



Board meeting 61

Date: 2 February 2012

Time: 9:30-11:40 Scandinavian time

Present:

Antti Sukura	HU-V, chair
Agúst Sigurðsson	LBHI
Hans Fredrik Hoen	UMB
Lena Andersson-Eklund for Lisa Sennerby-Forsse	SLU
Jørgen B Jespersen	AU-DJF
Timo Tokola	UEF-F
Grete Bertelsen	LIFE
Yngvild Wasteson	NVH
Marketta Sipi	HU-F
Kristian Krag	NSB chair
Anna Valros	KUF chair
Terttu Virri	NOVA coordinator, secretary

Absent regular members: Lisa Sennerby-Forsse, SLU

Participant without a status of a Board member: Jill Archer, LIFE coordinator

61.1 Opening of meeting

Antti Sukura opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present.

61.2 Presentation of the new chair Antti Sukura, new member of Board Grete Bertelsen (LIFE), the new NOVA KUF chair Anna Valros and the new central coordinator Terttu Virri

Grete Bertelsen was presented as a new board member, representing LIFE due to the resignation of Per Holten-Andersen. Anna Valros was presented as the new NOVA KUF chair and Terttu Virri as the new central coordinator.

61.3 Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved.

61.4 Change of procedure of minute approval

The new secretary suggested that instead of approving the minutes at the following meeting, it would be accepted shortly after each meeting by the chair and two board members elected on the beginning of the meeting in question. The secretary would email the draft of minutes to these three persons for approval. When approved, the secretary would inform all the board members by email and the minutes would be downloaded to the "archive"- "Board meeting minutes" section at the NOVA homepage. The minutes of the previous meeting would still be presented at the following meeting, as information from the previous meeting.

Decision: The suggestion was accepted with a request that the secretary would circulate the draft of minutes to all Board members allowing them one week period of time to comment on the draft.

61.5 Election for two inspectors for the meeting minutes

Jørgen B Jespersen and Marketta Sipi were elected to be inspectors of the meeting minutes.

61.6 Follow-up on Board meeting 60, approval of the minutes

Antti Sukura presented draft of meeting minutes from Board meeting 60 and the minutes were approved.

61.7 Follow-up on KUF meeting 41

Terttu Virri presented draft of meeting minutes from KUF meeting 41 and the minutes were acknowledged.

61.8 Information on EC decisions

Antti Sukura presented the NOVA EC decision about raising the amount of remuneration from 30€ to 45€ for NSB members for attending NOVA NSB meeting (not applicable on video meeting). This decision is in effect retrospectively from 1st January 2012 onwards.

61.9 Reporting on preliminary accounts 2011

The former central coordinator Þórunn Reykdal had prepared preliminary accounts 2011. No questions about the accounts were posed and preliminary accounts were accepted.

61.10 Report on rotating secretariat

Antti Sukura presented the report on rotating secretariat, written by Þórunn Reykdal. The report was acknowledged and the suggestion of prolonging the overlapping period from 2 weeks to 1 month was accepted. This change does not cause adjustments to the budget.

61.11 Final approval of Budget 2012 and member fee calculation

Antti Sukura presented the background of the budget 2012 and adjusted member fee calculations based on a changed prognosis for Aarhus. After a discussion it was agreed that Aarhus' membership fee would be lowered by 40 000.00 € (so that from the previously calculated member fee 125 275.00 € based on incorrect prognosis, a amount of 40 000.00 € will be deducted resulting 85 275.00 €) and membership fee for other members would be the same as decided on the Board meeting 60. This action will affect the budget by declining the income gained from membership fees by 40 000.00 €. This loss will be compensated by using the equity found to be unnecessary big at the moment.

Aarhus will have quite a significant raise of member fee even with the new suggestion. Therefore Jørgen Jespersen will need to take this matter to the Deanship of Aarhus. The secretariat will wait for their decision before implementing new fees.

Providing Aarhus will accept their fee, the budget for 2012 will be as on the appendix of the meeting minutes.

There was a short discussion about using degrees as a basis of membership fees, both regarding whether all the degrees produced by each member (despite on which field they are) should be counted in, and future changes within LIFE and Aarhus.

LIFE's veterinary students will merge into the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences and all the other students of former LIFE will merge into the Faculty of Science. Within Aarhus, the Faculty of Agricultural Science is now part of the new faculty called Science and Technology and the graduate school SAFE (School of Agriculture, Food and Environment) is a part of Graduate School of Science and Technology.

Further discussions regarding what degrees should be included in calculations which are the basis of membership fees will be done on the next Board meeting.

61.12 Acknowledgement of NOVA activity plan 2012 and discussions of yearly schedule regarding activity plans

Antti Sukura presented NOVA Activity Plan 2012 and informed the Board that only a few corrections concerning incorrect dates were made to the plan. Activity Plan 2012 was accepted.

The suggestion of changing the schedule for both the general and local action plans was discussed and accepted. Action plans will thus be prepared for a two year period instead of preparing them annually. The **general activity plan** will be prepared according to the following schedule:

- 1) First deliberations at KUF in March
- 2) Discussion at Board in May
- 3) Decision at KUF in June
- 4) Final acceptance at Board in October

Local plans for the following year will be submitted to KUF in November and accepted at the Board in January/ February. **Local Activity reports** concerning previous two years are expected to be submitted to the secretariat for the KUF meeting in March (and the Board meeting in May).

Since due to the lack of time for preparing the matter, it is not possible to change the schedule for the ongoing year, the present Activity Plan 2012 will be revised at KUF meeting in September and re-accepted as an activity plan for 2012-2013. Also the local teams will be asked to revise their plans of 2012 and have them renewed in the similar way.

The activity plans 2014-2015 will be prepared during the period of March 2013 and October 2013.

Follow ups and possible changes due to financial reasons for the general activity plan will be done at Board meetings in May and October and at KUF meetings in June and November.

61.13 Local Activity Plans

The secretariat had received the local activity plans for 2012 and presented the main features on them. All the local activity plans were accepted.

61.14 External funding: Reporting on funding for 2011 from Nordic Council of Ministers (NCM) and Nordic Forest Research Cooperation Committee (SNS)

Þorbjörg Valdís Kristjánsdóttir had provided the Board an overview of NOVA/BOVA N+ Network activities 2010-2011 and the budget for NOVA/BOVA N+ Network 2011-2012. No questions about this were raised.

Þórunn Reykdal had provided the Board with information that The Nordic Forest Research Cooperation Committee (SNS) continued to support forestry related courses during 2011, by 4000€.

The new NOVA Nordplus coordinator (as of June 2012) had provided the Board with information about new application to NCM (for the next period 15.6.2012 – 1.10.2013), to be prepared by HU-V by the application dead line 1st of March 2012. Decisions on funding will be made in the end of

May.

61.15 NOVA BOVA Cooperation agreement

Discussions about NOVA BOVA cooperation agreement were done on the basis of the suggestion of BOVA. The Board didn't find it necessary to have a timeframe ("at least once per 3 years") suggested by BOVA on the agreement item 6e), concerning organizing joint conferences and seminars. This decision will be presented to BOVA by NOVA EC.

BOVA had suggested that (item 7a) any NOVA student (PhD / MSc) could participate on BOVA courses on various levels. The Board suggested that this should be reciprocal so that the item 7a would be as follows: "BOVA students can participate in NOVA courses free of course charge and vica versa." An explanatory comment about this concerning only the course fee, not accommodation and meals could be added.

The new names for both University of Copenhagen and Aarhus NOVA members will be updated before renewing the agreement in May.

61.16 Renewal of the agreement between NOVA and SNS

Terttu Virri presented the background for renewing the agreement between NOVA and The Nordic Forest Research Co-operation Committee (SNS). The Board agreed on renewing the agreement but wanted two minor changes to be made: Firstly, a possibility of SNS funding one single course with more than the previous maximum amount of 4000€ should be examined and secondly, the Board wanted to add "can take" into a phrase "SNS takes part in assessing and ranking..." (i.e. "SNS can take part...").

Finally, a small errata was corrected to the final sentence, changing "A copy the final report" into "A copy **of** the final report".

The secretary will be in contact with the SNS secretary on this matter.

61.17 Annual Seminar

Antti Sukura presented the Board draft of schedule for the Annual Seminar.

A discussion about the seminar and the draft of Agenda took place. A concern about the second day programme was raised and shared with the Board chair. It was pointed out that the second day programme should include more substance so that the participants wouldn't take part in the first day activities only.

It was suggested, that instead of having the visit to the Estonian University of Life Sciences on day 2, it would be an optional activity on day 0 (Wednesday evening). NOVA EC will present this suggestion to BOVA.

A few ideas about possible speakers and working group themes were suggested. Hans Fredrik Hoen promised to inspect the possibility of getting either the minister of education or the deputy minister of Norway to open the seminar on behalf of Nordic Council of Ministers.

61.18 Local news

No local news were presented due to the lack of time.

61.19 Closing of the meeting

The chair closed the meeting at 11:40 Scandinavian time.

Antti Sukura
Chair

Jørgen B Jespersen
Inspector of the minutes

Marketta Sipi
Inspector of the minutes

Terttu Virri
Secretary

Budget 2012		
	Budget	preliminary
	2012	accounts
		2011
Member fees		
AU-DJF	85 275	34 140
HU-AF	68 807	69 969
HU-V	20 012	21 445
LBHI	5 672	9 787
LIFE	148 928	153 809
NVH	30 356	30 975
SLU	200 720	216 422
UEF-F	14 614	14 205
UMB	105 618	133 249
Total Member fees	680 000	*2 684 000
External (mainly N+)	89 100	60 000
Total Fees & Ext. fund.	769 100	744 000
Activities		
PhD courses	-450 000	-453 040
Other projects:		
NOVA Projects, MSc courses and planning grants	-110 000	-63 344
NOVA N+ guarantee and Nordplus support	-65 000	-53 285
BSc		
New areas		
External projects / Nordplus	-89 100	-56 000
Promotional campaign	-10 000	*4
Nova Database development		-12 672
NSB	-21 000	-19 641
Annual seminar	-25 000	-25 000
Total Activities	-770 100	-682 982
Regained (funding not used)	50 000	65 051
Secretariat		
Salary	-75 200	*7 -69 400
Travels	-10 000	-11 336
Other	-15 000	-15 000
Total Secretariat	-100 200	-95 736
Internal interest	0	*8 4 838
Total Activities, Secr. and Interest	-820 300	-708 829
Result	-51 200	35 171
Calculated equity		
31.12.2011		194 467
31.12.2012	prognosed	143 267

Comments:

*1 Member fee was lowered by 33% by the board decision

*2 Member-fee calculations adjusted by Board decision 61.11

*3 Based on 9 reported and 13 non-reported PhD courses

*4 Promotional campaign moved from 2011 to 2012

*5 Regained is based on 33 reported projects, whereof 18 are PhD courses

*6 Travelcost above the budget due to rotating secretariat

*7 Overlapping period of former coordinator/profit-loss and Annual Report 2011 included

*8 No internal interest will be gained during 2012 and 2013