

Meeting: 13th January 2021 at 11.00-13.00

Minutes

In Zoom:

UN-meeting, LICS

Called:

UN members:

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

UN LICS

Dato: 05.11 2020

Observers:

Johan Keller Jensen (student representative), Peter Thramkrongart (student representative), Helle Skjøth Sørensen (student representative), Mads Jensen, Karsten Olsen, Riccardo Fusaroli, Alexandra Kratschmer, Cordula Vesper, Josephine Sørensen Brunsgaard (student counsellor), Chris Mathys, Rebekah Baglini, Daina Crafa, Joshua Skewes (head of department), Jakob Steensig, Anders Højen, Sabrina Bækkelund Larsen, Camilla Mark Thygesen (SNUK, minute taker), Kristoffer Nielbo (guest)

Side 1/5

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

The UN approved the agenda, and there were no follow ups on the minutes from the last UN meeting.

2. **Presentation of Cloud Computing Services (discussion)**

The UN had invited head of the [Centre for Humanities Computing](#) Kristoffer Nielbo to this meeting, to inform about cloud computer services. Kristoffer Nielbo presented himself and his work. He presented U-cloud, which is a high performance computing platform provided by DEIC (Danish E-Infrastructure Cooperation). The UN was shown how the U-clouds works. U-clouds is very close to be GDPR compliant and researchers can log in with their WAYF. U-cloud cannot be used as a webserver for running experiments and collecting data. It is for high performance data analysis for medium size projects.

U-cloud is funded by the university, and partly by the state. Researchers can apply for funds from the university, but there are also two calls per year where you can apply for national funds.

Right now U-cloud cannot be used by students, but they are going to make this possible. There is a project this year, where students can attend through their teacher in certain courses, which are part of the project.

If any teachers at the department wish to set up U-cloud for a certain course, they can contact Kristoffer at chcaa@cas.au.dk. The same goes for wanting more knowledge about the procedures for funding.

3. **Briefings (orientation)**

3.1 News from the Board of Studies

3.1.a Language Policy

This was discussed at the last UN meeting, and it was brought up at the SN meeting as well, even though it had been solved for the current students before the meeting.

But it was mentioned to give a status, and to let the other departments know about the issue. Some people in the board agreed with the bad process, and Ethan Weed will meet with the chairperson from the Board of Studies and the representative from the department of the German and Romance languages.

Head of department informed that he is talking to students and people within the staff about the situation and the future solutions for how to manage with the change.

3.1.b Lead time for putting items on the SN agenda

After the suggestion from LICS to put an item on the agenda for the board of studies meeting, the Board of Studies has noticed that one week in advance is not enough. So in the future these suggestions have to be sent two weeks before at meeting.

3.2.c Protest campaign and elections

There has been a protest campaign at the Nordic department, about the procedure during the election, and the fact that they weren't aware of the risk of "kamp-valg" where a different list, other than the one being made by the UN, has a change of winning the election. This has shown that the elections should be taken seriously and that it is an actual election.

3.2 News from the Institute Forum

The hiring of new staff was a theme at the last meeting. Cognitive Science has the highest rate of students per staff member by far.

3.3 News from the student guidance

Josephine Sørensen Brunsgaard went through the main points from the student guidance.

- They are planning opening days for international students
- U-days will be online this year.
- Supplementary subjects (tilvalg) is a big topic at the moment.
- They are doing a quality check of the bachelor pages. Staff can contact Josephine, if they have suggestions for changes.

3.4 News from Fagrådet

Linguistics: No news due to the exam period, but there will be a meeting in February.

Cognitive science: Fagrådet is going to form officially in February. So after that there will be some updates.

It was mentioned that the current students representing cognitive science at the UN meetings will have a problem with attending the meetings in the spring due to classes. They will try to find new representatives in the Fagråd.

3.5 News from staff

The UN was reminded about the round for PHD applications. There will be information meetings for students. The deadline is on March 15th. For more information: <https://phd.arts.au.dk/applicants/open-and-specific-calls/>

It was asked whether or not teachers are obliged to use certain programmes in connection to the digital teaching this semester. Some programs are mentioned in the evaluation form. And if so, can they be given an introduction to these. Ethan Weed will look into this, and maybe ask CED (CUDIM). Head of department will also send information around regarding this semester's digital teaching.

3.6 News from the study administration

Camilla Mark Thygesen presented the main points from the Newsletter from Arts Studier, 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/>

It was asked if it is possible for teachers to see other courses in the new timetable system. Other members of the UN explained that this is possible, and how this can be done.

4. **Orientation about educations up for Degree Programme Evaluation (orientation)**

After the agenda was sent out, it has been decided by the Deans office that the evaluation of Cognitive Semiotics will be postponed to next year. This is mainly because they do not have any data yet the revised program has just been implemented.

5. **Establishment of the new UN (decision)**

Camilla Mark Thygesen presented the legal foundation, the responsibilities and the key tasks for the UN following the Power point presentation, that had been sent around as an appendix.

Along with the minutes from this meeting, Camilla Mark Thygesen will send around a yearly calendar (årshjul) for the UN, showing when all already known items will be put on the UN agenda. The calendar also contains items from the Board of Studies agenda, and shows the connection between these two.

Members of the new UN are; Ethan Weed, Cordula Vesper and Alexandra Kratschmer. The UN chose Ethan Weed as chairman for the next year. Besides that, it was mentioned the Johan Keller will present LICS in the Board of Studies as a student observer.

6. 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)

Head of department informed about these positions.

(2) UPDATE – LINGUISTICS EXAM LANGUAGE

The agreements for the language policies were discussed. The Master's degree programme in Linguistics have been allowed to have a transitional period before the new rules will apply for the students. This means that students enrolled now, can take their exams in Danish if agreed with the teacher, while students enrolled by 01.09.2021 will only be able to take their exams in English. The department has accepted this transitional period, but right now Head of department is also talking to both staff and students about how to deal with the change in the long run. The Head of Department is in contact with the institute about dispensations for certain courses also for students enrolled after 01.09.2021. This is not yet settled. Camilla Mark Thygesen informed that SNUK is working on how to formulate this in the regulations, where there will be a change taking effect on the 01.02.2021.

(3) 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 at the start of any empirical project Processing personal data in projects etc. <https://studerende.au.dk/en/it-support/information-security/data-protection-gdpr/projects/>
- IKK is working on a more explicit policy for data collection and storage. More to come.
- The model is that everybody, students included, is responsible for their own data protection. Staff however has an obligation to ensure that students are properly equipped for this.
- Arts has developed an e-learning module in Brightspace on GDPR. This module will be piloted in our Philosophy of Cognitive Science course (Cognitive Science BA), and in our Social Media and Communication course (social minds elective). The department should have it implemented in every program after the pilot.

(4) INFORMATION – STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

- The department now has a student in the Instituteforum – her name is Pernille Brems

- A student council for linguistics, and a student council for cognition (including cognitive science and cognitive semiotics), are both almost constituted
- From February (updated due to covid lockdown): planning a pre-meeting series with Student representatives, Heads of Student councils, Student counsellors, Instituteforum member, the department adviser, and head of department each month, held one week prior to UN meetings. This is to secure the students have a place where they can speak up, since that not many students have shown interest in attending the actual UN meetings.

Side 5/5

(5) DISCUSSION – CORONAVIRUS UNCERTAINTIES

Head of department informed about the current situation with online teaching in the spring. He will send around more information, at soon as he gets it.

7. **Issues for upcoming meetings**

11.1 Issues for upcoming UN meetings

Everyone was encouraged to let the UN members know, if there are anything specific to be discussed at upcoming meetings.

11.2 Issues for upcoming meetings suggested for the Board of Studies

8. **”Rondvraag” (short questions/comments before the closure of meeting).**

Kasten Olsen added that if corona circumstances permit then there will be another ‘Master Thesis Reception’ this semester for thesis students and supervisors at the Vandrehallen on the 4th of June, 15.00-16.00. An official invite will come out later.