

Meeting: 09st June 2021 at 12.00-13.00

In Zoom

UN-meeting, LICS

Minutes

Present:

UN members:

Ethan Weed (chair of the meeting), Alexandra Kratschmer, Cordula Vesper

UN LICS

Dato: 09.06 2021

Observers:

Johan Valentin Keller (student representative), Helle Skjøth Sørensen (student representative), Mathilde Hyldal (student representative), Kristian Tylén, Peter Bakker, William McGregor, Mikkel Wallentin, Karsten Olsen, Peer bundgaard, Riccardo Fusaroli, Rebekah Baglini, Jakob Steensig, Ross Deans Kristensen-McLachlan, Chris Mathys, Kristina Dunn (student counsellor), Joshua Skewes (head of department), Sabrina Bækkelund Larsen (Department consultant), Camilla Mark Thygesen (SNUK, minute taker)

Side 1/4

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

The agenda was approved, with smaller changes to the order of the items due to guests. There was no follow-up on the minutes from the last meeting.

2. Visit from the “Kontaktbibliotekar”

This item will be postponed.

3. Briefings (orientation)

3.1 News from the Board of Studies

Ethan Weed gave the following orientations:

- The Board of Studies discussed the return to campus in the coming semester. The students had some interesting points, e.g. they would like to have some concrete guidelines about how people should behave regarding e.g. demands for distancing. An aspect to this discussion was also the need to find out, how the corona situation and the usage of online teaching the last couple of semesters has effected the guidelines and possibilities for e.g. recording teaching.
- The Board of Studies also discussed the attendance requirements that are in place for some exams at the faculty. This is not used in the academic regulations at LICS. But the UN was reminded that it is possible to use active participation as an exam form as well.
- It was mentioned that the *studenterråd* had asked the students in the Board of Studies to support their stand against the topic of moving degree programmes away from the larger cities.

3.2 News from the Institute Forum

- There had not been a meeting since the last UN meeting

3.3 News from the student guidance

Kristina Dunn reported that:

- There has been a kick-off meeting for students at linguistics who are beginning the process of writing their bachelors theses, and these students will probably begin to contact possible supervisors.

3.4 News from fagrådet and student forum meeting:

Linguistics:

- the fagråd has had its last meeting, and is now focusing on how to engage students to participate in the upcoming semester

Cognitive semiotics:

- Students are busy with exams but things are doing well.

Cognitive science:

- The students will establish the fagråd at the end of June.

Student forum meeting:

Academic regulations for BA linguistics:

The academic regulations for BA linguistics were discussed and the students had different ideas for changes. In general, they want to be a more active participant in a future revision. Head of Department has informed them, that the department does not have any plans of a revision at the moment, but it is positive to see the students' engagement. There may be smaller things that can be changed within the current regulations, so there might be discussions of this at upcoming UN meetings.

Social ambassador:

It was mentioned that there are three types of engagement from the student, that the department is looking for:

- academic engagement in extracurricular activities
- political engagement
- social engagement

There have been discussions with the study guidance and the student forum about the need for this. It has been agreed that right now the focus should be on linguistics and social engagement.

The degree programme and the tutors are working on finding social ambassadors, to help secure a clearer connection between the academic and the social activities. This should help the social environment at the degree programme.

3.5 News from staff

Contact person for ordering books:

It was explained that the coordination of book-ordering for the library has been distributed amongst the departments. At LICS the following persons are responsible and can be contacted by staff:

- Linguistics: Peter Bakker

- Cognitive Science: Joshua Skewes
- Cognitive semiotics: Peer Bundgaard

Deadline for applying for BA-project supervisor:

It was discussed whether or not the deadline for the student's choice of supervisors should be moved from mid-September to mid-August, in order to get the students to start thinking about their projects earlier.

It was mentioned that the deadline at the department is already earlier than at other departments, and that the students are encouraged to start looking for supervisors and subjects as soon as possible. There are information meetings in June at both degree programmes to start this process. If a student contacts a supervisor before the deadline, they are allowed to start the process, since students almost always get the supervisor they have asked for. It was mentioned that students might have different opinions about whether or not it would be a good idea to move the deadline.

It was agreed to keep the deadline as it is, since it allows students to wait until after the summer holiday to start thinking about their project, but it also allows for students to start earlier if they want to. The teachers and student guidance will continue to encourage students to start early.

Possibility for funding for small research projects:

Head of Department explained that he is working on making it possible to receive funding for small research project. Teachers are expected to publish two articles a year, but at a department like LICS, in order to produce these articles many researchers need to collect data. For this reason, there should be a funding basis for these types of projects. Head of Department mentioned that while it is possible to apply for money from the research organizations at the school which the degree programmes are members of, this money is primarily meant to support funding visiting scholars, etc., and is not a reliable source of funds to cover research expenses.

Head of Department has managed to get allocation of research funds on the agenda for the IKK management meeting after the holiday. The idea would be that the department get a pool of money that they can distribute without involving the research organization each time.

3.6 News from the study administration

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

4. Status on the process for the academic regulations for MA Cognitive Science 2022 (orientation)

Head of Department gave an update on the process. There has been a meeting regarding the changes, and Head of Department will now look at a way to distribute the work with the revision.

Side 4/4

The academic objective described for each course will be changed a bit to focus more on what they are assessing at the exam and not what the students learn during the courses. And then one of the courses will go through a larger change.

5. Issues for upcoming meetings

11.1 Issues for upcoming UN meetings

11.2 Issues for upcoming meetings suggested for the Board of Studies

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

Head of Department thanked Karsten Olesen for organizing the Master thesis reception and everyone for the good work during a difficult semester.