

Meeting Subject

UN Meeting – Global Studies

Moderator: Uwe Skoda

Ref.: Sine Gyde Meler

Date: 26. oktober 2022

Duration: 14.00-16.00

Present

Members VIP: Uwe Skoda, Birgitte Beck Pristed,

Members Students: Frederik Edsberg Hansen,

Observers: Gauri Pathak (VIP), Derek Pardue (VIP), Christina Fiig, Chun Zhang (VIP), Raymund Yamamoto (VIP) IHO Josephine Jensen (student), Julie Schultz Pedersen Lorensen (afdelingskoordinator), Sine Gyde Meler (Arts Studies, ref), Ana Paula Braga Mattos (item 2) (VIP), Annette Skovsted Hansen (item 2) (VIP), Astrid Sondrup (student), Simon (Student), Jonas Matthiesen (Student), Jakob Holm (student) and Julie Leva (Student).

Absent Hagen Schulz-Forberg

Agenda item:	Discussion and conclusion:	Follow-up
<p>1. Approval of agenda and follow up from the minutes from last meeting</p>	<p>UN approved the agenda and Uwe Skoda (US) added a point to AOB.</p> <p>US followed up on the minutes from the September meeting and told the UN that on the next meeting the CED is invited to talk about transferable skills in relation to the discussions in UN about employability.</p>	
<p>2. Diversity in teaching and syllabus policy (discussion) (14.05-14.35)</p>	<p>At the SN meeting on the 8th of June 2022, SN discussed diversity issues in teaching and the syllabus and summarized the UN's discussions about the subject.</p> <p>On the basis of this summary, the Board of studies set a requirement that UN should draw up an independent policy on diversity in teaching and the syllabus. The Board of Studies does not wish to dictate what the policy must contain, as it must be drawn up for and decided by the individual UN. Work on the diversity policy must be carried out in the autumn of 2022 for follow-up by the Board of Studies in December 2022.</p> <p>Ana Paulla Braga Mattos (APBM) and Annette Skovsted Hansen (ASH) were invited to the meeting to give a presentation about their work and ideas on diversity in teaching.</p> <p>ASH gave an introduction to UN about the reasons why diversity in teaching is important and why/how the project started, and it can help the teachers to look at subjects in broader perspectives. In the department many</p>	<p>Uwe Skoda and the working group</p>

	<p>of the degree programmes already have some level of diversity perspective included in the teaching because of of the global perspective in the subjects and degree programmes. But it is can always be broaden.</p> <p>APBM told the UN about a specific project in Brazil studies, where students were asked to interview people from Brazil who live in Denmark. It gave the students an opportunity to meet people from different backgrounds and areas and hear different dialects than they normally do. The project ended with an exhibition with transcriptions of the interviews. The project was engaging and was not only to <i>talk</i> about diversity but also to be hands on.</p> <p>The UN was very positive about the work and wished to share ideas on how to work with diversity in teaching. The example from Brazil studies could possibly be replicated to other programmes though it does take extra work, but it can be part of the teaching.</p> <p>It was decided to make an inspiration catalogue with ideas on how the department can work with diversity in teaching. It was also decided that this work should be in a working group who can discuss and share ideas across the department and eventually create an inspiration catalogue which can be shared at the department. It was also mentioned that it should be shared on the new Global Studies Webpage. Ana Paula Braga Mattos, Annette Skovsted Hansen, Chun Zhang, Birgitte Beck Pristed, Astrid Sondrup, Simon, Jonas Matthiesen and Julie Leva will be joining a working group, where they will talk about the inspiration catalogue. US and Julie Schultz Pedersen Lorensen are going to send a mail with information on the further process and date for the meeting.</p>	
<p>3. Briefings (14.05-14.20)</p>	<p>3.1. News from the Board of Studies US informed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The university will have a focus on competence development for the teachers regarding didactic skills. - Because of the economic situation the position for the well-being coordinator was not extended. - There is a high demand for the language courses which are being offered. There will be extra courses and which courses and when they will take place can be found online: https://studerende.au.dk/karriere/sprogkurser - There will be fewer IV-electives at the department due the economic situation. - SN do not wish to have any mandatory SN questions in the course evaluations. <p>3.2 News from the Head of Department</p>	

	<p>US informed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Due to the economic situation it's not clear when the plans for the activity funds will be ready, because the budget for next year is not settled. - The "Kandidat-dag" is coming up and each MA degree programmes are scheduled to have a 30-minute presentation. - Several teachers from the department have joined the "Circle-U". - <p>3.2. News from the student guidance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The "Studiepraktik" is being held this week (week 43). - The students are focused on getting prepared for the exams and are doing well. - There was a question about if the student guidance has an internship introduction or meeting? It was replied that there was a meeting in the beginning of October about the 3rd semester and there is a meeting in March, but the students also contact the student guidance with questions during the semester. <p>3.3. News from the study administration</p> <p><i>For further information on newsletter: see here</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action plans from the annual status review 2022 approved • Information about studying abroad in the supplementary subject year • Registration of internationalisation electives at CC and CAS 	
<p>4. Elections at AU (status) (14.55-15.00)</p>	<p>Frederik Edsberg Hansen (FEH) informed that the recruitment to the UN, went very well and seven students from the degree programmes are nominated. The election will be in November and after the election it will be clear which students will be joining.</p> <p>The UN thanked the FEH for all his work with the recruitments.</p>	
<p>5. Review of teaching evaluations of the language stays</p>	<p>The UN discussed the teaching evaluations from the 4. Semester language stays abroad on the following BA programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - India and South Asian Studies (Brightspace and oral evaluation) - China studies (Brightspace and oral evaluation) 	<p>Uwe Skoda and Julie Schultz</p>

<p>(discussion) (15.00-15.15)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Japan studies (Oral evaluation) - Brazilian studies (Oral evaluation) <p>China Studies: All the teaching was online due to covid travel restrictions to China. The respond rate was high, and most students expressed that they are very satisfied with the teaching and teachers at their language stay.</p> <p>India- and South Asian studies: Overall good comments, but some students have commented on the fact that the teaching style is very different in India than in Denmark, which for some students took some time getting used to. It's also very different what the student thinks about the difference.</p> <p>Japan Studies: The students were happy to come to Japan and with the teaching. But some students also noted that the teaching style is very different. The evaluation also shows that many of the administrative processes were handled ad-hoc in last minute, because it was relative late that the travel restrictions were removed.</p> <p>UN discussed that an important learning outcome from the language stays abroad is that the students experience the teaching style in the country they stay in. This should maybe be underlined for the students before they go abroad.</p> <p>The had a general discussion og the evaluation of the language stays abroad and which adjustments and focus, there needs to be moving forward. UN discussed that the evaluation template for the language stays reflects the teaching and evaluation standards in Denmark, which may be confusing for the students. It should be examined how the evaluation template for language stays can be adjusted so it's more aligned with the type of teaching the students meet abroad.</p> <p>From the students it was suggested to focus more on the qualitative evaluations. The dialogues are very giving in terms of evaluating the language stays because it also helps the students to return to the university again. UN agreed on this and because the statistical data for some degree programmes are limited the qualitative evaluation is also very important.</p> <p>In the future UN would like to focus more on the qualitative evaluations in relation to the evaluation of the language stays. Almost all the degree programmes have meetings when the students return to Denmark, and there should be a written summary from these meetings, which can be used for discussion in UN. US and JSPL will look into if there should be a template for the written summary. With degree programmes with many students the statistical data can also be used, but only when the population is high enough. The template and questions on Brightspace need to be revised.</p>	<p>Pedersen Lorensen</p>
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<p>6. Discussion about the mentor programme (15.15-15.25)</p>	<p>Julie Schultz Pedersen Lorensen (JSPL) informed the UN about the new mentoring program at Global studies and gave a brief overview on how the initiative is expected to have a positively effect on the well-being of students and strengthen the attachment to the program and other students.</p> <p>There are mentors attached to each of the five BA degree programmes. As a new initiative we have hired a mentor coordinator for China, Japan and Russia studies, who is responsible for coordinating the whole arrangement; recruit volunteer mentors, facilitate a training course for them, plan meetings and visits with mentees and final evaluate the whole process. For Brazil- and India and Southasia studies the mentor will be mentor for all the students at each programme and they are required to plan 2-3 social meetings for the students doing the first semester.</p> <p>The mentors' jobs are to guide and help students from first semester by sharing their experience. The mentors will have coordination meeting and evaluate the process and report back to the department how it's going.</p>	
<p>7. Update about process of the removal of the prerequisite requirements (15.25-15.35)</p>	<p>US gave an update about the process of the removal of the prerequisite requirements in the academic regulations.</p> <p>US and SNUK have discussed alternative ways to secure students attends the classes without the prerequisite requirements and how they can include assignments during the semester, which can prepare them for the exams. The UN will be presented the final drafts and suggestions in the November meeting, where the suggestions to the changes in the academic regulations are to be discussed and approved.</p>	Uwe Skoda
<p>8. Recommendation of two teachers to the teaching award 2023 (decision point) (15.35-15.45)</p>	<p>UN are asked to nominate candidates for the teaching award 2023. Both female and male candidates are in</p> <p>The UN decided not to nominate any candidates and will let it be up to the SN to send in nominations, because of the short notice.</p> <p>US said that the board of studies also have discussed the process for nomination and suggested that there in the future should be a rotation principle for the nomination – the UN supported this idea.</p>	Uwe Skoda
<p>9. Updates</p>	<p>9.1. Updates from the students</p> <p>Students from Russia Studies went on a study trip to Romania which went well – they visited the Danish ambassador in Romania. The board of studies still have funds for activities – US encouraged students to apply for funds there.</p> <p>9.2. Updates from the degree programmes</p>	

	There are many activities around the department, and overall, everything is going well on the degree programmes.	
10. AOB	<p>Birgitte Bech Pristed informed the UN that they wish to make a minor change to the academic regulations in Russia Studies, which will take effect from 1.09.2023.</p> <p>In the current academic regulations it says: <i>Uddannelsen indeholder et studieophold af et semesters varighed på et universitet i Rusland.</i> Due to the current situation, where it is not certain the student will go to Russia, the degree programme wishes to change it to: ”Uddannelsen indeholder et studieophold af et semesters varighed på et universitet i et russisksproget miljø i regionen.”</p> <p>The UN approved the change. The board of studies will discuss and approve changes to the academic regulations in November.</p>	Uwe Skoda/SNUK
11. Suggested points for upcoming meetings	The UN was encouraged to suggest points for upcoming meetings and can send the suggestions to Sine Gyde Møller og Uwe Skoda.	