

MINUTES FOR AUPA GENERAL ASSEMBLY TIME:  
6<sup>th</sup> of March 2019, 13.00 – 15.00. LOCATION:  
DALE MORTENSENS BUILDING 1653, ROOM  
014, CONFERENCE ROOM 2



1. Welcome

2. Formalities

- Election of Chairman
  - Viktorija
- Approval of minutes from last meeting
  - Yes

3. Presentation of the work done by the board of AUPA in 2018-2019

- *There has been 7 board meeting meetings, 2 meetings with heads of graduate schools and a number of board meetings in the PAND board.*
- *Focus of AUPA:*
  - *Rules for PhD education; courses, teaching, quality of education*
  - *Well-being with great focus on stress related issues*
  - *Other specific matters. See topics.*
- *Topics AUPA has touched upon:*
  - ***Internationalization and AU recruitment norms:*** *AUPA has had a great focus on discussing the recruitment norms with management and been working on getting institute hours for the Danish language classes for foreign PhD students. Regarding institute hours, it was concluded that it could be received although evaluated case by case on the individual level; PhD students have to talk to their department head.*
  - ***Stress:*** *AUPA has put the focus on stress. Many different organizations e.g. PAND do also focus on this issue. In general, there has been a great focus on loneliness in the media.*
  - ***Scarcity of political engagement:*** *The last year PhD local associations have had a hard time recruiting new people, resulting in the closing of the PhD local association at ARTS. The local Health PhD association is the only one that has a lot of engagement. AUPA has therefore discussed how to increase visibility and awareness. As a suggestion, AUPA has worked on making it possible to get institute hours, however this can only be decided case by case and students can individually talk to their departments about this.*

- **Career development:** Focus points have been to incorporate interest in academia & industry as well as preparation for life after the PhD, which has led to a talk about generating workshop & coaching sessions.
- **Collaboration:** AUPA has strengthened the collaboration with PAND and many of AUPA's topics are in alignment with PAND. There has mostly been joined forces around the topic of well-being.

4. Presentation and approval of the Financial report

- *AUPA has secured a budget for 2019. In case of events, AUPA will apply for funding.*

5. Short briefing about further work. (Discussion at the following board meeting.)

- *Improve communication between local associations/ committees and sharing of knowledge.*
- *Work on representing a united academic voice of PhD students and put stronger focus on academic matters (ECTS, stay abroad etc.) Possibly working on a survey about: how PhD students go about the requirement for change of environment.*
- *Continue working on stress amongst PhD students as well as raising the issue at university management level.*
- *Collaborations:*
  - a. *Science for Society on collaborating events*
  - b. *Possibility of co-sponsoring a workshop on effective writing strategies and academic English with the Junior Researcher Association.*
  - c. *AU Career for PhD and JR about career related sessions/workshops. E.g. Women in Science*
  - d. *PAND: on career, rights, PhD education, well-being and stress.*

6. Incoming suggestions

- *Concern and insecurity amongst PhD students regarding the PhD dissertations. Suggestion to make workshop/event on how PhD dissertations are evaluated. Interdisciplinary projects could also be in focus and make PhD students aware about what is expected.*
- *Tension between being a student and an employee – lack of awareness about PhD students different rights.*
- *Issues related to hierarchy and rights of PhD students. E.g. PhD students employed at University College or funded by different organizations/institutions are separated/being left out from the rest of the PhD students.*

7. Presentation of candidates for new board

- *Everyone present is interested in some form of engagement with the PhD associations*

8. Election of board members and alternates

ST: Simon Enni

BSS: Viktorija Kulikovska, Lisa Hirsch

ARTS: Nis Primdahl, Tenna Harbo, Ana Isabel Lobato (Alternate),  
Marianne Liisberg (Alternate)

HEALTH: Andreas Eiset, Anders Schmidt

*Since no one else besides board members and alternates (including secretary) was at the general assembly, the roles in the board were appointed with all in favor for the decision.*

*Presidency: Viktorija (BSS)*

*Vice President: Simon (ST)*

*Treasurer: Lisa (BSS)*

*A working group to get the local ARTS PhD association up and running again was formed with the following members:*

*Nis Primdahl*

*Tenna Harbo*

*Marianne Liisberg*

9. Other Business

Next meeting: Wednesday April 3<sup>rd</sup> 1 pm – 3 pm.