

Meeting Subject

UN Meeting – Global Studies

Moderator: Uwe Skoda

Ref.: Sine Gyde Meler

Date: 18th of May 2022

Duration: 14.00-16.00

Present

Members VIP: Uwe Skoda, Anemone Platz and Raymond Yamamoto.

Members Students: Frederik Edsberg Hansen og Magnus Rønne Møller.

Observers: Ana Paula, Christina Fiig, Hagen Schulz-Forberg, Jeremy Morris, Chun Zhang Julie Schultz Pedersen Lorensen (afdelingskoordinator), Katrine Lin Lee Studievejledere IHO and Sine Gyde Meler (Arts Studies, ref).

Absent Malthe Melskens Thomsen, Frederik Korsbjerg, Derek Pardue (VIP), Gauri Pathak.

| Agenda item: | Discussion and conclusion: | Follow-up |
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| 1. Approval of agenda and follow up from the minutes from last meeting | <p>The UN approved the agenda with the addition of two points under AOB.</p> <p>There was no follow-up from the minutes from the April meeting.</p> | |
| 2. Briefings (14.05-14.20) | <p>2.1 News from the Board of Studies Uwe Skoda (US) informed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AU has decided to align the maximum study time for all the bachelor programmes across the faculties at the university. Read more about the decision here. - The teacher awards are coming up, SN have asked the UN to discuss the process. - The board of studies had a general discussion about the focus on study intensity– many students expressed that it is difficult to estimate the amount of time they use on their studies and therefore it's difficult to answer the questionnaire when asked about the study intensity. <p>2.2 News from the Head of Department</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - US gave a brief orientation about the removal of prerequisite requirements, and that UN will be able to discuss the implications for the academic regulations in the department on the UN-meeting | |

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| | <p>in August. The board of studies will also discuss in June. The UN have received a letter from the vice-dean and the plan for the process with the agenda for the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Furthermore, US orientated that he has held a meeting with Arts Career, whom presented a new initiative titled Karrierelæring i undervisningen (KiU). The idea is to integrate career orientated elements into the teaching. - <p>News from the student guidance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There were no news from the student guidance. <p>News from the study administration</p> <p><i>For further information on newsletter: see here</i></p> | |
| <p>3. Annual status review – part two (discussion and decision)</p> | <p>The UN discussed the second part of the annual status 2022. The annual status review is part of the ongoing quality assurance process relating to degree programmes at the Faculty of Arts, and is described in greater detail in degree programme quality processes at Arts. The purpose of the annual status review process is that the degree programme board, board of studies and school should priorities the areas on which the degree programme board will focus in the upcoming quality year to ensure the quality of our degree programmes in accordance with AU's quality assurance policy, based on a systematic review of these degree programmes in their entirety.</p> <p>Uww Skoda introduced the point with a brief summary of last meetings discussion. On that meeting it was decided to have study intensity and employability as focus points in the actions plans across the degree programmes. It will also be focus points for the degree programmes which are to be evaluated: Brazil-, Russia-, Indian and South Asia-, China-, Japan- and Global Area Studies. Furthermore, a question about study intensity have been added to the course evaluations.</p> <p>Thereafter the UN was presented for the preliminary actionsplan for European and International Studies (appendix 3.10 and 3.11) and discussed which actions should be given priority in the plans of action for 2022.</p> <p>Master's degree programme in International Studies:</p> <p>Hagen Shulz-Forberg gave a presentation of initiatives in the action plans, there were especially focus on:</p> | <p>Uwe Skoda</p> |

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| <p>Sub-policy 3: Motivational teaching and learning environments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- There is focus on balancing the study intensity, so the workload is more consistent throughout the semester. <p>Sub-policy 4: Highly qualified graduates with relevant competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Employability is still a focus where some new initiatives are to focus more on alumni networks and how this can open up for internships for the students and lead to jobs thereafter. There is also focus on how to include more skill-based assignments in the teaching. <p>US commented that the initiative especially on employability was aligned with the results from the “dimittendundersøgelse”, which showed that students use the alumni network and internships as an entry to the job market. He also suggested to include the conference of the Global Studies consortium which is held on IS to the action plan under the sub-policy 2.</p> <p>Christina Fiig (CF) suggested to include joint social arrangements across the Master’s degree programmes in the department to help strengthen the social environment between the Danish and international studies and as an initiative under sub-policy 3.</p> <p>Master’s Degree Programme in European Studies:</p> <p>CF gave a presentation of the initiatives in the action plans. The action plan is based on the action plan in the continuation of the degree programme evaluation in the autumn 2021. There were especially focus on:</p> <p>Sub-policy 1: Getting students off to a good start</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Revising the website “studyportal” with focus on describing what the students can expect from the degree programme before applying. <p>Sub-policy 2: High-quality, coherent degree programmes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Focus on integrating and strengthening the methodology courses across the programme. The department is working on having permanent study groups to increase the study intensity. | |
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| | <p>Sub-policy 3: Motivational teaching and learning environments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrating the IS and ES students more and focus on integrating the Danish and International students. <p>Sub-policy 4: Highly qualified graduates with relevant competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus on integrating employability perspectives in cooperation with Arts Career and an increased focus on cases and external collaborations in the courses. And establish a better contact to the Alumni network. <p>US commented to include the departmental focus on employability/alumni visibility. Moreover, that the UN could have a discussion on how to align methodology courses in the degree programmes. Students from IS welcomed the idea to integrate the students for European studies and international studies even more. Furthermore, the UN discussed that the access code for the study rooms should be passed around between the students, so students across the department can use it.</p> <p>US thanked Hagen and CF for the presentation. The UN agreed to approve the plans with the few adjustments in mind.</p> <p>Next step: Head of the department must send the action plans to Christian Hansen: hach@au.dk no later than May 30thThe Board of studies will discuss the action plan in the June Meeting.</p> | |
| <p>4. Evaluation of the buddy programme “Mentorordning” (item for discussion) (14.40-14.50)</p> | <p>Uwe Skoda briefed UN about the results from the evaluation of the buddy programme. Overall, the feedback has been very positive, and students expressed in the evaluations that it’s been helpful to have a mentor. Students at the meeting agreed that it would be positive to continue with the programmes and that some students continue to have contact with their “buddies”.</p> | |
| <p>5. Annual report from the chair of external co-</p> | <p>UN discussed the annual reports from the chair of external co-examiners.</p> <p>There was one remark that some of the censor reports were not filled in and sent to the chair of external co-examiners. Otherwise, there were no comments or remarks in the annual reports from the chair of</p> | |

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| <p>examiners (item for discussion) (14.50-15.00)</p> | <p>external co-examiners, that raised questions from the members of the UN which where to report back to the SN.</p> | |
| <p>6. Diversity in the syllabus (item for discussion)</p> | <p>At the SN meeting on the 9th of March 2022, SN formed a working group consisting of Ellen Harpøth Lauersen, Asbjørn Steglich-Petersen, Anca Theodora Mygind and Peter Bugge, who were to prepare a proposal for the process and content of a discussion of diversity issues in teaching and syllabus. The Committee had a meeting on the 24th of March and prepared the following questions, which they ask the UN to discuss.</p> <p>The UN agreed that the subject have a lot of relevance and that they would like to see a suggestion for guidelines on the subject. The UN prefers that guidelines or recommendations on diversity comes from the SN or the School. They would like to see a draft from the board of studies, which they can discuss and comment on in one of the next UN meetings.</p> <p>UN had a general discussion about decolonization the curriculum which have been discussed in the department before. The students pointed out that the term decolonizing the curriculum and diversity in general is a very broad term and it could help if the terms would be specified in a possible policy.</p> <p>Uwe Skoda will bring UN's points and remarks back to the SN and Committee on the next meeting in the Board of Studies.</p> | <p>Uwe Skoda</p> |
| <p>7. Approval of programme(s) for the introductory week</p> | <p>The UN were given a presentation of the “studiestartsprogram” by the head tutor Madeleine who took part as a guest in the meeting.</p> <p>Madeline went through the programs and introduced to some of the events there are planned for the week. There is a wish to have a joint introduction from a teacher or Head of department in the programme.</p> <p>The UN asked if it would be possible to have more joint events across the programmes. The UN also suggested to have a joint introduction to inclusivity and study environment in the introduction programme. The UN agreed it would be a good idea to include this introduction already in the beginning of the degree programme.</p> <p>Teachers at the meeting raised a discussion about a general issue about the student engagement in activities outside the curriculum and asked if the students were introduced to the different students’ associations</p> | |

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| | <p>which they can join in the introductory week. The UN agreed to have a discussion on the subject in a future meeting.</p> <p>It was decided that US and Julie Schultz Pedersen will follow-up on UN's comments with Madeleine and circulate a revised programme for the UN to approve before the deadline 1st of June 2022, where the head tutors must send the approved programme to the study start coordinators in VEST Jannie Laigaard or Trine Schouborg no later than 1 June 2022.</p> <p>UN thanked the Madeleine for joining the meeting and the work with the introductory week.</p> | |
| <p>8. Degree programme evaluation – finding students for the preliminary meeting and evaluation meeting (item for discussion)</p> | <p>In connection with the degree programme evaluation, students are required to participate in preliminary meeting and evaluation meeting.</p> <p>The UN was presented with the dates and guidelines for the participants for the meeting.</p> <p>US and Frederik Edsberg (FE) will meet to discuss how they can engage students to join the meetings. There have been some changes in the dates for the evaluation meetings, so the templates will be updated and circulated to the UN again.</p> | |
| <p>9. Activity fund (item for discussion and decision) (15.35-15.45)</p> | <p>Head of department gives a status about the activity funds applications and told the UN that they received many applications.</p> <p>The UN discussed which application they wished to approve from the list of applications. The UN decided to approve the applications except for meals during the activities.</p> <p>The department will try to cover applications for Unihelpr with separate funds.</p> | |
| <p>10. UN-meeting schedule (15.45-15.50 min)</p> | <p>The UN approved the suggested meeting plan for E22, with the note that the August meeting might be moved and possible be a zoom-meeting. Sine Gyde Meler will send out the final dates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 31th of August at 14-16 - 21st of September at 14-16 - 26th of October at 14-16 - 16th of November at 14-16 - 7th December at 14-16 (only for emergency) | <p>Sine Gyde Meler and Uwe Skoda</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 25th of January 2023 at 14-16 | |
| 11. Updates | <p>3.1 Updates from the students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IS: Students have found internships even though there was a lot of worry about this subject. - Russia Studies: FE wanted to thank the teachers on behalf of the students for handling a very difficult situation this semester. They have been very helpful. <p>3.2 Updates from the degree programmes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Russia Studies: Teachers have been working on finding partner Universities for students going abroad. - All the degree programmes: The teachers are busy preparing exams. | |
| 12. AOB | <p>FE informed UN that he will try recruit students from each degree programme to the UN, and asked the teachers if he could visit their classes and “campaign” for the UN. He will start with first year students. In extension of this he also wishes to set up formal meetings before the UN-meeting, where the student’s representative can discuss the agenda and other relevant topics. The UN supported the initiative.</p> <p>US orientated that the Board of studies have asked UN to discuss the process of the recommendation for the Teacher awards. But the US will inform SN, that they need more time to discuss this further.</p> | |
| 13. Suggested points for upcoming meetings | <p>Points for upcoming UN meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening the social environment across the department (TBA) • Alumni initiatives (TBA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The representatives from the degree programmes are asked to inform which initiatives they currently have, so it can be discussed on coming meetings. - Employability (TBA) | |