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Final*

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Date: 16-02-2022
Case No.: [Case No.]

Minutes of SAMU meeting on February 16, 2022

Participants: Working environment committee representatives: Ulla Øland, Jiri Srba. Employee representatives: Lene Even, Lene Horn, Florian Lorber, Niels Van Berkel. Management representatives: Peter Axel Nielsen, Helle Westmark. Minute taker: Diana Plejdrup Frank. Not present: Rene Rydhof Hansen (working environment committee/management representative).

Item 1. Welcome to the new member Niels Van Berkel

Welcome to Niels Van Berkel to the committee. He is taking over for Lefteris Papachristos. Peter Axel Nielsen gave short intro to the SAMU work.

Item 2. Department Economy

Fixed item on the agenda. SAMU has a duty to discuss finances, cf. the [co-operation agreement](#).

HeS presented the results for 2021. Overall, we come out with a deficit of 874.000 due to 3.3 million for rebuilding that was to be invoiced in 2021. We have completed all the accounting in December however the 3.3 million has been moved to the 2022 budget in agreement with the central economy apartment.

Further comments to the budget were presented by HeS as indicated in slides.

Studyboard expenses: We have spent more on censor expenses than expected.

CS Copenhagen: We have spent less than expected (1.299 million) due to a number of factors. A separate budget for Copenhagen will not be shown in the future as it is all part of the same budget.

Rebuilding costs: 1.4 million for seminar rooms. Rebuilding of Bio lab to CS in Copenhagen (1.8 million) new study area (2.2 million). Total rebuilding costs in Aalborg and Copenhagen of 9.3 million.

The rebuilding in Copenhagen will continue. At Cassiopeia we will not rebuild in 2022 but in 2023 something has to be done. Point is that we will have to condense square meters until then. From September 2022 we will receive the first year students in Aalborg Øst. We are negotiating with the Dean about this.

For the first time we are the only department out of the four TECH departments with a deficit. This however should not be considered as problematic due to several reasons. This budget year we start with a zero. There is no money left for rebuilding this year (e.g., if we need to do some improvements to offices in ITS).

Item 3. AAU strategy and the department's contribution in 2022

Peter Axel Nielsen presented how the department will contribute to the AAU strategy. See appendix in the FirstAgenda.

There are 11 goals in "Knowledge for the world 2" to which CS will contribute to. The new strategy tactics is that implementation will be done in the departments.

- Integration og SSH in CS educations: We are waiting for the Pro-Dean. We are already doing something on specific educations (BAIT, IxD etc.)
- Mission driven research: We are already doing this but will in future we will find out how to further engage in this. E.g. via two mission driven applications as a department and 1-2 postdocs will be sent out on exchange stays and the hiring of 1-2 professors (10%). Further process is to discuss it with professors and SAMU as we need a buy-in from all parties. Head of Department will also go to Brussels to meet with opinion makers.
- Economy: We are assigned 300.000 to different activities.
- Research based on digital data: The department will continue to use CLAUDIA as infrastructure.
- Knowledge collaboration: Alumni networks are already in process for DAD and IxD as part of bringing down unemployment numbers. Besides adjusting our curricula, we will gather experience from this effort to other educations.
- AAU hot spot for talents: This means we are attractive as a collaborator and for research. We already have a tenure track package for all assistant professors. We are way ahead compared to other departments.
- A coherent administration: We will make a contribution to this goal when we know more. There are a lot of changes currently at the central administration as mentioned in AAU inside with coming cutdowns etc.

Conclusion: The university has a strategy and departments should do implement the majority of the goals.

Comments:

- Lene Horn asked about the Brussels trip: It is a faculty management trip so Peter is the only one attending from this department.
- "Computational Health" (100.000) is for the starting of activities.
- Mission driven: Is the faculty going to support the mission driven? No, it is the departments missions and so far, there is no coordination from the faculty.
- What about the innovation hub? Our presence in the building might be good to plan. That is not part of the strategy.

Item 4. Buildings and rebuildings

Fixed item on the agenda as long as Cassiopeia is being rebuilt, as it is important for working and staff conditions.

Rebuilding in Copenhagen is done. Videoconference room has been moved and we are fully connected. Second half will come later and talk with Dean is how we will pay for that.

Aalborg: We have rebuilt seminar rooms, CS-lab and study administration. We have taken over 6 offices in cluster 4. Ulla Øland is planning with coordinators in March when we have the whole of cluster 4. Big issue is economy, we should have paid last year but will pay this year. Peter Axel Nielsen is in dialogue with the Dean.

First Study Year: We will receive a lot of students, so we need a lot of group rooms. We will end up at Fredrik Bajers Vej and the Math building despite we have cluster 4. So condensing is required.

Comments

- We want the full refurbishing of Cassiopeia of 40 million in one go. We cannot afford square meters in the long run.
- Square meters: Students complain about group rooms each semester. Maybe we should align expectations with them? Maybe via guidelines and clear communication about this. E.g., some semesters require a group room and some not etc. There is work to be done in the future what we will do with work spaces.
- Lack of auditoriums means that worktimes will change somewhat e.g., other times and different ways.

Item 5. CS Lab, space, staffing and steering

Vision for the CS lab is we have a space for research and not for students. It is almost done. Next step is how to utilize the lab and how are we going to staff it. It has been discussed in the management group and with professors (advisory research committee). Tactics is for the management group to find out how to utilize this in the best way. The professors will at some point be invited to a tour to the lab with input from management. SAMU and the Department Council will also be consulted and it will maybe be communicated at a future PL meeting. There will be a steering committee with the following members: Brian Nielsen, Kristian Torp and Peter Axel Nielsen. Eventually it will be extended with someone from HCC. The steering committee will prioritize activities. Staff however should be prioritized soon. There is a dialogue ongoing right now about how to relocate lab people. This influences office plan for research groups.

Comments:

- Offices close to laboratory: You can go to the offices without going to the lab. Phd. students close to the lab is an option.
- In case there are no research activities: are there plans for how to utilize square meters? We expect full activities.
- The appointed steering committee is favorable to research activities including students.
- Currently, we have Marius Mikucionis and Per Printz and a new person to be hired (DESS), but not this year. The current job positions are the positions we can hire this year. An option might be that we can educate our own staff (or students that could continue when they graduate as technicians). This is a very good idea.
- Money for 2022 is sparse so we need to act accordingly. So, there are uncertainties e.g., also in terms of the cancelling of BFI means.



Item 6. Yearly agenda cycle

The yearly cycle of SAMU with agenda items was reviewed and some adjustments will be made.

- Economy: On May meeting we can look at the re-budget for the current year and discuss budget principles for the coming year/s (e.g., should we prioritize technical staff over research staff etc.).
- Future hirings: We will keep this fixed item.
- CS Copenhagen: We will only discuss this twice a year.
- News from SAMU members: We will keep it – but only if there is something to report.
- Notification of holidays: This is decided by the Head of Department only, but we can inform about it on the May meeting. The notification of ordinary holidays is sent to staff in September. As for the special holidays these are notified each year in January, but as agreed earlier on SAMU meeting this should be mentioned in the email sent out to staff in September.

Action: Diana Plejdrup Frank will adjust the agenda cycle and upload on the intranet SAMU page.

Item 7. Psychological and physical work environment

Fixed item on the agenda as The Working Environment Committee is an integrated part of the SAMU Committee. It deals with points about the mental and physical work environment that are important to the employees.

Ulla Øland informed that we have to make the new work environment survey (APV) and she will call for a meeting and it will be sent to staff.

Comments:

- The Danish Working Environment Authorities are they coming? There are no plans for this.

Item 8. Environmental considerations

Fixed item on the agenda as The Working Environment Committee is an integrated part of SAMU. It deals with points about environmental considerations that are important to employees.

Ulla Øland informed that there are more garbage bins on their way. CAS has strongly advised to go out with the paper and stuff in the large garage in the parking lot. Both staff and students should be sent a reminder about this, as e.g., students have reported they are in doubt about where to put it.

Action: Ulla Øland will send a reminder about all kinds of sorting of trash.

Item 9. AOB

No comments.

Item 10. Evaluation of the meeting



The meeting was evaluated. The meeting today was changed from physical to online with short notice due to corona circumstances. Normally a change will be announced in good time. And we prefer to have the meetings physically.