

FODOS annual report 2015/2016

In 2015, the FODOS board members and affiliates included the following positions and persons:

- Leader – Marian Schubert (IPV)
- Academic Committee – Perrine Fernandez (IMV)
- Social Committee – Ellen Rinell (IHA)
- Accountant – Magdalena Bruch (IMT)
- Webmaster – Ronja Wonneberger (IPV)
- Deputy Board Members – Ulrika Ridbäck (ILP), Magdalena Bruch (IMT)
- FU representative (Research Council) – Ellen Stenslie (Noragric)
- SU representative (Study Council) – Daniel Milligan (IKBM)
- Ethics Board – Ellen Stenslie (Noragric)
- SiN – Teshome Mulugeta (IHA)
- NOVA – Teshome Mulugeta (IHA)

General

In 2015 FODOS held 6 board meetings, of which 2 were joint board meetings together with DIOV. We participated in one meeting with the rector and research department and we could present ourselves at 2 PhD introduction meetings. Once again representatives of FODOS and DIOV were invited to speak at the PhD graduation ceremony. Unfortunately none of the board members had time this year.

The PhD candidates were represented by one person in the study committee and ethics board and by two person (FODOS and DIOV) in the research committee. We could not find deputies for the respective committees and thus were not represented when the main representatives could not attend. This is an issue that needs to be addressed.

Attendance at FODOS social events was a bit above average compared to previous years (2014, 2013 and 2012), though it is still only a small amount of PhD candidates compared to the whole number. In general active FODOS members are quite rare and we score bad in recruiting new active members that want to take some responsibilities, or help to organize.

Budget

Already in 2015, FODOS and DIOV shared a part of NMBU's support. These funds are listed below, together with FODOS-only funds (all numbers in NOK):

	Budget	Used	Balance
Academic committee	11.000,00	11.813,20	-813,20
Social committee	40.000,00	51.250,68	-11.250,68
Miscellaneous	2.000,00	153,37	1.846,63
AGM 2015	3.000,00	1.967,00	1.033,00
SiN membership	2.000,00	2.000,00	0,00
Fodos/ DIOV	15.000,00	2.759,55	12.240,45
Total support from NMBU	73.000,00	69.943,80	3.056,20

FODOS used almost all of the money for events, seminars etc., and a detailed overview on the expenses is attached at the end of this document. The balance of the FODOS/DIOV bank account is shown below (all numbers in NOK):

Bank balance 01.01.2015: **86.408,10**

Bank balance 01.01.2016: **89.464,30**

Please note that the merger of DIOV and FODOS is a requirement for financial NMBU support i 2016. Assuming equal financial support as 2015, FODOS proposes the following budget for 2016, excluding Adamstua-specific funds (all numbers in NOK):

	Budget 2016
Academic committee	11.000,00
Social committee	50.000,00
Miscellaneous	2.000,00
AGM 2016	8.000,00
SiN membership	2.000,00
Total support from NMBU	73.000,00

Academic committee – Perrine Fernandez

- Merger with DIOV

The merging process was one of the main issues this year and used a lot of resources (mainly time). To support the coalescence of DIOV and FODOS, we organized two board meetings and two big social events together. We also attended the rector meeting together. In 2015 we had already a shared account and distributed our finances in three different pots (DIOV, FODOS, shared). This proved to be a good idea, since every campus could organize their social life according to their finances and the shared pot was used for joint social events. Main activities during preparing the merger were discussing FODOS and DIOV philosophy and find common ground, finding a new name (see below) and write a constitution proposal for NMBUs new PhD organization. The latter was mainly done by Lena Hammerlund Teige (DIOV), Veslemøy Sunniva Oma (DIOV), Perrine Fernandez (FODOS) and Marian Schubert (FODOS). We used the current FODOS and NOSOVE constitution as blueprints and modified them. To hold the constitution as slim as possible we also formulated easy-to-change bylaws that should clarify practical issues especially in the beginning of the new PhD organization. The proposal was made accessible to all PhD candidates on 18th December via the FODOS website. We plan to vote upon this proposal at the FODOS AGM in February.

- Satisfaction survey

In collaboration with the social committee we organized debates on academic issues such as academic writing, relationship with supervisors, etc. Based on those discussions and with the help of Ronja, we organized an opinion poll among the PhD candidates to know the concerns, issues and positive parts in their program. The poll was open for two weeks and the participation was relatively high. The results were discussed during social gathering and presented during the rector's meeting.

- New name contest

To facilitate the merging between FODOS and DIOV and to give a new energy, we organized

a contest to find a new name for the PhD association of NMBU. It was organized in three phases: first all PhD candidates of NMBU were invited to submit potential names during November. We received about 30 propositions in total. Secondly, a committee of 8 members (4 from DIOV and 4 from FODOS) choose 3 names among the 30, and attributed a funny award. Finally, the three selected names were submitted to vote. Until the AGM, all members of FODOS and DIOV are invited to vote for their favourite name among the three. The new name (with most votes) will be announced during the AGM.

Social Committee – Ellen Rinell

- Payday beer & Payday lunch

I have organized 4 “Payday beers” and 4 “Payday lunches” this year. These are social gatherings around the 12th of each month, when most of the PhD candidates get paid. We have had approx 5-10 attendees each time. The “Payday Lunches” usually include a discussion about something that is relevant to FODOS, and one of the “Payday beers” has incorporated a quiz. The winners received a free beer. I think this has been a successful way of gathering FODOS members in an informal setting and getting to know each other better. It is good to alternate lunches and going out for beer because some people are more willing to meet at lunchtime while others prefer after work.

- Summer Kick-off BBQ

We organized a BBQ which took place on May 27. This took place beside the TF building and we were lucky with the weather. We provided people with meat or a vegetarian option and 1 beer each, as long as they registered. What I learned from this is that it's always good to have extra food/drinks because not everyone remembers to register.

- Cycling trip on Koster Island

In the fall we usually do a trip to the observatory in Harestua but this year we decided to do something different. I organized a trip to Koster Island near Strömstad, Sweden. We took MTbuss there and took the local ferry to Strömstad. A man named Stefan Von Bothmer was our guide. He has a restaurant & guest houses on his property on Strömstad. He is a biologist and told us many interesting things about Kosterhavet national park. I think he is a good guide for PhD students because not only is he knowledgeable and enthusiastic, he is a former researcher himself. We cycled around the island with him on bikes we rented from Kostercykel. Afterwards, we ate pizza at Buktens Pizzeria in Strömstad and went shopping at Nordby Mall. This was a day trip, 8:30-20:30 on a Saturday.

Webmaster – Ronja Wonneberger (and others)

- FODOS website

Finally after Christmas '15 the layout of the FODOS website changed. The newsfeed proved to be very valuable (see next point). We have to make a better effort to keep the different section up-to-date. We should especially be better to inform the members about the work we do (for them).

- Newsfeed

Every member, in fact every one, can subscribe to the FODOS newsfeed. Whenever there is a new article in the website's news section, subscribers will get an automated e-mail. It's efficient and takes a workload of the board. The challenge is to get new members to join the newsfeed.

- Facebook page

We have kept Facebook updated, and created events on Facebook for most FODOS activities. Beside our website and newsfeed Facebook was a very important channel to reach out members. There are currently 301 members in the group.

Planned social and academic events

Since the SASS and the regular Payday beer meetings were very well received we plan to proceed with this tradition. The famous ski trip to Hafjell will of course also be part of our event plan in 2016. A big event in autumn, like the 2015 trip to Koster and the 2014 trip to Harestua is also part of the plan.

For the time in between those fixed events we will carry on with established gatherings like BBQs, waffle afternoons and seminars about special topics. But we are also planning to try out new events. One such idea is the establishment of regular “writing lounges” where PhD candidates come together and write, give each other advice and maybe review their work. Especially William Warner from the writing center is open for collaborations.

FODOS accounts for 2015

Bilag	Description	Date	Bank		Academic committee		Social committee		Miscellaneous		Annual general meet		SIN membership		Share FODOS and DIOV		Support from NMBU		Personal ledger			Control sum
			Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Name	Debit	Credit	
	Bank balance 01.01.2015	01.01.2015	85 408,10																			
1/15	Intrest 2014	01.01.2015	79,63							79,63												0,00
2/15	Waffle afternoon expenses (transferred to Marian)	26.01.2015		700,00			700,00															0,00
3/15	Transfer costs	30.01.2015		2,00					2,00													0,00
4/15	SASS gifts for speakes (transferred to Ulrika)	16.02.2015		1709,00	1 709,00																	0,00
5/15	Transferred money to Magdalena to cover ski rental and pizza ski trip	19.02.2015		30000,00															Magdalena Bruch	30 000,00		0,00
6/15	Own share ski trip	21.02.2015						13 700,00											Magdalena Bruch	13 700,00		0,00
7/15	Ski rental (paid by Magdalena)	21.02.2015					12 813,00														12 813,00	0,00
8/15	Skipass (paid by Magdalena)	21.02.2015					17 600,00														17 600,00	0,00
9/15	Pizza (Hafjell Pizza Drive and Restaurant) (paid by Magdalena)	21.02.2015					4 680,00														4 680,00	0,00
10/15	Money transferred back by Magdalena for ski trip	24.02.2015	8607,00																		8 607,00	0,00
11/15	Aleksandra (paid in cash for ski trip)	24.02.2015	350,00					350,00														0,00
12/15	MT Buss - ski trip Hafjell	26.02.2015		15 256,08			15 256,08															
13/15	Transfer costs	26.02.2015		6,00					6,00													
14/15	SASS lunches for speakers (transferred to Natalie)	09.03.2015		216,20	216,20																	
15/15	Transfer costs	31.03.2015		2,00					2,00													
16/15	AGM expenses (paid by Marian)	16.04.2015		421,00						421,00												
17/15	Honorar for seminar (Carl Henrik Gårbitz) and travel expenses	16.04.2015		3388,00	3 388,00																	
18/15	Transfer costs	30.04.2015		4,00					4,00													
19/15	Honorar for seminar (Henrik H. Svensen) and travel expenses	06.05.2004		6 500,00	6 500,00																	
20/15	NMBU support	08.05.2015	73 000,00																			
21/15	SIN membership fee	20.05.2015		2 000,00									2000					73 000,00				
22/15	Brønnsyrundregistre årsavgift	21.05.2015		135,00					135,00													
23/15	Transfer costs	29.05.2015		6,00					6,00													
24/15	AGM expenses (SÅs)	03.06.2015		1 546,00						1 546,00												
25/15	Transfer costs	30.06.2015		2,00					2,00													
26/15	BBQ and joint board meeting expenses (paid by Marian)	09.09.2015		1 750,00			1 469,00								281,00							
27/15	Transferred money to Magdalena to cover Sweden trip	11.09.2015		10 000,00															Magdalena Bruch	10 000,00		
28/15	Sweden trip (own share)	14.09.2015						3 400,00											Magdalena Bruch	3 400,00		
29/15	Sweden trip (ferry, bike rental and pizzas) paid by Ellen	14.09.2015					7 614,60														7 614,60	
30/15	Sweden trip refunds (2 participants)	15.09.2015					400,00														400,00	
31/15	Money transferred back by Magdalena for Sweden trip	16.09.2015	5 385,40																		5 385,40	
32/15	MT BUSS Sweden trip	23.09.2015		8 168,00			8 168,00															
33/15	Transfer costs	30.09.2015		6,00					6,00													
34/15	Reimbursement (Ulrika)	09.12.2015		70,00					70,00													
35/15	BBQ/ summer seminar at Adamstuen	15.12.2015		2478,55											2 478,55							
																						0,00
																						0,00
																						0,00
	in bank:		89 464,30																		57 100,00	57 100,00

For	Budget	11 000	40 000	2 000	3 000	2 000	15 000	73 000
	Used	-11 813,20	-51 250,68	-153,37	-1 967,00	-2 000,00	-2 759,55	-69 943,80
	Difference	-813,20	-11 250,68	1 846,63	1 033,00	0,00	12 240,45	3 056,20