

# FODOS Board Meeting

Place: Håkonshall, HU 139

Participants: Magdalena Bruch, Perrine Fernandez, Ronja Wonneberger, Ellen Rinell, Teshome Mulugeta, Daniel Milligan and Marian Schubert

Overview of the first Board meeting of the new board 2015:

1. Budget
2. Common Board Meeting with DIOV
3. Meeting with the Rector
4. SiN meeting
5. Research committee (FU)
6. Study committee (SU)
7. Social committee
8. Academic committee
9. Miscellaneous

## 1. Budget

As it was mentioned during the Assembly General Meeting (AGM), FODOS asks for a higher budget this year, both to improve the social and academic conditions of the PhD candidates at Ås campus and to face the merging with Adamstuen campus and its own PhD association, DIOV. Consequently, FODOS budget was raised from 50 000kr last year to 58 000kr for 2015, DIOV received its own budget, and the two associations are granted an additional common budget of 15 000kr.

According to the advice of Magda (FODOS treasurer), the distribution of the money will be as follow:

Academic committee	11 000 kr
Social committee	40 000 kr
SiN membership fee	2 000 kr
FODOS AGM	3 000 kr
Miscallaneous	2 000 kr
<b>Total for FODOS</b>	<b>58 000 kr</b>
Additional budget common with DIOV	15 000 kr

Magda also advices the social committee not to exceed its budget to afford the traditional Ski trip in February. She also mentioned that one of the speakers of the SASS, Henrik Svensen, was not yet paid, due to a missing account number. It is part of the Academic committee budget.

## 2. Common Board Meeting with DIOV

In June 2014, FODOS and DIOV board members decided that the two PhD associations should have common meetings twice a year to prepare a fluid merging of the two campuses on the coming years. As the Rector of NMBU invited both DIOV and FODOS representatives to a meeting on June 3, we decide to hold our first common Board Meeting the same day.

The Common Board Meeting will be held June 3 at 9:00am, according to DIOV wishes. We will talk about the following subjects:

- Presentation of FODOS' policy on the university level
- Planning of common events
- Decide on a new name
- Financial strategy
- Policy about the compensation for active members of the PhD association
- Academic issues encountered by Phd candidates in the two campuses

The Board Meetings are open to all members of FODOS and DIOV and the webmaster now announces them on FODOS' website and Facebook page.

### **3. Meeting with the Rector**

As mentioned above, the Rector of NMBU invited both DIOV and FODOS representatives to a meeting on June 3, from 12:30pm to 2:00pm. FODOS will send at least Marian and Perrine to the meeting, Magda might join. DIOV will send at least one representative. The meeting is open to all board members, both from FODOS and DIOV.

In order to prepare the meeting with the rector, FODOS wants to gather the issues raised by its members. Many suggestions are made to reach the PhD candidates:

- Talk during the next Payday Lunch, Tuesday 11th May
- Open questions on FODOS Facebook page (we might then change the status of the page from open to private)
- Make an online poll
- Create a forum

Our webmaster, Ronja, is in charge of chairing the Facebook discussion and creating the opinion poll.

Some subjects have already been proposed: improvement the quality of the mandatory ethic course at NMBU, Norwegian courses for PhD candidates. This last point is on the agenda since 2005. So far, it has not been a strong will from NMBU to teach Norwegian language to its foreign PhD candidates.

### **4. SiN meeting**

Magda and Teshome are going to SiN meeting in Trondheim 28-29 May to represent NMBU. FODOS paid the fees to be part of SiN. DIOV does not send any representative to SiN this year.

### **5. Research committee**

We have now two representatives in the Research committee: one from NMBU and one for DIOV. We need a new deputy for the NMBU representative. The open position will be announced before the next regular board meeting.

## **6. Study committee**

Daniel Milligan is elected at unanimity as representative of the Study committee. Marian is his deputy.

## **7. Social committee events**

Activity planned for the coming months:

- Payday lunch: Tuesday 12 May at the Economy building cantina
- Picnic at NMBU: Tuesday 27 May. Marian brings one of the BBQ, Magda organize the place.
- BBQ in August: for the introduction day of the new PhD candidates (date not certain yet, we will be update next Board Meeting)
- Cycling in Sweden and 1h30 shopping: Saturday 12 September. The exact place will be decide next Board Meeting (03/06/2015)

Other suggestions for social events this fall: tree climbing in Oslo followed by a pub evening, Tusenfryd day at the end of the season (because it is cheaper), rafting near Oslo with an overnight stay

## **8. Academic committee events**

The Academic committee wants to present the PhD candidates with their thesis subject on a poster at the entrance of their respective department. The posters should be hung where they are clearly visible for master students and visitors. We will formulate a request for the Rector and talk to the PHD representatives of each department.

We also plan a brainstorming to present in a simple and accessible way the Do/Don't of the new PhD guidelines to all FODOS members.

In autumn, the Academic committee will organize an Ethic conference or an Ethic forum, where both PhD candidates and their supervisors will be invited. We believe it meets a need arise during the lively debate which occurs after the Ethic seminar during the SASS talks.

## **9. Miscellaneous**

Reminder about the new guidelines: it improves for student. For example, a B grade is not mandatory anymore on the university level, a C grade is now sufficient to pass. However, each department can choose to apply the old rule. As far as we are aware of, most departments choose to apply the old guidelines.

Next Board Meeting is Wednesday 3 June 2015 at 9:00am.

Perrine Fernandez