

## Summary of AUPA meeting 12<sup>th</sup> of September

### **1. Formalities**

- Election of Chairman: Steen Fagerberg
- Election of Minute taker: Malene Lassen
- Last meeting is approved

### **2. Updates from local PhD Committees**

- Science and Technology
  - Carrier Day was a success with great participation. The general assembly was scheduled to take place after the Carrier Day in order for as many people as possible to participate. However, few participated in the general assembly. The board was therefore not completed.
- Business and Social Sciences
  - The first real board has been established and it is supported from all sides.
  - Vibeke has had troubles reaching all faculties. BSS is therefore helping with distributing Vibeke's materials. In general the materials should be more incorporated within the faculties.
- Health
  - The preparation of International Day has begun. The "Lake Site Auditorium" has been booked for the event. The event will in a humoristic way talk about Danes and how to interact with Danes.
  - The Cum Laude remark has been discussed. A Judgement Committee will in the future nominate and choose PhD-students who are entitled to the remark.
- ARTS (did not participate in the meeting)

### **3. Update from the meeting with the pro-deans for talent development, and the survey process.**

- The meeting with the pro-deans was a success. The pro-deans appreciated AUPA's help in the process. Furthermore AUPA will have access to the results.
- The website "Quality in PhD" is up running but is still not in English.
- AUPA has been contacted by Marianne Hogmann (S&T). AUPA was asked to elaborate on the APV process.
- Omnibus will make an interview following up on the APV and they will write more about AUPA in general.

### **4. Event with External Nikolai "PhD fight" – update and plan of action for the next months**

- The "PhD Fight" was discussed at the meeting and there were several comments to the event:
  - It was remarked that the event is too long.
    - It was suggested that fewer faculties should participate or that the same faculty should not show up both days in order to reduce the time.
    - Further, it was recommended that PhD students could send in their abstracts before attending the event. This would supplementary reduce the scheduled time because it allows for a pre-pick-out.
  - Furthermore it was commented that there should be a "carrot" in order to get more people to sign up to the event.
    - If the event were moved to 16-20 it would encourage more people to participate. The event should then include dinner and have a social outcome.
    - If there were some kind of award that PhD-students could win, it would get more people to participate. This could be a nomination to the Annual Celebration or scholarships. Prestige will make more people participate in the event.

- It was discussed whether an element of competition would scare off some students. However, the board reached the conclusion that the students that do not like competition would probably not participate in the event in the first place.
- AUPA's ideas will be sent to Nikolaj.

## **5. Meeting with the working group “re-thinking the PhD thesis” moved to 23th of September**

- The meeting is moved 23th of September. The meeting is about re-thinking the PhD thesis.
  - Peter and Steen will participate in the meeting.

## **6. Potential cooperation with “Tindbord sparing” regarding PhD stress issues. Course description attached.**

- AUPA was contacted by Tindbord in relate to the APV that showed stress and loneliness among PhD-students. Tindbord had some suggestion on how to manage the stress and loneliness.
- It was suggested that AUPA should make an event where Tindbord could speak and coach PhD-students. AUPA will contact Tindbord on this matter.
- Further it was suggested that stress-coaches from the local institutions could participate in the event instead of Tindbord. AUPA will look further into this also.

## **7. Any Other Business**

- Henrik Shriver from DTU has contacted AUPA. They want to make a national platform for PhD-students. AUPA has agreed that DTU can use their names for further information about PhD-students in Aarhus.
- It was suggested to make a folder about AUPA that all new PhD students would get. The local PhD associations should find out if this is a possibility.