

Minutes from UIU meeting, March 9, 2015

- Present:** Ole Friis, Søren Askegaard, Per Servais, Lisbeth Pinholt, Torben Munk Damgaard, Georg Stadtmann, Yulia Tinyakova and Fanni Lengyel (secretary)
- Video call:** Ann Højbjerg Clarke from Kolding
- Absent:** Birgit Feldtmann, Niels Vestergaard, Torben Dall Schmidt, Klaus Levinsen

Ole Friis opened the meeting by welcoming participants.

Point 1 – Minutes from the last meeting

Approval of agenda and minutes from UIU meeting of November 26, 2014.

Lisbeth Pinholt clarified her point concerning International days. Yulia has taken the task during the period when SDU International on campuses outside Odense was understaffed. SDU International will from now on arrange, coordinate and carry out International Days on each campus once a year, as well an information meeting on each campus once a year.

Lisbeth clarified about the summer school that the non-partners and students coming outside the European Union will pay tuition fee, but our students and students from partner universities do not have to pay tuition.

Point 2 – Action plan for internalization

Complete partner list FYI, comments

Yulia and Fanni created a complete partner list for all Study Boards, so that they have all necessary information about the partners, they can have a look the ones that are relevant for them, and they can come up with suggestions for new partners. After sending them out to the Study Boards, there were a few mistakes noticed, therefore we are making corrections at the moment.

Søren mentioned that from the perspective of the Study boards, the list is incomplete. He raised the question, if dividing partners to study boards is the best way to have an overview of them. His suggestion would be just a list of partners stating which kind of students can apply to each of them, this way it might be more easily accessible.

Yulia agreed on that, it is logical, we made the list with the Study Boards for the quality assurance, but we can also make the other list. Fanni will complete both lists that they are available.

Out-going students: University/Faculty/Departmental efforts?

Do students have the place to go in the department level, if they would like to go abroad and they would need an academic advice on that?

Søren mentioned that they made surveys 2 times already for MMA students, in order to find out where the student would like to go, what attracts students in other programs. Ole stated, that we are only talking about Odense and here this should happen on the department level, and asked Ann what she would suggest for Kolding. Ann thinks that in Kolding they should have it on the campus level.

Georg asked if we have also the name of the students who filled out the survey, because then it would be very easy to match them with their required destinations. Søren answered that there is no secret about this, they tie people with places if they have the opportunity.

Ole stated that we would like to send around 600 students abroad each year and we have around 150 active partners, and some of our partners are actually never used. Yulia is getting new agreements, but still we have less places than we would like to use.

Lisbeth mentioned, that the Student Advisors should also put more effort in this and help the students to get the academic advise.

Yulia mentioned Kolding as an example where they are already using packages for studying abroad and in Esbjerg they are working on it as well.

Ole mentioned the question of the number ECTS that the students can get acknowledged in advance when studying abroad (30 ECTS). Søren stated that there can be differences in that, for instance MMA takes the courses outside SDU as electives and there can only be 20 ECTS accepted. MMA students are allowed to get pre-acknowledge as many ECTS as they want as long as the final number is 20, and the courses are relevant and do not overlap with the courses that they have taken earlier.

Ole said, that he will look into this question, as he heard TEK have a big problem with it (they are using a lot of work to do pre-acknowledgements). Ole ended the discussion with the conclusion that we still have to think about this and look into it one more time.

International recruitment

Do we have a clear international recruitment strategy?

While the number of students recruited from EU countries is growing year by year, we don't have a lot of success in the recruitment of students outside the EU, from countries like China, India or Brazil. Yulia has been contacted from Sønderborg, that they try to recruit Chinese students. There will be a Chinese university (Nanjing Audit University) visiting SDU Odense at the end of April, in which Elisabeth Vestergaard, Ole Friis and Cong Wang from Sønderborg will take part as well.

Per stated that outside the EU the expectations from fee paying students are totally different, and he thought SDU was not ready for it yet. Lisbeth mentioned that in her opinion it would be possible to attract also non-EU students, just they have to be aware that the "package" and the requirements (B level English, application deadlines..etc.) are going to be the same wherever they come from.

Ole stated that there are some limitations that we have to be aware of, if we take the example of cand.merc – there is a maximum number of students (for instance, Sønderborg – European studies – 10 places). We have to consider that if there are more applicants than places and we only accept for instance half of them, but then some of them will not show up we loose students.

Søren said, that the different programs have different strategies for this issue, as some programs just simply need more students, some of them have enough. For example, for MMA it would be very interesting to make international recruitment, because they want to be diverse and they want the "cream of the students" that are interested in that particular topic.

Ole stated that using "agents" for recruiting international students can be questioned in many ways. Yulia talked to Bo about it, who told her that we are not allowed to do it. Lisbeth mentioned the matter of ethics and that we need to be sure about the quality (language, relevance problems) and of course nothing can be illegal.

New agreements for consideration

Country	University	Yulia's comment
Germany	Bremen University http://www.uni-bremen.de/en.html	Exchange possibility for students of Master in Public Policy and Welfare Studies, as well as possible research cooperation. Courses are in English. I think we should support this cooperation suggestion. YES
Belgium, Bruxelles	European Association of Paritarian Institutions (AEIP) http://www.aeip.net/	Suggestion on internship cooperation for students of Master of Public Policy and Welfare Studies YES What kind of institutions do we prefer for internships? For discussion at the next meeting Torben suggested that it would be good to have international agreements with foreign universities regarding internships. Søren added that we should have a platform for that, lists of organizations that we cooperate with..etc. Torben and Søren will have a meeting about this topic next week. Lisbeth – the students can only get 10 ECTS for the internship – this can be a problem Per clarified the topic, the students can do an internship a project and for example take part in a summer school. (it also differs from program to program)
Russia, Moscow	School of Public Policy http://ion.ranepa.ru/en/	They offer both exchange possibilities, but also internship possibilities for students of journalism, and others. Examples on internships places: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Cultural Center in Moscow • Center for a Creative Industries (CCI) Fabrica • Element (newspaper) • Gaidar Institute for Economic policy • Institute of Economy in Transition (think-tank) • Kidsave International • Memorial (human rights & humanitarian aid society) • PIR-Center for Political Studies (think-tank) • PwC • Russia Today (TV channel) • Slavic Center for Law and Justice (law firm) • SOVA Center for Information and Analysis • The Cultural Fund "Yekaterina"

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Institute for European Studies (think-tank) • The Moscow Times (newspaper) • Transparency International Russia (Center for Anti-Corruption Research and Initiatives) • WCIOM (Russian Public Opinion Research Center) <p>We have two agreements in Moscow within the area of business, but none within the area of social sciences, public management, etc. I think the agreement shall be evaluated by the department of public management.</p> <p>NOT DECIDED YET</p> <p>Søren said that some of them could be attractive to MMA-s. Yulia will ask Peter Bro from the department of journalism about it.</p>
China	<p>Tsinghua University in Beijing http://www.tsinghua.edu.cn/publish/newthuen/</p>	<p>Courses offered in English: http://is.tsinghua.edu.cn/publish/is/9261/2015/20150102150803099140551/20150102150803099140551_.html</p> <p>University offers courses in English in the area of business management, law, journalism and others. However, I think the ECTS credits that are offered will not be enough for a full semester (most of the courses take 40-60 working hours).</p> <p>NOT DECIDED YET</p> <p>Ann said that they are only interested in the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Department and it is important for the students to know if they can get 30 ECTS there, Ann will figure that out.</p>
China	<p>Nanjing Audit University http://english.nau.edu.cn/</p>	<p>Offer number courses in English. We could establish exchange cooperation on bachelor level. They will visit SDU in April in order to discuss both possibilities for exchange, but also possibilities for recruitment of their students into our full degree master in Sønderborg.</p> <p>NOT DECIDED YET</p> <p>The representatives of this university is going to visit SDU in April, therefore we should wait with the decision until we talk to them.</p>
Romania	<p>Bucharest University http://www.ase.ro/index_en.asp Programmes offered in English: http://www.ase.ro/2013_files_en/student/calendar/01.16.News.pdf</p>	<p>Suggestion for cooperation in the area of economics. Difficult to evaluate the quality of programmes, as syllabus are not on the website. I will try to get syllabus before UIU meeting.</p> <p>NO</p>
France	<p>University of Strasbourg http://www.unistra.fr/index.php?id=</p>	<p>Suggestion comes to the department of marketing and management.</p> <p>I do not think the university is strong in their international</p>

	english	profile/courses/etc. Anna Lund agrees on this point. Therefore No from me. NO
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Yulia added one more German university German Sport University (GSU) in Cologne here, which was interested in the Sport and Event Management program. **YES**

A Mexican university was also mentioned – decision **postponed** for the next meeting.

Søren mentioned that he is going to a conference in May to South Africa, which could be interesting for further collaborations.

Ideas for partnerships with USA

If we want to make more agreements in the US and in Australia we should do something about it. For instance other universities often offer special programs for US students, like they come 2 weeks before other students and the university organizes extra activities for them.

Ole stated that in order to attract more universities from the US, we have to have a “special product”.

Lisbeth mentioned that “responsibility” is also an important issue in this case.

Ole and Torben will discuss it.

In-coming exchange students

The incoming exchange students do not really belong to anyone, even though they are very important for us, that they have good experiences. The Student Information point told Yulia, that it is often a problem, that they are not following one particular program, but they mix the courses of different programs. And that is why they will try to find the needs of this group of students. The Student Information point is preparing a survey in order to find the best way how to handle the problem.

Lisbeth mentioned that it is an important issue as exchange incoming students are important to us a university. We cannot use places abroad without offering a good product to their students.

Point 3 - Status

Short programme activities

International Summer School (28th June - 5th July 2015)– preparation

On the 12th of March we will go to Kolding to prepare the Summer school. We are going to talk to Ann, Jesper.

Intensive course

This would be a common course with the University of Stockholm and the University of Bergen, for two weeks, 5 students from each university. They have applied for Nordplus funding, they will get an answer at the end of May if they get it or not.

Welcome home event (26th February 2015)

Target: Students at the Faculty of Business and Social Sciences who have spent time abroad (for an exchange semester or for an internship).

Purpose: Our goal with the Welcome home event is to get to know the students experiences abroad, to collect some testimonials and to spot some of the students (for information meetings later on).

The Welcome home event is organized in February for the students who have been abroad the past year, either for a semester at one of our partner universities or for an internship. The workshops (organized by ESN and SDU business) help them to get back to their normal rhythm, to make the most out of their experience, to identify the competences that they have gained and to teach them how they can improve their CV with the stay in a foreign country. They have the chance to meet their fellow students and share their experiences.

Other discussions

International Brainstormers

Ole took part in the International Brainstormers program's meeting in February. They are trying to get more funds to continue on that, as it adds value to the SDU.

Accreditation – AACSB

Ole mentioned that we are applying for the AACSB accreditation, which takes a few years to get that. Klaus Hollmann will make the application to me a member, but it is still a long process until we can get the accreditation.

Visit in Turkey (3 universities)

Yulia visited 3 universities in Turkey at the beginning of March. Two of them are in Istanbul, both private universities and they would be interested in go beyond the exchange agreement and think about some more cooperations. Yulia is going to look into that a bit more.

One of them is further away from Istanbul, (Eskisehir) and we have an agreement for cultural sociology with them at the moment, but it might be interesting to extend that for other areas, such as law.

Information about scholarships

All information about scholarship opportunities should be available for the students. Lisbeth thinks, that it is available, it should be on the website. Yulia will follow up on that.