

Meeting Subject

UN Meeting – Global Studies

Moderator: Uwe Skoda

Ref.: Camilla Mark Thygesen

Date: Monday 21st October 2019

Duration: 13.00-15.00

Present: Peter Bugge, Uwe Skoda, Victor Christensen, Jason Tran.

Observers: Raymond Yamamoto, Georg Fischer, Andreas Steen, Vladimir Pacheco. Christoffer Kølvraa, Rikke Sønderby Nielsen

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

Absent:

Karen Inge Kristensen, Christian F. Sand, Cecilie Fogh Kavin, Asta Jensen Raae, Jackie Van Tran, Liselotte Malmgart, Birgitte Pristed, Gauri Pathak, Frederik Korsbjerg, Gustav Brorholt Eskildsen, Anna Sønnichsen

Agenda item:	Discussion and conclusion:	Follow-up
1. Approval of agenda	The UN approved the agenda.	
2. Briefings	<p>2.1 News from the Board of Studies It was informed that the board of studies had discussed the problems there had been about changing to a new library system. The board of studies also discussed the new five year strategy for the University. The UN are not directly asked to comment, but if anyone has any comments, these can be send to the head of department.</p> <p>The board of studies have arranged a day with the theme "thesis – value and meaning", and have asked for 2 students from each UN to participate.</p> <p>2.2 News from the Head of Department Head of department informed about the election process for both the institutforum and the board of studies, and asked everyone to inform teachers and students.</p> <p>Head of department gave a follow up on the request from the fagudvalg about getting an au.dk email address. These are only for AU employed staff. It was suggested to use a gmail, but that can give some data security issues. Head of department will take it up at the IKS institute leadership meeting.</p> <p>The UN was reminded about the deadline for the activity fond (aktivitetspulje) on the 15th November. The applications will be discussed in the UN after the deadline.</p> <p>2.3 News from the student guidance The student guidance informed that a lot of different things is happening at the moment. They have held a study group workshop, and the studiepraktik is taking place this week. They are also arranging for the semester meetings for the different classes regarding themes relevant for their year.</p> <p>2.4 News from the study administration Camilla Mark Thygesen (CMT) informed the UN about the newest newsletter from Arts Studier. A student asked about if there were a deadline for applying for the SPS means. CMT will look in to this.</p>	CMT

<p>3. Evaluation of the study start (discussion) (14.25-14.40)</p>	<p>The UN discussed the evaluation of the study start week. Head tutor Thøger Laurrup Knøss (TLK) was present at the meeting and gave a short introduction of the evaluation. He explained that the evaluation was done on Thursday to try and raise the number of responses and therefore not all parts of the week were included in the evaluation. Overall the evaluations were positive.</p> <p>The UN mentioned and asked about some of the more negative comments in the evaluation. They didn't manage to arrange the breakfast for all the programmes at the tutors place, which was originally the idea. TLK explained that they tried, but do to logistic challenges some of the breakfasts were held at the university. Some comments in the evaluation also mentioned the lack of academic content during the week. One of the reasons for this was that the teaser lectures had not taken place yet at the time of the evaluation. But it is a focus point in the planning of next year's evaluation. The UN should discuss the amount of academic content and the level of it during the study start week. Some suggestions were to arrange the teaser lectures earlier in the week and to arrange the annual lecture at the department closer to the study start week.</p>	<p>CMT</p>
<p>4. IV-courses (orientation/discussion)</p>	<p>The UN had no comments to the current IV-courses. It was informed that the issue will be taken up at the departmental meeting this week as well.</p> <p>CMT informed that the IV-courses developed for Russian Studies and India and South Asian studies will have to be approved by the UN and the board of studies. The students will have to choose IV-courses by the 5th November.</p>	
<p>5. Anonymous exams at International studies (discussion) (14.45-14.50)</p>	<p>It was mentioned that it is important to think about the exam form, since it does not make sense for all exam types. And if you give feedback during the course it does not make sense.</p> <p>The UN supports to change the exam to anonymous exams for the two courses taught by this BSS at international studies.</p> <p>For now it is not something that the UN wants to change in general at the department.</p>	
<p>6. Issues about internet access abroad (discussion) (14.50-15.00)</p>	<p>The UN was informed that there has been some issues about course participation requiring internet access when the students are abroad. Christoffer Kølvråa who is teaching the online course in thesis preparation, has come up with a solution for this. He will make a download package, so that the students can download all the assignments before they go abroad. This will mean that the teacher loses the control over the chronology of the assignments, i.e. whether or not the students make the assignments during the course. Even though this is a big part of how the course is</p>	

	<p>build, this solution is the only way to make sure that the students actually have the opportunity to do the assignments at all.</p> <p>The UN agrees that this is the best solution.</p>	
<p>7. How is feedback used in the different courses? (discussion) (15.00-15.15)</p>	<p>Students in the first year wishes to have a semester wise feedback meeting, so they know how they are doing in the language courses. They would like to have more feedback on what to work on and focus on in their studies.</p> <p>The UN discussed how feedback is used at the department at the moment. One year ago the UN made a paper describing how much feedback should be given in each course pr. student. Overall IKS gives one hour pr. student pr. semester, which have been divided amongst the courses in the semester.</p> <p>It was suggested to evaluate this paper, according to the experiences they have now. Maybe it is necessary to divide the feedback time amongst the courses in a different way. This will be put on a UN agenda in the spring semester.</p> <p>It was mentioned that the teacher´s doors are always open, but students might not be comfortable going to the teacher to ask. So it should be mentioned clearly at the beginning of the semester that the students can be given feedback if they want to.</p> <p>It was suggested to make feedback a more incorporated part of the teaching instead of just making it an offer.</p>	<p>CMT/US</p> <p>Teachers</p>
<p>8. Global Area studies – thesis preparation course (decision) (15.15-15.20)</p>	<p>The UN decided that they want to delete the description in the “comments on form of instructions” in the regulation for European studies and International studies, since it was never the point to put it in the regulations. It was meant as a suggestion of how to plan the course. So by deleting it, the description will be more clear to the students.</p> <p>For now the rest of the course description will remain as it is. When they are able to change the description of the course, it will be more aligned with other courses across the three master´s programmes at the department.</p> <p>There are some other problems with the course since students from other departments are also able to take the course. This makes it difficult for the teacher to give feedback to the students at the same level, since they have an entirely different academic background.</p> <p>CMT will find out, why this course has been opened for students outside the department of Global Studies.</p>	

<p>9. Approval of the study regulation for Global Challenges and comments for Kønssudier (decision) (15.20-15.35)</p>	<p>The UN discussed the regulation for the Supplementary subject in addressing Global Challenges.</p> <p>Comments:</p> <p>The idea of the lab was still not clear to all members of the UN. A member of the working group explained that for the 15 ECTS course some of the hours each week will be regular lecture/class lessons. And for the rest of the hours the students will be given concrete assignments that they can do in the “lab”, where the teacher are available to help. It is a way to work practically with the things learned in the lectures, where they are guide through some concrete exercises.</p> <p>It was mentioned that it needs a proof reading before the board of studies sees it, and that when it is translated in to Danish, they have to look it through carefully, since it is the Danish version that is legally binding. CMT will find out, when the Danish version is ready for a proof reading.</p> <p>Migration and mobility: Some members of the UN commented on the academic objective: “Assess, address and develop solutions”. Maybe “develop” is too ambitious. They questioned if the students will actually learn to do this in only 10 ECTS. It is also not mentioned in the purpose description of the course. In the purpose it says that they will be looking at existing solutions, so right know the purpose and academic objective do not match. This was discussed by the UN, and it was explained that the members of the working group who decided to write “develop”, where trying to step out of the critical analytical approach where a critical destruction of someone else´s work is in focus. The UN wanted the working group to come up with something not as ambitious as develop. “Suggest” was suggested. The UN agreed that this should be rephrased, and the purpose should match the academic objectives more.</p> <p>Environement course: This course has two different titles in the study overview and the course description. This should be fixed and the working group should decide about whether to use the word climate or maybe add sustainability, since this is a crucial concept at the moment. Members of the working group explained that climate is not that much in focus in the course, since there are other environmental challenges to address as well.</p> <p>Students asked if they are able to select the first 15 ECTS course as part of their ITTU. It was explained that all the new supplementary subjects are supposed to be open for ITTU.</p> <p>Decision:</p>	
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10. Commencement of studies exam (decision) (15.35-15.45)	<p>Overall the UN agreed that commencement of studies exams are a good idea at the Master´s degree programmes.</p> <p>Decision: The UN decided to choose option 2 for European studies and International studies, and option 3 for GLAS.</p>	
11. Updates	<p>11.1 Updates from the degree programs</p> <p>The internship coordinator informed the UN about a carrier meeting on the 26. November, and another workshop in February about competences that the students learn in their degree programmes</p> <p>11.2 Updates from the students</p> <p>Representatives from the fagudvalg informed that they have had some new members, and that they have come up with a list of issues that they would like be discuss in the UN. They will arrange this with head of department.</p> <p>It was informed regarding the boeard of studies election, that right now they have one candidate for the Board of Studies and three for the UN. So they still need to find some more students before the deadline on Friday.</p>	Fagudvalg, head of department
12. AOB		
13. Issues for the next meeting		

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