Minutes of Department Council Meeting 2018-04

Time:	Wednesday November 21, 2018
Place:	SLV300 room 0.2.15

Members of IR

Students: Rune Møberg Jacobsen (RMJ), Emil Jørgensen Njor (EJN)

TAP: Helle Schroll (HeS), Mette Kaufmann Andersen (MKA)

VIP: Peter Dolog (PD), Hua Lu (HL), Giovanni Bacci (GB), John

                Stouby Persson (JSP), Jiri Srba (JSr)

Chairman: Head of Department Kristian G. Olesen (KGO)

Absent w apology: Giovanni Bacci (GB), John Stouby Persson (JSP), Mette Kaufmann Andersen (MKA), Jiri

                Srba (JSr), Emil Jørgensen Njor (EJN)

Absent wo apology:

Agenda:
1. Approval of the agenda
2. Messages and short news
    a) By-election
3. Budget 2019
4. The study environment
5. Future location
6. Meeting plan for 2019
7. Any other business

Minutes:

1) Approval of the agenda
   The agenda was approved after adding one item: By-election.

2) Messages and short news

   a) By-election: Uncontested election of student representatives:
      Krzysztof Ryszard Trebik (student society)
      Rune Møberg Jacobsen (FixD)
      Anders Høgh Hansen (FixD)

      There is a vacant position after Johannes has left. KGO has asked the election secretariat about
      the rules for pointing out a new member. The Department Council must ask for suggestions for
      new members in a hearing and then send the suggestions to the election secretariat who will see
      to the further processing and final approval by our Dean. The Department Council suggest a HCC

candidate (Among VIP's) in order for all research groups to be represented in the Council and an additional TAP representative. HES will ask the TAP group if anyone is interested and KGO the HCC research group.

Upcoming events
The position as head of department has been announced. The new department head will start on March 1 2019.

Department Seminar and Christmas luncheon on December 14 2018. The seminar will be held at CREATE to see the laboratories there and to get inspiration for our own labs. Other item on the agenda is the physical environment including the moving of premises most likely as of summer 2019. We expect/hope the final decision to be taken at the Board Meeting on December 7 2018.

3) Budget 2019
   Short update on Economy as the majority of the members attended the recent department lunch meeting where an update was given. AAU is in the midst of major economic challenges due to a number of reasons. Our Rector has informed about this last week and expects cut downs. However, there will be no cut downs at the Computer Science department. The department budget is in balance for 2019. KGO showed slides from the department lunch meeting. We have 12 new positions in pipeline for 2019, which is good, but the challenge is recruitment. The new budget model provides far more visibility in the flow of funds. 5% of the research and education budget is to be approved by Rector. 20% of education income is for the disposal of the Dean. The latter means that CS's share of the 20% of the education income was spread out on two other departments at TECH (11 million). However, it seems that we will now get the money back to finance the new decision about establishment of CS study programmes in Copenhagen. KGO has invited our Rector and Dean to the department to elaborate the decision. Rector is not able to come, however the Dean will represent him and will visit us this week.. The Department Council discussed that the establishment of a research and teaching environment in Copenhagen requires staff that is willing to be present in CPH and that the moving of staff between locations is not viable.
   The Dean will cancel our savings. KGO has reported our concerns about this, as this historically has been the department's way of balancing the workload for the staff and financing activities. However, we are generally in good standing in many aspects (economically, education-wise, organization of research groups etc.)

4) The study environment
   KGO explained the process of following up on the reported study environment problems each semester, which is part of our quality assurance system at AAU. The process ensures that actions are taken on the problems reported by students in semester evaluations and steering group meetings. The list of the problems reported from semester evaluations in the spring of 2018 was presented by KGO. All problems were not discussed but examples were given. E.g. students have reported problems with group rooms – these are expected solved with the moving to new premises. And problems with indoor climate in the Mathematics building has been solved by the moving of students to Novi 9. CS students who are located at CREATE experience a bad study environment due to shared study work places. Noise in the design studio was solved by establishing a new door etc. As for group rooms we are generally aware of this problem focuses on solving the issues.

RMJ commented that the issue about the noise (bib sounds) from the Novi building might have been misunderstood in the list. DPF will reformulate status on this issue in the list and the item will be reported to CAS.

Next step is that the list of study environment problems will be sent to the Pro-Dean no later than January 3, and our students will be informed about the status of the issues.

5) Future location
   As mentioned earlier a decision about the moving of the department to FB7 is expected on the Board Meeting on December 7. So no need for further discussion until we have a final decision.

6) Meeting plan for 2019
   KGO presented the plan for meetings in 2019:
   March 20
   May 15
   October 2 (changed to October 9)
   November 20

   The meeting planned for October 2 will be moved to October 9 instead to fit with budget procedure. The PLA meeting was planned for October 9 but will be held on October 2 instead. DPF/KGO will make the change in the meeting plan that will be sent out to the department soon.

7) Any other business
   PD asked if the wish for separate group rooms is realistic in the future considering increasing intake of students, new study programmes, economic changes. In big IT companies, they do not have separate rooms for engineers but use flexible spaces, reserve rooms for making phone calls, quiet rooms etc. Engineers also work across technology areas. KGO will bring the point of view into the discussion at the CS seminar on December 14, and added that modernization of the PBL model to be more "just in time" also will move group work in a direction of more flexibility.

For the minutes: Diana P. Frank