



AGENDA FOR AUPA'S BOARD MEETING
TIME: 16.00 – 18.00
LOCATION: Zoom

GUESTS:

ABSENT WITH APOLOGY: Serena Leka, Peter Faber

1. Welcome

2. Formalities

- Election of Chairman: Kristoffer Ibsen
- Approval of minutes from the last meeting (available via Dropbox)
 - i. Minutes have been approved.
- We are underrepresented by ARTS and NS. We should reach out to these faculties to find some representatives.
 - i. We could make a facebook-post
 - ii. We should connect with the PhD committee. Tenna will put us in contact with them.
 - iii. Mario will give a talk to new PhD students on the 06/04 where he will mention it.
- HAMU: Do we have a candidate who would like to represent the PhDs at HAMU?
 - i. Cecilie Siggaard will take the spot
 - ii. Katia will contact her to get important updates.

3. AUPA's focus this year

- Issue:
 - i. Improving unboarding experience for new PhD students
 - A. Improve how PhD students can obtain information and collaborate HR to improve the websites
 - B. Focus on international students, so there could be some sort of "starter pack" for coming to work in Denmark and at Aarhus University.
 - a. There is a good introduction to the faculties, but not much about the university as a whole.
 - b. There are relevant events, but there is maybe not much advertisement across all faculties.
 - ii. Thesis and project templates for AU
 - A. Accessing these templates is very difficult, and PhD students don't have a template for writing their thesis
 - iii. Finding courses for PhD students to teach: departments have different regulations for PhD students as teachers
 - A. It is a funding between departments issue
 - B. Finding out where and how to teach is very difficult
 - a. It should be more easily available who to contact and an overview of a course list

- iv. We could do more to get PhD students to be able to get part-time.
 - A. More about the options for going part-time
 - v. Trying to support local committees
 - A. We have some faculties that are underrepresented. AUPA only has two out of five. We could help the faculties to create their own local committees.
 - a. We could write out on FB: We are looking for members of the board from ARTS and NAT, and we are also willing to help the faculties make local committees/associations
 - Topic for this year's conference:
 - i. We can discuss this later: We should decide on a topic before the summer break
 - ii. There is a document in the shared dropbox (AUPA 2020-2021): Summary of survey
 - A. Here there are a few suggestions to what we can focus on
 - iii. How to build a network (during/after corona)
 - A. How to get grants after the PhD
4. Heads of graduate schools meeting
- What issues should we raise in the meeting?
 - i. Corona situation and how we feel that the university has dealt with this – are we satisfied?
 - A. There is a lot of miscommunication and lack of updates on what is happening next
 - B. There have been a lot more extensions at NAT and Health than at other faculties.
 - ii. Unboarding
 - iii. How we should move on from this lockdown in regards to mental health and social events
 - iv. PhDs only have 3 years to write their dissertation. Corona has taken up quite a bit of this time for many and affected the quality of the PhD journey drastically.
 - v. Taking into consideration that networking is not possible. Those students affected who have graduated should be able to attend meetings/seminars to help with networking
 - Please ask around your department or faculty in regards to the opinion on how AU has dealt with the COVID-19 situation. Are we satisfied? Any issues that we should bring up? Have they responded to the requests from the last meeting?
5. Union representatives: how to collaborate with them
- Should we contact the union representatives and have closer contact with them?
 - Issue: union representatives are maybe not aware of the challenges that PhD students are facing

- i. Communication issue: how should we collaborate with the union representatives?
 - ii. More information in the unboarding about who the union representatives are and what they do.
 - iii. Could the union representatives help to reach the graduate schools, and to spread the word on the issues we have discussed?
6. Workshop for first year PhD students at Aarhus University
 - Ana Lucia is planning a workshop with Gitte Wichmann and two colleagues on PhD wellbeing.
 - Do we want to collaborate with this workshop?
 - i. Promotion on facebook? And help to book a conference room
 - ii. Give first year PhD students a good starting point
 - The workshop will (hopefully) be mid-June. It should be on-site
7. Deciding on the date for the next board meeting
 - Please make sure to answer the doodle as soon as possible.
 - A doodle has been sent out.
8. Any other business?
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