Minutes of Department Council Meeting 2019-01

Time:	Wednesday March 20, 2019
Place:	SLV300 room 0.2.15

Members of IR

Students: Rune Møberg Jacobsen (RMJ), Anders Høgh Hansen (AHH)

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

VIP: Peter Dolog (PD), Hua Lu (HL), Giovanni Bacci (GB), John Stouby Persson (JSP), Jiri Srba (JSr), Tim Meritt (TM)

Chairman: Head of Department Jesper Kjeldskov (JK)

Absent: Peter Dolog (PD)

Minutes taker   Diana P. Frank

Agenda:
1. Welcome to newly appointed members and the new Head of Department
2. Approval of the agenda
3. News from the Head of Department
   The current AAU situation
   Status on new move to Frb. Vej.
   Status on CS study programmes in CPH
   Status on new positions and recruiting
4. Annual accounts
5. Meeting plan for 2019
6. Other business

Minutes:
1) Welcome to newly appointed members and the new Head of Department
   Jesper Kjeldskov welcomed the participants in general – this is his first department council meeting as the new head of department. He presented the new members, Anders, Lone and Tim. These meetings are held four times a year, and in terms of purpose of the meetings, he would like to use them for discussions on specific items and less for communication. He would like news items and general communication to be done in a limited number of meetings in order to avoid repetition. Agendas will therefore be less generic. The strength of this forum is that we both have administrative and scientific staff and students. He would like to use this forum as an advisory board.

2) Approval of the agenda
   Agenda was approved.

3) News from the Head of Department

New Head of Department at CS
JK presented the changes to the HCC group after JK's appointment as Head of Department and the background for his application for the job. So what will happen at CS now? There will be changes but no big revolutions. Important that we have a united department strategy. HeS asked who will be defining the strategies for the department. Is it the professor group? This is not defined yet but it might be. HS is asking in terms of budgeting for 2020. JK expects strategy to be in terms of recruitment.

The current AAU situation
We are in the fortunate situation that we are not hit by the current economic situation and dismissals. We have the opposite challenge, we are in a good situation and the new budget model fits well with our economic strategy. We need to continue our current approach in the way we manage our means. We are helping other departments with their current economic challenges.

The move to Frederik Bajers Vej
Currently put on hold. Further calculations has shown that there is not sufficient space and no economic benefit by moving. We are currently pushing to take over the whole SLV300 instead and renovate. JK has presented a plan to Rector for the use of this building and he expects news very soon. When it does, it will be communicated to the department as soon as the decision has been confirmed.

The rebuilding how fast can it happen? JK would like to start as soon as possible and we have the money in the budget. JSr expects teaching might be very difficult during rebuilding he suggests to schedule this during non-teaching periods or GB suggest to maybe move groups of people during construction. The latter might be difficult but we will figure out how to avoid too much noise that effects teaching and staff.

AHH asked if the 60 missing group rooms is the case if we move to FB. What about if we stay? According to JK, SLV300 will cover our needs thus; some students will be seated closer. JSr suggests a group booking system as a solution to solve the problem. GB: we could theme clusters for semesters or use swap of rooms. AHH suggests JK to include the students in the process. JK agree that we definitely need to look at the different needs for given semesters as also discussed earlier at department seminar. MKA points out that we need to be aware of the feedback from semester evaluations where students have bad experiences with shared group rooms. JSr expects we can fix this by scheduling of group rooms according to needs.

CS Copenhagen
Rector has asked CS to start up new study programmes in Copenhagen - the study programmes will be owned and run by us. There are wishes from the Dean for specific content (e.g. security). We will need to station people there, and recruit locally. According to JSr we need to recruit in due time in order to be able to implement this in 2020. GB asks how we solve group structures to fit with Copenhagen. JK has some ideas on how to solve this, e.g. video conference teaching might be an option. JSr and DPF mentioned that videoconferencing has earlier been put on hold due to the institutional accreditation and the bad experiences with this. There are worries if we do have enough resources - increase the teaching loads is not a good idea. In general, JK expects that we can lift this challenge but of course, it will cost us extra effort. Suggestions for less of traditional lecturing and maybe more videos and focuses on exercises and supervision. Here you might recruit external staff. Our strength is the PBL and we have opportunities to try to make it work. JK has ideas of a SW incubation group together with CREATE in Copenhagen.
JK asks for teachers who might be interested in participating in starting up the community in Copenhagen – this apply for the administrative staff as well. JSr suggests an internal sanity check of the resource situation in due time (the minimal number of resources needed).

Status on new positions and recruiting
We have 12 new open positions running now. We are trying to speed up the process for hiring. JSr has suggested hiring twice a year. The balance of hiring in terms of group structures – courses ownership etc.

was discussed. Maybe we should try to rotate courses and consider reorganizing groups? Some courses can be taught across groups and that would be a good approach in the long term. However, we need to be aware of the research foundation of the teaching we deliver. We should avoid "turf garding" this have a tendency to put a limit on development. Maybe a shared pool of courses that could go to all research groups might be a solution. There are different views on this. Basically, a teacher most be qualified at giving a course. JK asked what the department council's view is on targeted hiring within specific areas (e.g. MI) we wish to develop. There are pros and cons for this. Maybe a good idea in specific cases but hard to plan future development needs in terms of hiring. We might also do both open and focused calls. Open calls might only attract "the superstars" and maybe not the most dedicated in a specific area. Attracting new staff might also be done via offering them tenure jobs, e.g. other benefits. We should also keep in mind that hiring good and qualified teaching capacity is also important as this is what students value and in the end our final product.

4) Annual accounts

   HS presented the annual accounts. A more detailed view will be attached to the summary.
   Censor expenses were discussed. CS has historically used more on external censors compared to the other study boards at the former school SICT. There were reasons for that - HeS will ask Uffe.

5) Meeting plan for 2019

   The meeting plan for 2019 is as follows: March 20, May 15, October 9, November 20

6) Other business

   No other business.