

Meeting: 24th May 2023 at 11.00-13.00

Place: 1481-366

UN-meeting, LICS

Minutes

Present:

UN members: Ethan Weed (Chair of the meeting), Alexandra Kratschmer, Nina Vad Thomsen (stud. rep.).

UN LICS

Student alternates:

Suzan Kurt, Geertje Graehn, Mia Jacobsen.

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Observers:

Jakob Steensig, Chris Mathys, Riccardo Fusaroli, Marc Malmdorf Andersen, Andreas Højlund, Kristian Tylén, William McGregor, Charlotte Bilde (student guidance), Cecilie M. Jensen (stud.), Victoria Erykr (stud.), Sabrina Zaki Hansen (stud.), Joshua Skewes (Head of Department), Niels Nørkjær Johannsen (Akademisk Råd, guest at item 3), Louise Wenne-moes Hansen (SNUK minute taker).

Absent:

UN members: Cordula Vesper, Mina Almasi (stud. rep., Deputy chairperson), Emma Risgaard Olsen (stud. rep.), Laura Bock Paulsen (stud. rep.), Ronela Beatrice Wagner Fredensborg, Emilie Munch Andreasen, Emma Risgaard Olsen, Helle Skjøth Sørensen.

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. **Approval of programme(s) for the introductory week (decision)**

The head tutors attended the meeting and presented the programmes for the introductory week. The UN was given the programmes for BA Linguistics, BA Cognitive Science, MA Linguistics and MA Cognitive Science, where only the BA programmes should be approved by the UN.

The UN commented that the BA Linguistics programme for the introductory week could have a focus on student politics and student guidance, which the head tutor would look into.

It was pointed out that both the BA Linguistics and BA Cognitive Science programmes for the introductory week was very professional and welcoming towards the new students.

Regarding both MA programmes for the introductory week, it was pointed out that teachers should be asked if they can participate in the suggested time slot, which the head tutors would do. Furthermore, the Head of Department Joshua Skewes would like to be included in the MA programmes with a time slot, where he could talk about job situations. In addition, it was suggested that teachers and student Councillors coordinated their introductions to limit overlap in information.

Decision:

The UN approved the programmes for the introductory week.

Next step:

The head tutors must send the approved programme to the study start coordinators in VEST Jannie Laigaard or Trine Schouborg no later than 1 June 2023.

3. Visit from Akademisk Råd (Academic Council) (orientation)

Niels Nørkjær Johannsen from Akademisk Råd attended the meeting and presented the UN to their work:

Akademisk Råd is formed based on [§ 15 in the University Law \(Universitetsloven in Danish\)](#) and information about their work, responses to different hearings (høringer in Danish) and members of Council can be found at their website: <https://medarbejdere.au.dk/fakulteter/arts/udvalg-raad-og-naevn/akademisk-raad>.

Members in Akademisk Råd are representatives of the administrative staff and students of? Arts in general and not representatives of their academic background/degree programmes. However, members are present from the three different Schools at the Faculty of Arts to ensure interdisciplinary perspectives.

The different tasks of Akademisk Råd were mentioned under [§ 3 in their rules of procedure \(forretningsorden in Danish\)](#), for instance appointing members of the university's interdisciplinary advisory forums and awarding Ph.d. and doctor degree.

After the presentation, Niels Nørkjær Johannsen answered questions from the UN and pointed out their coming initiatives and focus areas. It was mentioned that if the UN or department had any items that should be taken up in the Akademisk Råd, they can contact [Niels Nørkjær Johannsen](#) directly or contact one of the representatives in the Council who is from their School/Institute.

4. Briefings (orientation)

4.1 News from the Board of Studies

Ethan Weed informed that the following were discussed at the last meeting:

The Board of Studies made changes to their end-of-term questions and furthermore made comments to the guidelines for the planning of teaching. Ethan Weed would send the UN an e-mail with further information about these items.

4.2 News from the Institute Forum

Kristian Tylén informed:

At the latest meeting, the Institute Forum approved the research programmes.

4.3 News from the student guidance

The representative from the student guidance informed:

Next week the student guidance would go down to two hours of counselling. Furthermore, there will be a new student counsellor for Experience Economy (Oplevelsesøkonomi in Danish).

4.4 News from Student forum (fagrådet)

The representative from the Student forum informed:

They have looked into combining Linguistics and Cognitive Science and into ensuring a good contact between the two. The Student forum focuses on activities that would also be interesting for new students to participate in.

4.5 News from the Union representative

No news.

4.6 News from staff

VIP wanted to ask if there would be any follow ups on the changes with getting information about the use of chatGPT. Joshua Skewes promised a follow up on this.

4.7 News from the study administration

The UN was informed of the May newsletter from Arts Studier available at:

<https://medarbejdere.au.dk/fakulteter/ar/til-undervisere-paa-arts/nyhedsbrev-fra-arts-studier/>

5. **Annual report from the chair of external co-examiners (discussion)**

The UN was to discuss the annual report from the chair of external co-examiners for Linguistics and Cognitive Science, which was given as appendices for the item.

It was pointed out that if anyone had comments to the annual report, they should be sent to the UN by e-mail.

6. **Status on degree programme evaluation of Linguistics**

Joshua Skewes gave the UN a status update on the degree programme evaluation of BA and MA Linguistics: The Head of Studies (studieleder in Danish) of the Institute has not returned with answers to their questions about experts and about the English language. Joshua Skewes has forwarded the degree programme evaluation report to students, after the staff had seen it. Students will discuss the report with him after the exam period.

7. **News from Head of Department (Orientation/discussion)**

Joshua Skewes informed the UN about the latest news:

At the School, they are discussing the different number of participants in the different UNs. Joshua Skewes pointed out that the current number of members for the UN are 3 VIP and 3 students. The UN began a discussion of how many VIP members should compose the UN. Since the June UN meeting has been cancelled, UN chair Ethan Weed proposed that the topic be discussed in writing over the coming weeks.

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Furthermore, Joshua Skewes pointed out that in relation to the new research programmes, a new contract for the head of research programme (Forskningsprogram in Danish) was made, and that everyone could apply for the position. The UN wanted to have a discussion in a year or so, when the LICS research programme is settled in the department, where the head of research programme could give a report about the research programme.

8. Issues for upcoming meetings

8.1 Issues for upcoming UN meetings

8.2 Issues for upcoming meetings suggested for the Board of Studies