

Meeting: 22th September 2021 at 14.00-15.00
UN-meeting, LICS

Minutes

Present:

UN members:

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

UN LICS

Observers:

Johan Keller Jensen (student representative), Emma Riisgaard Olsen (student representative), Mina Almasi (student representative) Helle Skjøth Sørensen (student representative), Kristian Tylén, Peter Bakker, William McGregor, Mikkel Wallentin, Karsten Olsen, Rebekah Baglini, Anna Zamm, Andreas Højlund, Lau Møller Andersen, Ross Deans Kristensen-McLachlan, Joshua Skewes (head of department), Sabrina Bækkelund Larsen (Department consultant, minute taker), Sebastian Scott (Guest), Yakang Xu (guest)

Dato: 22.09 2021

Side 1/5

Minutes:

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

The agenda was approved and there was no follow-up on the minutes from the last meeting.

2. Briefings (orientation)

2.1 News from the Board of Studies

Ethan Weed gave the following briefings:

Nothing to report, talk about study start evaluations next time.

2.2 News from the Institute Forum

Kristian Tylén gave the following briefings:

Not much to say, overlap with what Per Stounbjerg told at the last meeting about the economy.

2.3 News from the student guidance

Ethan Weed read out the mail from the student guidance as they could not attend the meeting:

Since last UN meeting the 25th of August:

- *The introduction week was happening and both Kristina and I visited the new students for a short time to introduce the student counseling.*
- *The following week we held the 'How to be a university student' talk for the new bachelor students which got a lot of good response and questions from the students which were answered*

- *We have also held the Masters-introduction which include a lot of information about the choices the students have to make doing the next two years.*
- *As a last event we have the Study group workshop for the 1. semester bachelor students and there was a good show up and engagement from the students*
- *Now we are planing the 'Studiepraktik' as a lot of you may know. The deadline for sending in programs is this Sunday and then the program will be finalized. => in the cognitive science situation there have been some problems with rooms but it should be resolved now. The 'Studiepraktik' will be Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in week 43 for Linguistics and Thursday and Friday for Cognitive Science*

And then I would like to mention that we have had quite a few students come by concerning getting SPS which is great since they come this early in the semester. Also, specifically for cognitive science BA 1. sem it sounds like there is some concerns about the method 1 course. However, as far as I can gather it is more start up gitters and should work itself out as the students understands the course better, but it might be good to be aware of.

2.4 News from student council (fagråd) and student forum

From Linguistics student council:

Johan mentioned the election as his main priority at the moment. He will be in charge of the list for the student to the UN at LICs.

He already plans a meeting with first year students to see if he can get them to sign up for the student council at Linguistics.

From Cognitive science student council:

Helle mentioned the re-establishment of the basal gang. The council held their first original meeting and are still doing a lot of branding to get people involved.

They also started Cog company relations, where they invite companies in to talk about how cognitive science students can be relevant. First visit is in the calendar.

They also agreed on doing a study of the satisfaction of IV-courses and supplementary subject (tilvalg) among the cognitive science students to see how many are dissatisfied. Currently, it seems like most are dissatisfied, but they want data to make sure that it is not only a few students with this attitude. They hope for exemptions if there are many students with the same opinions. However, Josh pointed out that it might be difficult.

Finally, they already recruited 10-20 students as a new group to help coordinate all the good social traditions at cognitive science.

From Tutors: Students still worry about methods/programming at their first semester, and the tutors are afraid that students drop out because of it. Especially, the girls are scared that they cannot manage methods. An idea would be to better describe it at the webpage or talk to the students to calm them down. They need the good stories!

Head of department said that the Study café will be helpful, and it is getting set up now. We are hiring study café coordinators. It was suggested that there should also be something for the Masters students about methods. It was therefore decided, that both Linguistics and Cognitive Semiotics will also be invited for the study café.

2.5 News from staff

2.6 News from the study administration

The SNUK representative Camilla Mark Thygesen were not present at the meeting, but any questions to the news letter can be send to her. 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/>

3. Evaluation of the study start week

Sebastian Scott, the Head Tutor for Cognitive Science BSc and MSc and Yakang Xu, the Headtutor for Linguistics MA were present

Sebastian: Overall it went amazing. There are not that much tension and character this time which is good, it is generally a more equal group. Very good evaluations. This year's students are already shaken very well together.

Besides from the study start, Sebastian also mentioned that there have already been four-five events the first month. There are *Faglig weekend/Cabin trip* this weekend to carry up the cognitive science culture. The tutors backed Sebastian up and said that students in general were pleased that the program fit many different personalities, and that it was easy to be integrated even without drinking alcohol.

The Masters introduction was also very successful, even though it was fever days than earlier. The Python workshop is essential, so it was good with the three days in the end of the introweek. However, there might be a different perception among international students, it can be difficult for them to be integrated when many student know each other from the BSc.

The tutors already agreed to have an evaluation among themselves.

Yakang Xu: Also a successful introduction for the new masters students at Linguistics. There are half/half from AU vs other/internationals. People are not

sticking to the original groups, so it seems good. Yakang Xu and Mathilde (head tutor cognitive semiotics) helped each other and generated ideas together.

Johan participated as a student; next time it should be two days so it is not so cramped. Teachers would have liked to be invited. It is a small unit; and the internationals seems to be mingled already. Social event with cognitive semiotics were very good on Tuesday evening.

Ethan told about the new setup with master introduction for all three programs, which is two days social intro and three-day programming intro. It is essential for the new students at Cognitive Semiotics MA and Linguistics MA to make sure that they know enough programming in order not to spend too much time on basics in the normal teaching. Overall, it was successful, even though students were overwhelmed, but they were open to the idea that it will be used later on in class. The students were very happy with Kristoffer Nielbo as a teacher, who was very patient and pedagogical. Next time he will demonstrate tools used for semiotics, so it can be more connected to what the students study.

4. End-of-term teaching evaluations from spring 2021 (discussion)

Based on the discussion in the UN, the Head of Department is to write a summary report (approx. one page) on the course evaluations for the spring 2021 in the same reporting format, which was tested for the evaluations for the spring and autumn 2020.

Head of department informed about his proposal for a summary of the evaluations. The focus has been on things they can learn from year to year. It was informed that the evaluations will also be used for MUS, and in the ongoing talks at the department. It was suggested to make it more clear which of the paragraphs belong to Bachelors or Masters courses.

Overall the summary was approved.

The Head of Department summary report must be submitted to the School of Communication and Culture (to Tenna Blindbæk and Lars Kiel Bertelsen) via the e-mail studieleder@cc.au.dk no later than 4 October 2021. From here they will be handed over to the Board of Studies.

5. Election for Board of Studies (status)

Johan mentioned the election as his main priority at the moment. He will be in charge of the list for the student to the UN at LICS. He will contact the students at the UN and make them contact student councils etc. so that we can have all three programs represented. Sabrina will remind him in week 41.

6. Changes in academic regulations as of 01.09.2021 (orientation)

The UN was presented with changes to the academic regulations which have taken effect on the 01.09.2021.

The department has had one change to their academic regulations, which has been approved by the board of studies and the Dean's Office.

Bachelor's degree in Linguistics 2018 – Bachelor's project – correction in description of the form of instruction

Besides this, there have been some general changes in academic regulations taking effect as of 01.09, which is presented in the [newsletter](#) published by Arts Studies Administration. Any questions about this can be sent to Camilla Mark Thygesen.

It was mentioned that Alexandra is also talking to SNUK about changing the exam form for a course in the supplementary subject Social Minds for 01.09.2022.

7. Issues for upcoming meetings

11.1 Issues for upcoming UN meetings

11.2 Issues for upcoming meetings suggested for the Board of Studies

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