

Minutes AUPA general assembly
March 12th 2015, 3 pm – 3.30 pm
Dale Mortensen's Building, meeting room 2

Present at the meeting: Mathias (chair), Tore (ST), Morten (BSS), Helene (ST), Sabrina (ST), Christian (Health)

1. Formalities

- Election of Chairman
 - Christian
- Election of minute taker
 - Helene
- Approval of minutes from last meeting
 - Minutes were approved.

2. The Presidency account for AUPA's work in the election period (Mathias)

- The purpose of AUPA is to provide a forum where PhD students from all faculties can meet and discuss matters that are relevant to all. Also, AUPA tries to seek influence in university-wide institution and in that way ensure that PhD students' interests are being met.
- The past year AUPA has focused on the "Quality in PhD" report which showed that a considerable number of PhD students at the university are lonely and stressed. AUPA has introduced a course in project management to help PhD students anticipate these problems. The course is current being held for the first time as a pilot test.
- AUPA has been involved in revisioning the PhD Planner and has suggested some improvements
- AUPA has been involved in the development of the AU intranet and the problem analysis report.

3. Changes to the statutes

- It was suggested to change the statutes to make board work more flexible. All changes were approved. The new phrasing is (changes highlighted in bold):
 - 2.1: The board consists of **up to** three representatives from each main area and **up to three** alternates (suppleanter). It is recommended that at least one of the three representatives **is** a board member of a local PhD association.
 - 2.2: Election for the board must be carried out at a general assembly given due notice. The general assembly is to be held once a year **in the first quarter of the year. Notice of the general assembly should be given two weeks in advance.**
 - 2.3: Any member of the local PhD associations is eligible for a place on the board. If it is not possible to fill the board seats with local committee members, the seat will be open to external PhD students. Each of the PhD associations of the four main academic areas recommends three members for the board who can either be elected or outvoted at the general assembly. It is recommended that the president of the local PhD association is one of the suggested members for the board. If the recommended candidates are outvoted a new vote

must take place regarding the specific main area where other members of the PhD association at said area can run for the board. In case that there are empty seat following an election at a general assembly, the already elected board has the mandate to include board members throughout the term. (Removed: **It is recommended that the four representatives in Forum for Talent – one from each of the four main areas – are suggested members of the board.**)

- 2.5: The board has no fixed calendar and gets together whenever necessary. **Outside board meetings, the board can decide on matters by e-mail or other form of communication.**

4. Presentation of candidates for new board

- Candidates were:
 - Sabrina Tang Christensen (ST)
 - Morten Hjortskov Larsen (BSS)
 - Helene Halkjær Jensen (ST)
 - Mathias Vinther (ST)
 - Karsten Olsen (ARTS) (in absentia)
- Health may have new members for the board after their general assembly in April

5. Election of board members and alternates

- All candidates were elected for the board

6. Other Business

- Tore and Mathias has a meeting with the Graduate School Leaders:
 - Currently, AUPA has a grant of 25,000 DKK per year. It will end this year. We will not re-apply as we have not needed the money. If we need money for something specific in the future, AUPA is encouraged to apply for money from the Graduate School
 - AUPA will be invited to future meetings with the Graduate School leaders. If we want something on the agenda, we should give formal notice (talk to Jeppe).
 - Despite the financial situation at the university the number of accepted PhD students is stable
 - The Graduate School has upgraded PhD and supervisor courses
 - “Fremdriftsreformen”: In principle, PhD students should not be affected. However, AUPA and the Graduate Schools should be aware of any problems that may arise.