

Meeting: 09th February 2022 at 11.00-13.00

Place: Zoom

UN-meeting, LICS

Minutes

Present:

UN members:

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

UN LICS

Observers:

Mina Almasi (student representative), Johan Valentin Keller (student representative), Be-
atrice Wagner (student representative), Emma Olsen (student representative), Kristian
Týlen, Karsten Olsen, Lau Møller Andersen, Jakob Steensig, Chris Mathys, Joost Robbe,
Peter Bakker, Rebekah Brita Baglini, Anna Zamm, Kristina Duun (student counsellor),
Camilla Mark Thygesen (SNUK, minute taker)

Side 1/4

MINUTES

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

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 informed that there was no relevant news from the Board of Studies.

2.2 News from the Institute Forum

Kristian Týlen informed that there is a meeting next week, but there has not been a meeting since the last UN meeting.

2.2.1 Election of substitute (decision)

Kristian Týlen shortly introduced the purpose of the institute forum, which is an advisory board for the Institute management. Karsten Olsen volunteered to be the substitute.

2.3 News from the student guidance

The representative from the student guidance informed:

- Tilvalgsdag (supplementary subject day) is tomorrow and is being held online.
- The U-days are being planned. It is on the 24th-26th February.
- Study start with a lot of questions about individual study programmes.

2.4 News from fagrådet

Cognitive science:

Students mentioned that there has been a good success with hybrid solutions of teaching, since a lot of students are not able to attend the teaching due to covid 19.

The fagråd is working on inviting alumni from Lego to come to an event. There are also working on creating a flow chart of communication to make it more clear for the students who to contact in different scenario.

Cognitive semiotics:

The semester has started off well, but there has not been offered streaming of teaching for students who cannot attend class due to covid 19. Ethan Weed will inform the teachers that this is a problem for the students, but the teachers are not obligated to do it. It was mentioned that students can help each other with streaming if the teacher allows it.

Linguistics:

They are trying to find new students to attend the fagråd.

2.5 News from staff

There was no news.

2.6 News from the study administration

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

3. Information on academic regulations/changes to academic regulations following a review by the Dean's Office to take effect on 1 September the current year (orientation)

The vice-dean for education has reviewed the proposals received for new academic regulations and changes to academic regulations.

On this basis, the UN was informed about academic regulations and changes to academic regulations that will take effect on 1 September the current year.

3.1 *New academic regulations 2022:*

The approved academic regulations are published on the study portal on the 1st March and take effect on 1 September.

The approved academic regulations are:

Master's Degree Programme in Cognitive Science

3.2 *Changes to current academic regulations 2022*

The approved changes to the academic regulations take effect on 1 September. Autumn courses are published in the course catalogue on 1 April.

The approved changes are:

Bachelor's Supplementary Subject in Social Minds – change of exam form for the course Social Media and Communication

In addition to these changes, the teachers at linguistics have asked for a change to be made for the course Applied Linguistics, regarding the lack of opportunity for individual exams. Camilla Mark Thygesen informed that she is in contact with Head of Department about this, and will look into what can be done. There is a process for changes to academic regulations in the autumn.

4. **Discussion of the end-of-term teaching evaluations from autumn 2021**

The Board of Studies has decided to continue with the simplified reporting format. On the basis of a discussion in the UN, the Head of Department must therefore write a summary report (scope: approx. 1 page) of the course evaluation for autumn 2021, in the same reporting format, which was tested with the evaluations for S20, A20, S21.

Cognitive science:

The UN had no comments, and are pleased with the summary.
Students feel that all their concerns are included in the summary.

Cognitive semiotics:

The UN had no comments, and are pleased with the summary.

Linguistics:

Peter Bakker mentioned that there is some unfair representation of the first year courses at the BA, where Applied Linguistics is mentioned as problematic. PB mentioned that it has been phrased as a larger problem than it is, and that a solution to move the course Applied Linguistics to a later semester does not seem like the right solution relatively minor shortcomings in a course with three different teachers in the four years of existence. He was backed up by both students and teachers from linguistics. Students mentioned that first-semester students can be confused by the course, and this is reflected in the evaluation, but once they get further in their degree programme, they learn to see the value of the course. Maybe this should be explained more to the students in the beginning of the course and the students should get more support in understanding that they do not have to understand everything at this point in the programme. Thus, the evaluation right after the course is not a right representation of the course. It was proposed that the description of the course as problematic be removed from the evaluation summary, or that the explanation above

should be added. These comments have also been sent to Head of Department before the meeting, who has agreed to change the paragraph.

Side 4/4

Project placement:

There was a question about point number three in the summary, and what it meant. It was explained that it primarily comes from international students regarding lack of educational focus and a concern about labor exploitation. It was requested that this be made clearer in the summary. The project coordinator is working on making attending research projects more available, which can be a good alternative for international students, who find it difficult to find good places.

The project placement will be evaluated separately at the next UN meeting.

The Head of Department summary report must be submitted to the School of Communication and Culture (Katharina Juhl Haslund and Lars Kiel Bertelsen via studeleider@cc.au.dk) no later than March 7 2022, from where they will be forwarded to the Board of Studies.

Besides the summery report made by Head of Department, the UN were asked to discuss future models for the UN discussion of end-of-term evaluation. A suggested model is that the official members of the UN, will receive the evaluation notes and Brightspace data reports (without comments), in order to be able to approve or suggest changes to the summary report made by Head of Department. Since Head of Department was not present at the meeting, this discussion is postponed to the next UN meeting.

5. News from Head of Department (Orientation/discussion)

Head of Department was not present at the meeting.

6. Issues for upcoming meetings

11.1 Issues for upcoming UN meetings

- There is a wish to discuss whether the department should bring back the practices at linguistics and cognitive semiotics MA where students are involved in the coming up with topics for the research workshop.

- A question about how to deal with students doing their BA project in collaboration with researchers. There should be equal standards for all students.

11.2 Issues for upcoming meetings suggested for the Board of Studies