

**Meeting Subject**

**UN Meeting – Global Studies**

**Moderator:** Uwe Skoda

**Ref.:** Camilla Mark Thygesen

**Date:** Wednesday 20th February, 2019

**Duration:** 14.00-16.00

**Attendees:**

Uwe Skoda, Anemone Platz, Peter Bugge, Victor Christensen, Jackie Van Tran, Jason Tran.

Observers: Andreas Steen, Birgitte Pristed, Georg Fischer, Gauri Pathak, Vladimir Pacheco.

Christoffer Kolvaa, Thøger Lautrup Knøos

Afdelingskonsulent: Anna Sønnichsen

From Arts Studier: Camilla Thygesen (ref.), Studievejledere IHO: Nanna Ø Nøhr, Niels Duus Nielsen.

**Apologies:** Christina Fiig, Karen Inge Kristensen, Christian F. Sand, Cecilie Fogh Kavin, Asta Jensen Raae, Frederik Korsbjerg

<b>Agenda item:</b>	<b>Discussion and conclusion:</b>	<b>Follow-up</b>
<p><b>1. Approval of agenda and minutes and changed minutes from last meeting (appendix 1)</b></p>	<p>The UN had some additions to the agenda: Exam coordination Unihelp Information about UG.dk</p> <p>Other than that the agenda and minutes were approved.</p> <p>The UN was informed about a new practice for approval of the minutes. From now on, the minutes will be send around to all UN-members one week after the meeting. The UN then has one week to send their comments and after that the minutes will be approved. This means that the UN will have the approved version of the minutes 2 weeks after the meeting.</p>	
<p><b>2. Briefings</b></p>	<p>2.1 News from the Board of Studies</p> <p>The UN was informed that the suggestion for a supplementary subject from Global Studies “Global challenges” had been approved by the faculty management. It has been confirmed that the supplementary in Central European Studies will run for three years in total, so for the first year of the new supplementaries, Global Studies will have two minors. After that it will be evaluated whether or not they should keep both supplementaries running.</p> <p>From now on all the courses will be visible in Blackboard earlier than they are now. This does not mean, that the teachers are obliged to put information in earlier than they do now. But if they want to they can.</p> <p>It was informed that the Board of studies had discussed the teaching evaluation and had no comments for the evaluations on Global Studies. In general the Board of Studies had commented on ECTS in relation to workload. They will continue the discussion of this later in the semester, to see if the can find a joint way of understanding how much work for example a 10 ECTS course requires.</p> <p>In connection to this the Board of studies had also discussed whether there should be an evaluation of the thesis writing, since this has never been done.</p> <p>The board of studies had discussed the suggestion for the new profile course “Humanistic innovation”. This was not accepted by the Board of studies, in the existing form. They will see it again in march with alterations.</p>	

The UN was also informed of the discussion in the Board of studies about anonymous exams. This is still a new project, and therefore there are no real data on whether or not it makes a difference. But some teachers had mentioned a positive side of it, because it eliminates all questions of whether or not the teachers have a bias in their assessment of the exams.

## 2.2 News from the Head of Department

Head of department informed that the department are working on some material for introduction of new employees, who are not used to the kind of environment and rules at a Danish university. As mentioned on the last meeting there will be a letter for new instructors, which also will be rewritten in a way so it can be used for new teachers as well.

The UN was informed about the process for the new supplementary subject "Global challenges". It has been accepted, and it will be presented to the UN when the descriptions have been made.

The students were encouraged to apply for the position as head tutor for the intro week for new BA students. The UN will get a chance to comment on the program for the intro week, when it has been made.

About the grammar course that was held in January, the UN was informed that it will be repeated again in the summer and perhaps in January as well, depending on the number of students attending.

There is a University Learning Fair for teachers at further education on the 5<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> of March, to which the program will be sent out to the UN.

## 2.3 News from the student guidance

U-days will be held at 28<sup>th</sup> February – 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Both the student guidance and some of the teachers will be present to present the different studies.

The student guidance are trying to expand the knowledge of their work, so that more people at the department know about what they are doing and how they can assist both teachers and students.

## 2.4 News from the study administration

No news

<p><b>3. Questions for teaching evaluation S19 (appendix 2)</b></p>	<p>As a follow up on a discussion from the last UN-meeting, the UN was introduced to the process for choosing questions for the teaching evaluation and the different levels of questions.</p> <p>The UN discussed the purpose of the evaluation, and the fact that the purpose indicates which types of questions they should choose.</p> <p>The UN mentioned two types of questions: the closed controlling questions, and the more open questions focusing on how to improve the course.</p> <p>The conclusion was to keep the first 7 questions from the previous evaluation, and add 5 new questions that focuses on the student's involvement in the course. Question 8 in the earlier list will be deleted.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Information on Blackboard was very useful (AR-DPU-SN 027)</li> <li>2. The course material (including the list of texts and assignments) was made available at the right time (AR-022)</li> <li>3. The course/module content seems relevant for the overall education programme (AR-DPU-SN 025)</li> <li>4. How do you rate the academic level of the teaching? (AR-DPU-SN 031) (Far too high; Too high; Adequate; Too low; Far too low; Not relevant)</li> <li>5. I will recommend this course to other students</li> <li>6. The guest lectures were good and relevant</li> <li>7. I have received useful feedback when relevant</li> <li>8. Comments on your own contribution. Write your comments here: (AR-SUP-ANTRO 011)</li> <li>9. I was an active, regular participant in the teaching. (AR-027)</li> <li>10. How do you rate the extent of student participation/involvement in the teaching exercises? (AR-DPU-SN 032)</li> <li>11. What do you think was good about the course? Write your comments here: (AR-SUP-ANTRO 015)</li> <li>12. What do you think should be improved at the course? Write your suggestions here: (AR-SUP-ANTRO 016)</li> </ol> <p>This is a link to the evaluation policy on IKS  <a href="http://studerende.au.dk/fileadmin/studerende.au.dk/Arts/Studienaevn/IKS_Evalueringspolitik.pdf">http://studerende.au.dk/fileadmin/studerende.au.dk/Arts/Studienaevn/IKS_Evalueringspolitik.pdf</a></p>	
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<p><b>4. International Studies 2019 (appendix 3)</b></p>	<p>The UN was informed that since the Board of studies addressed the new academic regulation for International Studies, there has been made some small changes. The UN will see the final draft of the regulation once it has been addressed again by the Board of studies in march.</p>	
<p><b>5. New contract for internships / project placement</b></p>	<p>Camilla Thygesen informed the UN that they have to use the new contract for project placement.</p> <p>This is the <a href="#">link</a> to the new contract. You can read more about project placement <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>The UN discussed the possibility of asking the Head of studies and the Board of studies, to open up for the possibility of creating a deadline for project placement that is earlier than 31.01.</p> <p>European Studies are positive about an earlier deadline, because that would give the students more time for their thesis.</p> <p>Some of the representatives from the other studies disagreed, because some students benefits from the long internship, since they might do their thesis in collaboration with that specific organization.</p> <p>Other arguments were put forward as well, and the conclusion was, that they did not want to go further with this request.</p>	
<p><b>6. Exam language for english educations</b></p>	<p>In some of the academic regulations it says: <i>“The language of examination is the same as the language of instruction, which is English. By arrangement with their teacher, students may also take exams in Danish, English, Norwegian or Swedish in all the courses on their degree programme, unless one of the objectives of the exam is to demonstrate the student's skills in a foreign language”.</i> A student has asked the administration why it says this, when all the exams are in English. The UN are asked to consider, if you want this sentence removed from any academic regulations at the department by 01.09.2019?</p>	

	<p>The UN decided to remove this paragraph from the academic regulations for International studies and European studies. This will be effective from 01.09.2019.</p>	
<p><b>7. Library fagside for Global Area Studies (short introduction from Georg Fisher)</b></p>	<p>The library has created specific webpages for some of the programs, where students can find relevant links, articles, literature etc.</p> <p>The existing pages needs an update, and the rest of the programs should consider to make a similar page.</p> <p>The library subject guides can be found here: <a href="http://library.au.dk/en/subject-areas/">http://library.au.dk/en/subject-areas/</a></p> <p>The programs can decide what they want to do and contact the librarian for Global Studies. Find the contact information here: <a href="http://library.au.dk/?id=26792#id=3">http://library.au.dk/?id=26792#id=3</a></p>	
<p><b>8. Suggestions to update the webpage</b></p>	<p>The UN agreed that it is a good idea to work on the webpage to optimize the presentation of the department, and make sure that all programs are presented equally well.</p> <p>If the UN has any suggestions on how to improve the page, they are encouraged to send the information to Anna Sønnichsen.</p> <p>You find the webpage here: <a href="http://cas.au.dk/om-instituttet/afdelinger/globale-studier/">http://cas.au.dk/om-instituttet/afdelinger/globale-studier/</a></p>	<p>Contact Anna Sønnichsen if you have suggestions for the webpage for Global Studies</p>
<p><b>9. Updates</b></p>	<p>9.1 Updates from the degree programmes</p> <p>All researchers at Global Studies who work on Latin American issues are now members of the Latin American Center (LACUA), based at IKK, which just got its center status renewed. We are preparing joint events with Latin Americanists at other departments. <a href="http://lacua.au.dk/">http://lacua.au.dk/</a></p> <p>9.2 Updates from the students</p>	
<p><b>10. AOB</b></p>	<p>Exam coordination:</p>	

	<p>Some students has experienced some bad coordination of reexams, where two exams are placed on the same day. Head of the department insures them that they are in contact with the administration to make sure, that this does not happen again.</p> <p>Unihelpr: There had been held an introduction to the app before the UN-meeting. The UN had mixed stances towards the app. The students were in general more positive than the teachers. The conclusion of the discussion was that the programs, who had applied for the app, will be asked again, if they still want it and will be supported to buy it, but for now it won´t be bought for the entire department.</p> <p>Information on UG.dk This web page is a guide with information about all educations in Denmark. The student guidance has discovered that it is not very well described that bachelors from Global Studies programs can choose GLAS as their candidate program. Especially the sections "fremtidsmuligheder" and/or "Om det enkelte universitet" needs to be revised in proportion to how the candidate programme in Global Area Studies are presented on the various regional pages. The goal is to make it more visible that GLAS is the natural candidate programme for the regional bachelor programmes. The student guidance will continue with this work, and contact the relevant coordinators from the different programmes.</p>	<p>Contact HoD if there is a direct overlap. He will take it up with UVAEKA.</p> <p>Camilla Thygesen will ask the programs who applied for the Unihelpr app.</p>
<p><b>11. Issues for the next meeting</b></p>	<p>11.1 Erhversspecialer (March) 11.2 Suggestion for rotation of teaching evaluations 11.3 Discussion on platforms for e-courses. 11.4 New report on student retention</p>	