they are working on gathering more students.

It was mentioned that both fagråd are welcome to let teachers know, if they can do anything to encourage students to show up at their meeting.

2.5 News from the study administration

Camilla Mark Thygesen presented the Arts Studier Newsletter, which is publicly available at the teacher's portal at Arts: <https://medarbejdere.au.dk/fakulteter/ar/til-undervisere-paa-arts/nyhedsbrev-fra-arts-studier/>

3. News from Head of Department (orientation)

(1) UPDATE – POSITIONS

- IKK- Professor in Cognitive Science (In negotiation)
- IKK – Assistant Professor in Cognitive Science (Under evaluation)
- IKK/CHC – (Fixed term) Assistant Professor in Cognitive Science and Digital Humanities (Interviews)

(2) UPDATE – LINGUISTICS EXAM LANGUAGE

Head of department presented the knowledge he has gathered about the decision to remove the possibility for students to take their exams in Danish at the Master's degree programme in Linguistics.

The faculty has made the decision for English degree programmes for different reasons:

- Students who graduate from an international degree programme should be expected to have done exams in English.
- Out of a fairness principle. Danish students should not get an advantage over international students, if it is possible for them to do exams in Danish.
- To support recruitment

Head of Department has communicated the frustration from the department about not being included in the process. He informed that he has been told by the Dean's office that it might be possible to get individual dispensations.

The UN discussed the process and the issue and concluded that Head of Department should pursue the following points:

- It is unfair for current MA students that the rules change in the middle of their education, so they should be allowed to choose between languages.
- Is it legal to make this kind of change in the middle of the students' education?
- Who has the right for giving dispensations, and how will this be administrated?

- How will this change effect the enrollment in the future?

Side 3/4

Besides that Ethan Weed will raise the question in the Board of Studies with the focus on how decisions like this one, should not be implemented for students who are far along in their degree programme.

(3) INFORMATION – EXAMS

Head of department has written out to the LICS mailing list about winter exams. It is required that all exams are onsite. *After the UN meeting it has been decide that all exams for the entire exam period will be done virtually due to the lockdown of the university.*

- Students who show coronavirus symptoms should not come to the exam and should be examined online. Students have until 8am on the day of the exam to report that they have symptoms, at which point the examiner needs to re-plan to hold their exam online at the planned time.
- Students in a risk group should be examined online. Students need to report that they are in a risk group 14 days before the exam, to be added to the list of those who need to be examined online.
- Examiners should therefore have their computers with them to the exam, because they may have some students online after all.
- You get 10 extra minutes per exam. This is for sanitizing the room, and preparing for if a student needs to be online due to symptoms. This will increase the time you use for the exam, and the time teachers get in vipomatic.
- If a teacher is in a risk group, it may be possible to hold all exams online for the course. Please get in touch with Head of Department asap if you believe you are in a risk group and are examining.

(4) INFORMATION – GDPR AND PEDAGOGY

The department has been working to get clearer policies/education for students regarding GDPR compliance.

- AU has an information site for students. All students should be referred to this page before the start of any empirical project: [Processing personal data in projects etc. \(au.dk\)](#)
- IKK is working on a more explicit policy for data collection and storage. More to come.
- Arts is developing an e-learning module on GDPR for students. The Head of department will propose that this be formally integrated into our programs. Suggested courses could include Studium Generale and Applied Linguistics for the BA Linguistics, and Philosophy of Cognitive Science for Cognitive Science. In the long term, the Head of Department would like this included in the academic regulations for a course in each program.
- The model is that everybody, students included, are responsible for their own data protection. Teachers however have an obligation to ensure that students are properly equipped for this.

The UN discussed this and decided to invite head of the [Centre for Humanities Computing](#) Kristoffer Nielbo to the next UN meeting, to inform about cloud computer services

and especially about a new High Performance Computing (HPC) programme that he is working on, that students can use to handle large datasets for their projects.

Side 4/4

(5) INFORMATION – STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

- The department is putting a student forward for representation in the Instituteforum
- A student council for linguistics, and a student council for cognition (including cognitive semiotics), are both almost constituted
- From January: planning a pre-meeting series with Student representatives, Heads of Student councils, Student counsellors, Instituteforum member, the department counsellor (???), and the Head of Department each month, held one week prior to UN meetings.

(6) INFORMATION – TEACHING PLANNING F21

Teaching planning has gone very well. There has been a lot of transfer of tasks between staff across teams, so the Head of Department has been writing with a lot of different people. All of his experiences of interactions with others have been kind, helpful, and professional. He has felt heard in requests and it has felt like a joint task between the department and administration. Hopefully the outcome will be much better for both teachers and students. The Head of Department will give a brief status report for planning.

(7) INFORMATION – INSTRUCTORS

Application deadlines for instructors is the 7th of December. The Head of Department will send the relevant teachers all the applications for their courses for next semester. We should hire instructors ASAP because it may require changes to the timetables where instructors' own classes conflict with teachers' schedules.

It was decided that Kristian Tylén will look into who could be a suitable candidate as an external co-examiner for the academic area of Music in the brain, since they have to find a replacement for the current one, as he has a connection with Aarhus University.

4. Issues for upcoming meetings

- 11.1 Issues for upcoming UN meetings
 - Cloud computer services - Invite Kristoffer Nielbo.
 - Ethan Weed mentioned that it is very positive that the UN expresses wishes about issues to be put on the agenda.
- 11.2 Issues for upcoming meetings suggested for the Board of Studies

5. "Rondvraag" (short questions/comments before the closure of meeting)