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Final*

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## Minutes of Department Council Meeting on May 31, 2023

**Participants:** Peter Axel Nielsen, John Stouby Persson, Jiri Srba, Giovanni Bacci, Gabriela Montoya, Helle Schroll, Frederik Møller, Lone Vriberg. **Students:** Nikolaj Rossander, Oliver Viller Nielsen, Leon Groth. **Minute taker:** Diana Plejdrup Frank. **Unable to attend:** Dalin Zhang, Johannes Bjerva, Tim Merritt

### Item 1. Approval of the agenda

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The agenda was approved.

### Item 2. Department economy

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Appendix: See presentation about the economy.

#### Result of the first trimester 2023

Income from the faculty: A small deviation of 424,000 DKK. External funding: A substantial deviation of 3.5 million primarily due to errors in new accounting system. Operation expenses (travel and equipment): We have spent 500,000 DKK less. Scientific staff: No deviation. More to come in second trimester due to staff starting/leaving. Rent: No substantial deviation currently. We will pay a large amount later this year. The cost of a group room is 70,000 DKK therefore we put attention to this and prioritize wishes. Result: We have spent approx. 2 million less than in the budget. This will change next trimester.

#### Estimate 2023

We maintain the revised performance target of -3.5 million. We expect the errors as mentioned before to be rectified. The external funding estimate will be maintained and the budget for intake of external revenue. Consumption costs are increased with 600,000 DKK due to management course. Salary budget for Aalborg includes 2 Associate and 2 Assistant Professors in Aalborg. In Copenhagen we have 5 Assistant Professors in budget 2023. Tax increase on 1.2 million (mid-year change for all departments) to restore AAU's equity and to finance a new study system (SIS) and strengthen cyber security.

#### Budgeted intake for 2023-2025

Last year we had applications for 110 million but acquired 13 million. The faculty goal is 62 million. There is a series of meetings here at CS to work with the funding strategy which is to be presented to the Dean on June 8. At the next department council meeting we will look at the funding strategy with more detail. The trend is for universities that half of the funding comes from internal and external funding, and we should also be able to do this. It is optimistic but not unrealistic.

#### Rent 2023

The rent costs for 2023 of each location were presented with a total cost on 26 million, where SL300 is the most expensive (18 million). Copenhagen rent is calculated differently and here we expect an increasing number of students, so we need square meters. As for NOVI9 we cannot get out of this building unless someone else moves in. As for the prognosis for the coming years it will increase if we do nothing.

### **Item 3. Building info**

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Copenhagen study areas are difficult to find. We now have half a corridor used for study workplaces. The Dean has now clarified a room and SW5 will be placed in this room. So, it is settled for Copenhagen.

Aalborg: We are in this building and NOVI9. The challenge is the group rooms need to fit in two groups and there is no change in sight. There is a large master plan for Campus East that involves CS and ES with 9 scenarios now boiled down to 2. The Dean will take these two scenarios to Rector as it involves cost for AAU.

The two scenarios are that we can either stay here at SL300 or move to FB7. If we do nothing we have to rebuild to make better use of unused areas. If we move there will also be some rebuilding.

Moving to FB7 include the E, D, C and half of the A building after the principle that staff will be located together and students together.

If we stay at SL300 we will save less than if we move to FB7. The model is based on 2 net square meters per students. There are good functionalities here, but the group rooms are not optimal. It comes down to what is possible e.g., if we cannot get out of NOVI9.

There was a comment from Jiri Srba that working conditions would be better if we move to FB7 after it has been rebuilt than staying here at SL300 during rebuilding.

According to the student representatives students like Cassiopeia. They consider this as their home building.

The status is that it is out of our hands – we have delivered data needed. Whatever decision is made it will take effect from 2026.

### **Item 4. Staffing**

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On the Technical and Administrative staff side there are organizational changes. All communications staff at AAU will be centralized. This means that our communications staff will either be moved to the new central communications department, be offered a voluntary retirement scheme, a redesigning of tasks, and one preliminary position which is not able to be prolonged in the new organization.

Copenhagen: We have 4 positions. Currently there are interviews with shortlisted applicants. News is we have two interviews on research and on teaching capabilities. In the meantime, we are hiring 2 more positions due to resignations. All 6 have accepted the positions with varying start dates. The factors playing in are the courses that need to be covered.

Aalborg: We have closed the open positions. The research groups are all seeing people leaving. The division between the research groups are not entirely decided and will depend on the costs next year. The interviews will be in late June and the final decision will be in August.

### **Item 5. Study environment**

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Appendix: See presentation on the follow up on the study environment fall 2022.

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DPF presented a summary of the problems/wishes reported by the students in the fall 2022 evaluations on the study environment. We follow up on the feedback and report back to Campus Service, Study Board, ITS. As part of the process we inform the department council about the overall issues and report back to students on Moodle and via two posters at [cs.aau.dk](https://cs.aau.dk) – they are also visible in the building in student areas.

### **Aalborg**

- Some good news is that Campus Service has promised us more bike sheds at SL300/SL312.
- This fall the very cold temperatures at AAU and in our building especially in the canteen area and auditorium have affected the students to a degree where it has not been good for the study environment and well-being. We have asked CAS for some shielding in the canteen area and we will report the issue again to the Dialogue meeting with Prodean/CAS before this fall.
- Sharing of group rooms: This is condition we cannot change due to square meter challenges. We urge students to coordinate sharing of the space and have made some [good advice/tips for sharing group rooms](#) which are accessible in group rooms and via Moodle.
- Smoking areas close to group rooms: More no-smoking signs have been ordered and will be set up.

### **Copenhagen**

- In Copenhagen the students have still not received the screens in group rooms. Follow-up on this will be done so that the screens are ready for the fall semester 2023.

### **Item 6. AOB**

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There was a question about where to find the administration rates for e.g., work in committees and councils? The administrative rates will be available soon on the [CS Hours intranet page](#) where you can also find the new teaching norms.