

## Minutes of Meeting in the Department Council 2017-1

**Date:** Onsdag den 22. marts kl. 14.00-16.00  
**Location:** SL300 rum 0.2.15

**Present:** Tine Lykke Tindal Sørensen (TLTS), Mette Kaufmann Andersen (MKA), Peter Dolog (PD), Jiri Srba (JSr), Hua Lu (HLu), John Stouby Persson (JSP) Peter Dolog, Morten Meyer Rasmussen (MMR), Giovanni Bacci (GB)

**Absent w/ apology:** Johannes Lindhart Borresen (JLB), Helle Schroll (HeS), Emil Jørgensen Njor

**Absent wo/apology:** Rune Møberg Jacobsen

### Agenda:

1. Welcome to newly elected student representatives
2. Approval of the agenda
3. Messages and short news
4. The annual account 2016
5. The physical environment
6. Strategy plan
7. Other business

### Referat:

Ad 1. Welcome to new members, however two of the new student members were absent.

Ad 2. Approval of the agenda  
The agenda was approved by the council

Ad 3. Messages and short news  
Due to the new Faculty structure, the Schools will be moved to Faculty level, and the school employees will move during spring/summer 2017.  
The F-club celebrates its 40 year jubilee on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> of March in the SEL300 Canteen.

Ad 4. Annual accounts  
Headlines:  
The department had budgeted with a minor deficit -33.000 and ended 2016 with a deficit of -434.000. It is difficult to be more exact due to unforeseen deviations. We missed four ph.d. degrees in 2015 (-1.3 mio), which were partly outweighed by project closures (CISS) (+483.000) and an agreement with the dean (Smart City, +500.000), covering earmarked funds concerning strategic initiatives for attracting more external funds.

The department has a savings buffer at 15 mio kr, some of the means are tied up in rights of disposal and the time bank. This buffer is expected to be maintained when transferring to TECH.

The Faculty does not think we have spent as much as budgeted in 2017.  
A number of positions have yet to be filled.

Ad 5. The physical environment

It has been a difficult puzzle to find room for students and employees in Spring 17, and details are to be settled for Autumn 17. However Autumn semesters are easier than spring semesters due to students residing at the Humanities departments.

Long term plans:

We expect to go back to FRB7 along with Electronic Systems – By 2021 at the earliest

Medium term:

A number of unsolved issues may influence the medium term plans:

ITS still request to be united

FRB is to be renovated

Pavilions may be demolished. The MATH department was supposed to be moved earlier, as the pavilions are deemed not suitable for work spaces and the dispensations have run out several times. However, the MATH-students are happy with the premises, and it could be a reasonable space for group rooms for our students. It is uncertain if the municipality will demolish the pavilions once it is empty.

NOVI9 is to be populated, the people in FRB7B will be moved and renovation of FRB7 will start.

Current prospects for Autumn 2017:

Thesis students have been placed in 0.1.92 (the glass office near the entrance)

Satellites at NJV12 and NJV14 for group rooms, but students nor supervisors are happy with this solution. It is hoped for that we can move students to FRB7 – as the problem is larger in spring semesters.

When SICT moves to NJV, there will be 3 vacant offices.

FIB16 is out of the question.

The MSc in Interaction Design will run for the first time in 2017. They need studios instead of group rooms, and the ground floor of cluster 4 is already partially opened up. It may be possible to tearing down a few walls in order to open up more rooms. The dean may be willing to pay part of the costs, but we need to make further calculations. Campus Service is to make

the alterations and the price is rather high.

An alternative is to adapt SEL300 to our needs, but that is an even more costly model. It would also require that we all should share offices in the reconstruction period. These alternatives are to be discussed with Campus Service when we talk with them about making studios for IxD.

It has been discussed in the units before: representing the VIP group, JSr will not vote for shared rooms – rather smaller rooms, i.e. building walls to split larger rooms into smaller rooms in order to maintain the personal space.

The study board pays attention to how satisfied the students are with shared group rooms in the semester evaluations. Alternative is to have one semester without group rooms – but we managed to squeeze the students together by sharing. Centrally, the term “group room” is replaced by “student workplaces”.

#### Ad 6. Strategy Plan

The department strategy follows the overall AAU strategy. The philosophy is to refer to the overall strategy and take action for realizing this strategy. There are some interdisciplinary projects at central levels and others more specific at Faculty or department level. Some of the central initiatives will make restraints on the department’s resources.

Regarding new positions:

Assistant professors vs permanent staff – it is the permanent staff who attract external funding. However, it is difficult to generate permanent positions. One point of view: it would be easier to attract more experienced people with permanent positions. Maybe introduce longer contracts (5 years) for assistant positions – with a promise that good performance lead to permanent position. At other Universities, it takes longer to gain a Ph.D. – thereby the Ph.Ds. are more experienced and have published more when applying for positions. However, the risk is higher if the contract is for 5 year (and the Ph.D. does not finish his/her degree). At the moment we do not have a problem by attracting applicants for assistant professors.

#### Ad.7 Other business

September meeting will be moved to October 4<sup>th</sup> 14-16. Outlook calendar to be updated.