

Lingvistik, Kognitionsvidenskab og Semiotik (Degree Programme Board (UN) Meeting Linguistics, Cognitive Science and Semiotics)

23-10-2024 11:00 - 13:00

1485-316

Participants and members of the board:

Victoria Engberg Lowe, Nina Vad Thomsen, Ethan Weed.

Guests:

Kaysa Vad, Larissa Weiß, Marius Witt, Sofia Scharf-Matthiesen, Basil Hannibal, Cecilie Kehling, Frederike Fükking, Mathilda Rhys-Kristensen.

Assigned:

Joshua Skewes, Sabrina Hansen, Lykke Kjerrumgaard Schelde.

Observers:

Mikkel Wallentin, Riccardo Fusaroli, Benedicte Hastrup, Rebekah Brita Baglini, Christian Sørensen (student counsellor), Lau Andersen, Anna Zamm, Line Kruse, Marc Andersen, William Bernard McGregor.

Absent:

Jakob Steensig

Item 1: Approval of agenda and follow up on the minutes from last meeting (decision) (11:00-11:05)

The UN are asked to approve the agenda and give any follow ups on the minutes from the last meeting, which has been approved in writing before the meeting. Previous minutes of UN meetings are publicly available at the UN web page:

<https://studerende.au.dk/studier/fagportaler/arts/kontakt/udvalgognaevn/uddannelsesnaevn/kommunikationogkultur/>

Appendix:

1.1. Minutes Degree Programme Board Meeting Linguistics Cognitive Science and Semiotics 18th of September 2024

Minutes:

The agenda was approved without alterations.

There was no follow-up on the approved minutes from the last meeting of the Degree Programme Board.

Item 2: Briefings (orientation) (11.05-11.20)

2.1 News from the Board of Studies

Link to the Board of Studies' website, where the minutes can be found:

<https://studerende.au.dk/studier/fagportaler/arts/kontakt/udvalgognaevn/studienaevn/kommunikation-og-kultur/>

2.2 News from the Institute Forum

2.3 News from the student guidance

2.4 News from Student forum (fagråd)

2.5 News from Head of Department

- The holistic plan of the Faculty: <https://medarbejdere.au.dk/fakulteter/arts/kandidatreform>

- Degree programme evaluation of Cognitive Science (October 11)

2.6 News from the study administration

- The Arts Studier Newsletter is publicly available at the teacher's portal at Arts:

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

Minutes:

There where news for the following:

2.3 News from the student guidance

The annual "Studiepraktik" is being held this week for both Linguistics and Cognitive Science. The attendance rate is good; 22 participants at Linguistics and 40 at Cognitive Science.

2.4 News from Student Forum

The last meeting had focus on method courses on Cognitive Science and the students options when choosing their Bachelor's supplementary subject.

2.5 News from Head of Department

The draft holistic plan of the Faculty:

The Head of Department briefly framed the "Kandidatreform" and the draft for a holistic plan drawn management team at the Faculty. The Head of Department briefly described the preliminary consequences for the departments educations. The teachers have written responses to the draft for the holistic plan. If the draft holistic plan is not altered for the department's degree programmes, then it will primarily be an academic development initiative. The Head of Department also briefly told about the coordination between universities which can influence on the faculty decisions as well as the upcoming announcements from from the Kandidatudvalg.

Degree programme evaluation of Cognitive Science:

The take home message was very positive, the degree programmes are on track and the graduates competences are valued on the labour market. Both the external expert and the chair of the body of external co-examiners were assessed that, from their respective perspectives, the degree programmes are well-functioning and contribute to society. There have been a follow up meeting between the Head of School and the Head of Department focusing on the action plans after the evaluation meeting.

Item 3: Elections at AU (orientation) (11.25-11.30)

At the last meeting in the degree programme board it was decided that Victoria Engberg Lowe and Nina Vad Thomas are responsible for recruiting new members among their fellow students and setting up the election list. The deadline for the election list was October 11th.

9 students are on the election list, including Victoria Engberg Lowe and Nina Vad Thomsen who are running for re-election.

The members of the board would like at status on the recruitment of new members.

The election will take place from November 11th to November 14th.

Minutes:

Victoria Engberg Lowe and Nina Vad had invited the kandidats to the meeting and they were happy to participate.

Item 4: Evaluation of introductory week (discussion) (11.30-11.45)

Guests: Chief tutors will give a status.

The degree programme board evaluates the introductory week with a view to ensuring that next year's initiatives are proactive and optimising.

Appendices (in danish only):

4.1. Evaluation of introductory week_BSc Cognitive Sciences

4.2 Evaluation of introductory week_BA Linguistics

Minutes:

The Head of Department began by thanking the tutors for all the hard work they had done in relation to planning and execution of the programmes in the introductory week and cabintrip.

The two items concerning the evaluation of introductory week and the cabin trip was merged, so item 5 was removed from the agenda.

Evaluation at Cognitive Science:

The over all impression of the introductory week was, that it went very well and the new students was very satisfied with both the programme and the commitment of the tutors. The programme was difficult to balance between the mandatory introductions and the content planed by the tutors, but they succed in creating a good introductory week. The head tutor briefly told about a new initiative that had been created to ensure the tutors' internal exchange of experience. 15 minutes were allocated each morning before the programme started to discuss the status among the tutors. The head tutor recommends incorporating this into future planning. An other element for the future planning is, to insert scheduled "pusterum" in the programme, the students will benefit from this. The cabin trip went well, but there are some difficulties in getting ends to meet in the budget. The Head Tutor raised a point about loans of AU cars. It was very difficult for the cabin trip in particular that there are no AU cars for loan. This is a point of attention for next year's planning.

Linguistics - BA:

The head tutors from Linguistics told that the introductory week also went well. The evaluations from the new students do not contain any proposals for adjustments. The head tutors points out the social arrangement on Thursday, where the movie night takes place - maybe it should be stressed that this is optional. The cabin trip also went well on Linguistics. The head tutors have written minor points in the evaluation of the cabin trip which the coming group of tutors can take in to account when planning the cabin trip i 2025.

Linguistics - MA:

There are not a formalised master introductory week, but the new students was invited to at 2 days introduction. If possible it would be nice to have the opportunity to offer more days, because the programme was a bit cramped and especially the new international students had a long week.

The head tutor recommends incorporating the following into future planning:

- Consider how the knowledge communicated will be relevant for both students with a legal right of admission and new international students.
- The focus on career during the introductory days is relevant, but maybe it would be fruitful to revisit the format.
- The workshop on study group was important and this should be prioritised.
- Maintain format and setup in this year's Phytan workshop. It was relevant and worked really well.

The point for development have been pointed out for the Head of Department who will take care of this.

Finally, the head tutors here received applause for their commitment to getting their new fellow students off to a good start on their new degree programmes.

Item 5: Evaluation of cabin trip (discussion) (11.45-11.50)

The degree programme board evaluates the cabin trips (hytteture) 2024 with a view to ensuring that next year's initiatives are proactive and optimising.

The cabin trips are held for new students in the first semester of the Bachelor's degree programmes.

The next step:

- The board of studies (SN) representatives pass on the UN's discussions orally to the SN.
- Evaluation forms or written/oral feedback are passed on to next year's chief tutors and may be attached to next year's approval of the cabin trip programme in the UN. This is in order to get the best possible cabin trips.

Appendices (in danish only):

5.1. Evaluation of cabin trip_BSc Cognitive Sciences

5.2 Evaluation of cabin trip_BA Linguistics

Minutes:

See item 4.

Item 6: Proposal of changes to academic regulations (decision) (11.50-12.00)

The degree programme board discusses and proposes changes to academic regulations.

Proposal for decision:

The degree programme board submits changes to academic regulations to the board of studies for discussion at November meeting.

Appendix:

6.1 Changes to academic regulations - BSc and MSc in Cognitive Sciences

Minutes and decision:

The Head of Department presented the proposed changes to the academic regulations on Cognitive Science. These changes pertain to a rather minor detail in the study regulations, namely which sections can be written together in a "free topic" / take-home group exam. It is, nonetheless, an issue that has caused some confusion among the students (and teachers), hence the suggested changes. The idea behind the changes is therefore to streamline the study regulations across the BSc and MSc in Cognitive science whereby we hope to reduce confusion and increase clarity in the description.

The members of the Degree Programme Board discussed the proposed changes and it was suggested to add an additional "optionally" in front thesis statement, so the text will be: *the introduction, conclusion and optionally abstract and optionally thesis statement.*

Decision:

The Degree Programme Board agreed up on the changes and submits them to the board of studies.

Item 7: Issues for upcoming meetings (12.00-12.02)

7.1 Issues for upcoming UN meetings

7.2 Issues for upcoming meetings suggested for the Board of Studies

Minutes:

None

Item 8: Internationalisation electives (written orientering)

Head of Department informed about the process for the internationalisation electives (IV-courses) for the next academic year. It has been decided to proceed with the three IV-courses that has been running for the last couple of years. Two courses in the fall and one in the spring.

Punkt 9: AOB (12.02-12.05)

Students with extra time for exams want to address the inappropriate in the few days between planned exams. There is an awareness of this in the academic environment, but unfortunately nothing can be done about it. Students are encouraged to contact the student counselling for advice and guidance.