

AGENDA FOR AUPA BOARD MEETING
TIME: December 2nd 2016, 1-3 pm,
LOCATION: Meeting room 3, Dale's building



Formalities

- Election of Chairman: Helene
- Election of minute taker: Nina
- Approval of minutes from last meeting: The minutes were approved

Updates and follow-ups

a. Secretary – Nina

Welcome to the new secretary, Nina Christine Andersen. Her duties are primary to bring coffee and cake to the meetings, book rooms for meetings, update the website, write the agendas for the meetings and so on. It is important to be aware of keeping secretary duties to her and not given her extra work.

b. From local associations based on emails

- PHABUSS: new PhD course in statistics which is popular. The requirements for obligatory local courses have been reduced from 20 to 15 ECTS. Handling sexual harassment has been discussed. If it occurs you have noon to turn to. AUPA should formally address the issue to the university. Health has a psychologist for the PhD students which means you can go to her but many students don't know she exists. It is not clear which "turn-to" people exist locally – for PhD students and other employees. Nicolas will look into this, and AUPA will follow up.
- PHAUST nothing much is happening besides practical stuff and meeting with the local committee representatives.
- HEALTH: there has been an election with many interested candidates. People who were active members joined a lot of working groups.
- ARTS: there has been no meeting from ARTS since the last AUPA meeting. The representatives are working hard to get the association up and running.

c. How to get published seminar

The seminar went well. It was a morning session and there were different speakers from both natural and social sciences. There were more applicants than spots, so there was opened for extra seats.

Law-proposal

- With the new law it is not possible to get unemployment money while participate in a PhD education as it was before. With the old law it was possible to take advantage of the system and it might still be. Before you could register as a part time PhD student and get 'dagpenge'.
- Our comments for the law proposal were conflicting the university. We knew that this was being used, but the management did not. In the future

there should be better communication between the university management and AUPA to get more perspectives.

Meeting with PhD school management

- PhD students who show up to Joint Action are happy with the events and the organizers get positive feedback.
- The problem is still to get people to show up to the events. It is therefore important to make a positive atmosphere about the events so students think it is nice to join. We hope that supervisors will encourage PhD students to join the events. Unfortunately not many supervisors have heard about the events but we will try to reach out to them so they can spread the word and motivate the PhD students to come along. We have 20,000 dkk to spend on the events.
- AUPA has participated in an article in 'Forsker Forum' regarding the PhD review. AUPA would like to discuss the review results when they come out, and the PhD school management have agreed to make a meeting. It is important to maintain the collaboration we have with the PhD administrative group.

Joint Action

- We had a third event yesterday (1st of December). There were in total 17 students who showed up which was the same as last time. We would like more people to show up to the events. The event this time was more informal – the talk was longer than usual but people asked a lot of questions because they were interested in the topic. For next meeting we will update the survey. Pictures from last event are in AUPA dropbox.
- Strategy for increasing attendance at Joint Action
 - The main thing is to ask people you know to join the events and tell them that they will benefit from it.
 - Another suggestion was to make the target group larger, which means we could invite some post.docs.
 - We have to advertise in waves – using Twitter and Facebook (which worked well last event). Last time about 50 students were interested in the event but there were a lot of things going on 1th of December, which was the reason why many could not make it.
 - On our AUPA webpage we get roughly 50 impressions and sometimes a bit more. A suggestion was that we take pictures and put them on the webpage because it will look more attractive. We reached a lot of students for the last event which is good.
 - Another suggestion is to write a newsletter so it gets mentioned. Further more we can go through the supervisors and staff – so they can motivate the PhD students to go.
 - It is also important to plan three events ahead so you can go out and talk about them – give them a list of topics (advertisement) so they can notice the dates and what is coming up.
 - Last improvement is to make it a regular thing like having the event last Thursday in every month.

- Helene received an e-mail from a professor who has a colleague from Australia who could make a workshop and presentation on how to be a researcher. She suggested the dates 10th or 11th of January. But everyone at the meeting agreed that it was too soon and that it won't fit in to the schedule. The total cost of this event would be 2000 kr. This event should not be a replacement for a larger event. It could be some extra like Joint Action - special edition. It could boost the brand to make something like special edition. The conclusion was that we liked the idea but the timing doesn't work. Rune suggested Gitte who teaches supervisor course for PhD students for a Joint Action event.
- Larger events: it is important to have a month or a date for which they will occur. We should make the events so they will be in the late spring because then we'll have time to plan them. The events should be between March and May. We should make a plan for next workshops and give the plan to the supervisors. We have to think what we are aiming for and invite some one from the outside (new PhD students). We have to find a nice speaker and there by adjust the theme.

APV

- Still follow-up work being done on the APV
- In many places there has been suggestions to actions or changes. However, there are some experiences than they will not be implemented, either due to high costs, other rules or lack of people to work on it. In several places, the PhD group has been encouraged to take responsibility for the initiatives (e.g. mentor programmes, social events, change of organization). However, there is generally resistance towards this. This is putting an extra work load on PhD students who are already too busy. Rune and William are working on the website and making a list of initiatives. There are many ideas, but it can be implemented step-wise.

National PhD network and meeting

- 10th of February there will be a meeting between ministry and universities to talk about the numbers from the survey, thus they should come out around then,
- The Danish PhD network is being established. A proposed date for the meeting is January 23rd, even though this is before the results of the PhD review. However, we will still join the meeting and participate in the network. We can use it as a platform to discuss the survey results when they come out. The meeting will be held in Odense.
- Aalborg was not sure if they had the energy to go or the time. Where KU don't have a PhD association but has an election for PhD committee soon. We have been in contact with Roskilde. CBS has not been contacted. Industrial PhD is engaged.
- People going to the meeting: Helene, Rune, Jesper, Nicolas and Litten.
- How we think a national network could work: to have a network across the different universities, bring and take ideas, network to European PhD students, once a year meeting or if something big comes up. The meeting

should consist of (a) specific topic(s) and perhaps a workshop. We should elect a board and some to have responsibilities, make rules and agreements.

Website update

- We need more subcategories
- A new boost
- Nina has a meeting monday where she will learn about TYPO3 so we can start refreshing it.
- We need to extend more information, collect information and put it together in a meaningful way. There has to be names and links, updating important dates, have new topics that are relevant for PhD students.

Advertisement in PhD day abstract book, deadline December 12

- It is important because there are nearly 1000 PhD students. Some PhD students are interested in joining AUPA and Joint Actions. We could use adverting page to engage people. In the abstract book there is a lot of information and a lot of text that is why it is important to make small bullet points with an ad about next events. Important to keep in mind that the ad should be easy to read and foreseeable. Maybe add pictures from last event.

Other businesses

- Need to recruit new members because many will hand in their thesis in the spring.
- Helene leaves as president so we need a new president
- Next meeting: 2 months from now.