

Meeting Subject

UN Meeting – Global Studies

Moderator: Uwe Skoda

Ref.: Camilla Mark Thygesen

Date: Wednesday 18th September 2019

Duration: 14.00-16.00

Present: Uwe Skoda, Anemone Platz, Asta Jensen Raae, Jason Tran

Observers: Mette Thunø, Birgitte Pristed, Vladimir Pacheco. Christoffer Kølvraa, Gauri Pathak, Georg Fischer, Gustav Brorholt Eskildsen

Guest: Christina Fiig, Jan Ifversen

From Arts Studier: Camilla Thygesen (ref.), Studievejledere IHO

Absent:

Studieleder Liselotte Malmgart

Afdelingskonsulent: Anna Sønnichsen

Peter Bugge, Victor Christensen, Cecilie Fogh Kavin, Jackie Van Tran

Agenda item:	Discussion and conclusion:	Follow-up
1. Approval of agenda	<p>The UN approved the agenda with the following suggestions for AOB.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active participation requirements in the old study regulations. - Students to present their BA-project to students who are about to write their BA-project. 	
2. Briefings	<p>2.1 News from the Board of Studies</p> <p>Head of Department informed the UN about the most important items from the Board of Studies meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The IV courses for China Studies were approved. - The teaching evaluation report from the department was approved. - Students have asked for the teaching plans for the semester to be put up on Blackboard earlier. They are supposed to be put up a week before class starts. The department will check in the future, to make sure that this is done. - The rules of internal co-examination were explained again. All courses with internal examination for written assignments should only use the co-examiner if it is a new teacher, or if the student are about to fail. The time previously spent on co-examination should be spent on feedback to the students instead. Camilla Mark Thygesen (CMT) will check to see if there are any formal documents describing this decision that can be circulated to the students. - There is a debate going on about changing the rules for online exams and further announcements are awaited. - There is also a discussion about changing the way the re-examinations are done at the faculty so that students only can take the re-exam in the same semester as the class is taught. So if a students takes the exam in June, and the re-exam in August they can only take the re-exam again next year in August. It was mentioned that is would be better if they could take their 3rd attempt in the ordinary exam period the year after. This comment will be passed on to UVAEKA. <p>2.2 News from the Head of Department</p> <p>Head of department gave an orientation on some of the events coming up at the department.</p>	CMT

	<p>The UN was informed that the UN-meeting booked in December, will only be held if something urgent comes up. Otherwise it will not be held, so there will be 4 meetings in the semester.</p> <p>It has been approved that Russian Studies can have a new study regulation after the closing of Balkan Studies.</p> <p>2.3 News from the student guidance</p> <p>The student guidance informed that they have met a lot with the new students because of the study start and the study group workshop.</p> <p>2.4 News from the study administration</p> <p>CMT informed about the newest news letter from Arts studier.</p> <p>CMT gave an orientation of the upcoming election for the Board of Studies which also includes the UN.</p>	
<p>3. New guidelines for mid-term and end-term evaluations (orientation)</p>	<p>Head of Department explained that the board of studies has come up with some new guidelines for teaching evaluation and a new template for the report. It has actually been made with inspiration from the model they use at the department for Global Studies, so does not change the way the evaluations are being done.</p> <p>In guideline no. 10 the UN are asked to decide if the comments from the evaluations should be send to Head of Department together with the statistics.</p> <p>The UN decided that they do not require the comments. But if some comments are important to be discussed in the UN, the teacher can write a note about it in the resume of the evaluation.</p>	<p>All teachers</p>
<p>4. Process for suggesting changes in existing study regulations (orientation)</p>	<p>CMT informed about the process for suggesting changes for existing study regulations that has gone through a full run through.</p> <p>If any of the programmes wishes to suggest any changes they can ask for a template from CMT</p>	<p>CMT</p>

	<p>Next year the regulation for Global Area Studies has been through a full run through, and members of the UN expresses a wish to start this process earlier, so they have the time to discuss the suggested changes.</p>	CMT
<p>5. Second attempt for handing in the Master Thesis (Discussion)</p>	<p>Head of Department explained that the percentage of students handing in their thesis in their 3rd attempt has increased in general at the School. Director of Studies has asked the UNs to discuss what can be done about this issue. One of the suggestions from the Director of Studies is to emphasize the fact that the students have to change parts of their thesis statement, if they do not hand it in on time.</p> <p>It was mentioned that this issue has been discussed before and the teachers are handling it very different, because there has not been made any clear decisions about what it means.</p> <p>It was mentioned that the way it is formulated in the contract makes it sound like a service provided by the supervisor, so that the thesis statement can be made “easier” in order to secure that the student are able to hand it in at the new deadline. So there is a confusion about what it actually means to change the thesis statement. Should it be made harder as a punishment for delaying it, or should it be made easier.</p> <p>Several of the UN members agrees that a better solution would be to emphasize that the students will not get the same amount of supervision as in their first attempt. Some students think that they can save their supervision and use it in the second attempt, if they did not use the full number of supervision hours in their first attempt. This is not the case. The students have 5 hours of supervision at their second attempt, no matter how much they spent at their first.</p>	
<p>6. The process for planning of exam dates</p>	<p>The UN discussed the fact that it is difficult for them to plan the exam dates 10 month in advance. Because of the wish from the teachers to be able to go to e.g. conferences in the exam periods and for the students to go abroad to start their semester early, the UN do not think it is possible to plan the exam dates more than 6 month in advance.</p> <p>CMT informed the UN that this is not the way the process for planning exams will be in the future, and that the requirements for early planning will only get bigger.</p> <p>Several members of the UN mentioned different concrete examples of why it is difficult for them to plan ahead. One of the problems is that the teachers at the department are so specialized in the research areas, so it is very difficult for them to fill in for each other.</p>	

	<p>It was also mentioned that there is a problem with the planning of a portfolio exam on European Studies, where the date for handing in the exam portfolio is too close to the end of the teaching, so the students do not have time to incorporate the feedback from the teacher.</p> <p>One of the students mentioned that it is an advantage for the students if they know the dates of the exams earlier.</p> <p>It was decided to suggest to the Board of Studies to take up this discussion, to find out if other departments have the same issues.</p>	US
<p>7. New supplementary subjects (tilvalg) 2020 (orientation and discussion)</p>	<p>Christina Fiig (CF) came to the UN-meeting to present the new supplementary subject in “Kønsstudier”. She explained what the focus of the supplementary will be and the structure of the two semesters. They are working on the specific course descriptions and CF is engaged in evolving the course “Global gender”. This course will be co-taught by some different colleagues at the department of Global Studies. The supplementary is a collaboration between the department of Philosophy, Nordic language and literature and Global Studies. The UN had no comments about the supplementary but some material for the teaching were suggested.</p> <p>Jan Ifversen (JI) were also present at the meeting and presented the programme “Konflikt og fortælling” which he takes part in developing. He explained the content of the supplementary and the structure of the two semesters. The supplementary are a collaboration between the department of Roman Languages, Nordic language and literature and Global Studies. JI takes part in developing a course about how to stop conflicts. The UN had no comments about the supplementary.</p> <p>Ji also presented the supplementary subject in Global Challenges, which is a supplementary being developed as a collaboration between several colleagues at the department. No other department are included.</p> <p>Ji explained that the supplementary are inspired by the list of challenges presented by the United Nations, which have led to the 17 sustainable development goals. The supplementary will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Why do they emerge - How do they affect us - What can be done about the challenges 	

	<p>The supplementary wants to show how humanity students can contribute professionally to these challenges.</p> <p>Comments from the UN: The rhetorics in the description of the programme were commented upon. As it is described now there are a lot of focus on the big dramatic challenges. The word “dramatic” focuses more on the way media sees the challenges, but it should be on a more academic level.</p> <p>The students expressed that it sounds like a very interesting supplementary and it sounds like it will provide a broad range of perspectives that can be used in the BA.</p> <p>The UN will be presented to the course descriptions in October.</p>	
<p>8. Updates</p>	<p>8.1 Updates from the degree programs</p> <p>Across the Department: There will be held two events for internship students during the winter.</p> <p>European studies: They have found a student who wants to be the representative from European studies. She will participate as an observer, until she can be officially elected for the UN. There will be a lecture on the 1st November. Information about this lecture, will be put on the facebook page.</p> <p>China Studies participates in a project regarding making Week 40 a foreign language week. Russian studies are also working on this. They will talk together to coordinate, and maybe ask the other regional programmes to participate as well.</p> <p>8.2 Updates from the students</p> <p>Some students asked teachers from the BA programmes to send them names of students who might be interested in presenting their BA-project for new students.</p> <p>The fagudvalg have had a meeting and discussed the fact that they are in trouble since the students participating are taking their MA elsewhere. They plan to visit the classrooms and encourage students to participate. Otherwise it stops when the people in it are going away next semester.</p>	

	<p>It was also mentioned that some of the current members of the UN are not able to continue next year, since they are going to other departments to take their Master´s. All members should encourage students to volunteer for the election.</p>	
<p>9. AOB</p>	<p>Active participation:</p> <p>There is some confusion in the old BA study regulation, where both 75% and 80% are mentioned as the requirements for active participation. It was clarified that the correct percentage is 75% (as in the new study regulations). This will be corrected in the regulations.</p>	
<p>10. Issues for the next meeting</p>		