

**Meeting Subject**

**UN Meeting – Global Studies**

**Moderator:** Uwe Skoda

**Ref.:** Camilla Mark Thygesen

**Date:** Wednesday 15th May, 2019

**Duration:** 14.00-16.00

**Present:** Peter Bugge, Uwe Skoda, Anemone Platz, Asta Jensen Raae, Jackie Van Tran, Jason Tran.  
**Observers:** Mette Thunø, Georg Fischer, Birgitte Pristed, Vladimir Pacheco. Christoffer Kølvråa, Frederik Korsbjerg.  
**From Arts Studier:** Camilla Thygesen (ref.), Studievejledere IHO: Thøger Lautrup Knøss, Søren Karlsen Glensholm.

**Apologies:** Afdelingskonsulent: Anna Sønnichsen, Gauri Pathak, Karen Inge Kristensen, Victor Christensen, Christian F. Sand, Cecilie Fogh Kavin

<b>Agenda item:</b>	<b>Discussion and conclusion:</b>	<b>Follow-up</b>
<b>1. Approval of agenda</b>	<p>The UN approved the agenda. Two items were suggested for AOB: Revision of the new study regulation. New scheme for feedback.</p>	
<b>2. Briefings</b>	<p>2.1 News from the Board of Studies</p> <p>The Board of Studies representative told the UN that there had been a meeting last Wednesday and presented some of the points from the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- From students in the Board there was a wish for clearer guidelines for supervision for the BA-project.</li> <li>- There has been complaints about the process for the course evaluation across the School.</li> <li>- Discussion of the MA thesis and the grading of it.</li> <li>- There is a political wish to get more student to write an “erhvervsспециале” in collaboration with a company.</li> <li>- The Board of Studies also discussed the possibility of reserving the portefolio thesis for 4+4 students. It was mentioned at the UN-meeting that the form of thesis are not included in the study regulation for GLAS. The UN will talk about this at a later meeting.</li> <li>- Length of the thesis were also discussed. The Board of study decided to leave it up to the departments whether or not they want to change the length since the period for writing the thesis has been reduced.</li> </ul> <p>For more details about the discussions at the Board of Studies meeting see the minutes here: <a href="https://studerende.au.dk/studier/fagportaler/arts/kontakt/udvalgognaevn/studienaevn/kultur-og-samfund/">https://studerende.au.dk/studier/fagportaler/arts/kontakt/udvalgognaevn/studienaevn/kultur-og-samfund/</a></p> <p>2.2 News from the Head of Department</p> <p>Head of Department informed the UN about the hours of teaching for BA- project. At the moment it is set to 19 hours at the department. Several models are discussed at the School at the moment to find the right way of doing it. The hours for teaching might increase a bit, according to which model will be chosen.</p> <p>List of exchange universities has been made and will be circulated very soon.</p> <p>Head of Department gave the UN information about the number of applications for the department’s supplementary subjects.</p>	

	<p>2.3 News from the student guidance Søren Karlsen Glensholm is leaving his position due to an internship. There will be some changes in the organization in the student guidance. All students from Global studies can apply, but it would be preferred if the students applying is from Japan or China studies.</p> <p>2.4 News from the study administration Camilla Thygesen informed about the newest news letter from Arts studier.</p>	
<p><b>3. Yearly status (discussion)</b></p>	<p>On the last UN-meeting the programs presented and discussed last year´s action plans. For this UN-meeting all programs had prepared a preliminary action plan for 2019, which was presented and discussed at the meeting. After the meeting all fagrepræsentanter will finish the action plans and send them to Head of Department and Camilla Thygesen by the 28<sup>th</sup> May. Then they will be sent around to a written approval from the UN, before they are sent to the Board of Studies by the 3<sup>rd</sup> June.</p> <p><b>Sub-policy 1:</b> Recruitment and commencement of studies (indicators <b>1a, 1b, 2, 5a</b> and <b>5b</b>)</p> <p>This is the sub-policy with the most red and yellow indicators, so the UN spent the most time on this policy. All programs presented their action plans and mentioned all the initiatives that they will continue to do and also which new initiatives they will start. A lot of the regional programs struggle with the fact that their students have very different language skills before they start at the program. This makes it difficult to reach the students at their own level, and that might push some students to drop out. China Studies will make different initiatives to accommodate this issue in classes, while they at Japan Studies offers their students a brush up language course in January, to prepare them for the language classes. Brazilian Studies has a high drop out rate in this year´s data material. They have already started some initiatives that they hope will work, but they conclude that resources might be one of the biggest challenges for this program.</p> <p>The conclusion was that all the programs wanted to do more initiatives across the department, since almost all programs struggles with the issue of students' lacking basic Danish writing and reading skills. Right now, students of all programs participate in a writing course now extended to a course for academic writing and reading - done in collaboration with CUDIM. This course has received very good feedback. The department has also started a project, where they want to improve their web page and the description of each of the regional programs. European studies has a facebook page with a student assistant as moderator and students are invited to it before they start at the program. This could be an idea for the other programs as</p>	<p>After the meeting all fagrepræsentanter will finish the action plans and send them to Head of Department and Camilla Thygesen by the 28<sup>th</sup> May. Then they will be sent around to a written approval from the UN, before they are sent to the Board of studies by the 3<sup>rd</sup> June</p>

well, but then there has to be a person hired at the department/school to update the pages, and keep them active over the summer holiday.

The UN mentioned a study café that previously has been running at the department with some success. The students are willing to open it again, if they get support from some of the teachers in relation to announcing it. They can apply for the aktivitetspulje, and maybe the administration can plan it as teaching so the time slot are reserved.

A member of the UN suggested to look more at what type of students they get at the different programs. It was suggested to accept less quota 2 students (e.g. from 20% to 10%), and maybe there should be more specific criteria for their students.

Head of the Board of Studies informed that there has been made a decision about this at University level, and a new model will be implemented in 2020. Here the quota 2 students are assessed on both their grades and more specific qualifications.

**Sub-policy 2: Structure and process (indicators 2, 3 and 4, 6a and 6c, 7)**

In general, all programs have positive numbers for these indicators. All programs presented their action plans and the initiatives mentioned in them.

A concern about the imbalance between the student´s language skills across the BA-programs with either 30 ECTS or 60 ECTS introductory language courses was mentioned. The students from programs with only 30 ECTS can have difficulties following the classes at the GLAS candidate.

The UN discussed the indicator for study intensity. The discussion showed a difference of opinions across the programs about what to expect from students.

It was also discussed whether it would be a good idea to print all the material for the students, since it is experienced that students are more likely to read printed books instead of online material. But here the question of sustainability and training students' library competences were raised.

**Sub-policy 3: Development of degree programs, teaching and learning environment (indicators 3, 4 and 5a and 5b, 6a and 6c, 8 plus staffing plans)**

The UN discussed the fact that some students drop out just before their BA-project, or just never deliver it. This is especially a big problem in Japan Studies.

One of the students mentioned that some students have too high expectations for themselves, and therefore do not feel comfortable about handing in the BA-project. He suggests to articulate this problem more in the department.

It is also an issue that some students do not know what their options are with a BA-degree if they do not continue to the MA.

This turned into a discussion about how to help students with learning disabilities. One of the student counsellors mentioned that they often guide these students, but often it is not the

	<p>program at the university that has triggered their diagnosis. However, some experience that especially language classes can put a lot of pressure on the students. It was suggested to ask the “rådgivnings og støttecenter” to come to a departmental meeting and instruct the teachers in how best to help students with learning disabilities with their studies. Head of Department will explore this.</p> <p>Head of Department informed the UN that the staffing plans for the department has been sent out as an appendix for the meeting. The planning looks good and the department can ensure research-based teaching.</p> <p><b>Sub-policy 4:</b> Study environment (indicators 1a, 1b, 2, 3, <b>5a and 5b</b>)</p> <p>In general the department has a good study environment with green indicators for all programs except Brazilian studies. The fagrepræsentant from Brazilian studies informed the UN that the will continue with the initiatives that they have started the last couple of years.</p> <p><b>Sub-policy 5:</b> Relationship with the labour market (indicator <b>8</b> (and perhaps indicator 4 when the teaching has included courses integrating career considerations))</p> <p>There are some red indicators for this sub-policy. For international studies this will be a focus point in the evaluation of the program. European studies has improved but still has a red indicator. They have started a project with Arts Karriere, which will help students identify their competences.</p> <p>The UN was told that the action plan for the new GLAS candidate has not been made yet. They are lacking data because the education is new. Right now they are implementing some changes to the program, which has been suggested through the teaching evaluation. Head of Department and the fagrepræsentant from GLAS will write the action plan, and it will be send around to members of the UN for a written approval. The old regional candidate programs are closing, so they have not been discussed at this meeting.</p>	
<p><b>4. Supplementary subject: Global challenges (orientation)</b></p>	<p>Head of Department told the UN that the work with the new supplementary subject has begun. The UN will see the first draft in August.</p>	
<p><b>5. Program for intro week (discussion)</b></p>	<p>The head-tutor presented the preliminary program for the intro week. The UN was informed that tutors have changed the form of the first day, so now students are divided into smaller groups and meet with two tutors before they all gather at the university.</p>	<p>Suggestion for filling out the times slots reserved for academic content, can be send to the head tutor.</p>

	<p>The tutors would like ideas for the faglig input that are planned for Tuesday and Thursday.</p> <p>One of the programs representatives requested for another time slot than Tuesday morning at 11 am, which might be misunderstood as supporting partying, and one more hour with the students making it three hours in total with faculty.</p> <p>Members of the UN mentioned that it is important that the tutors do not pressure the new students to drink alcohol. Last year there were some complaints from students who felt uncomfortable.</p> <p>It was also mentioned that the teachers would like to have the time to get to know the students as well, and not only focus on the academic content.</p> <p>The UN approved the plan for the intro week, given that there will be made some changes about the points discussed at the meeting.</p> <p>The head tutor will present the finished plan in an email to the UN before the deadline for the final version on the 31th May.</p>	<p>The head tutor will present the finished plan in an email to the UN before the deadline for the final version on the 31th may.</p>
<p><b>6. Internal examiners for written assignments (orientation)</b></p>	<p>The UN were given an orientation about the practice for the usages of internal examiners by the Head of department. Internal examiners will only be used for oral exams, and for written assignments if there are doubts about whether the student are to pass or fail and for new teachers. They are waiting for a final explanation from Liselotte Malmgart, director of studies. The UN expresses that are not happy about this. But the UN are informed that the decision has been made on a higher level.</p>	
<p><b>7. Updates</b></p>	<p>7.1 Updates from the degree programs</p> <p>7.2 Updates from the students The fagudvalg at the department wishes to implement academic days for all programs. Teachers are requested to come up with ideas for content.</p>	
<p><b>8. AOB</b></p>	<p>Feedback for this exam term: Members of the UN asked about the hour for feedback, that has been given to them instead of the hours for intern examination. This will be taken up at a departmental meeting.</p> <p>Revision of the BA regulations:</p>	

	<p>It was mentioned that there are some things in the new 2018 study regulations that the programs wish to change. It was explained to the UN that there are strict rules about what can be changed before a regulation has gone through a full run. A list will be sent to Camilla Thygesen, and she will look at what can be done for now.</p>	
<p><b>9. Issues for the next meeting</b></p>	<p>Guidelines for BA-supervision</p>	