

### Minutes of Board meeting No. 50

Date: April 25, 2008

Time: 13-16

Place: University of Helsinki, Finland

Present:	Lisa Sennerby Forsse	SLU, Chairman
	Jukka Kola	HU-AF
	Lars Moe	NVH
	Per Holten-Andersen	LIFE
	Antti Sukura	HU-V
	Seppo Kellomäki	JO-F
	Lena Andersson-Eklund	SLU, Chairman NOVA-KUF
	Britta Poulssen	NSF (LIFE)
Others:	Knut Wålstedt	NOVA Secretary General
	Ulf Jonsell	New Central NOVA Coordinator
	Trine Hvoslef Eide	UMB
	Björn Thorsteinsson	LBHI
Absent:	Àgúst Sigurðsson	LBHI
	Knut Hove	UMB

#### 50.1 Opening of meeting and agenda

- Short presentation by Ulf Jonsell, new Central NOVA Coordinator from May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008

Decision:

That the Board welcomes the new Central NOVA Coordinator and accepts the suggested agenda.

#### 50.2 Follow up of decisions from meeting No. 49.

Item: Follow-up and comments on the decisions from Board meeting No. 49

Material: Protocol from Board meeting No. 49.

Presented by: Knut Wålstedt

Short comments on the minutes from meeting 49 from NOVA Secretary General.

Decision:

That the Board accepts the follow-up of decisions from meeting No. 49.

### 50.3 Evaluation of the Annual seminar 2008

Item: Follow-up and discussion on the Annual seminar 2008

Material: Abstracts for presentations and workshops

Presented by: Knut Wålstedt

Short discussion about the seminar, which was regarded as very successful.

Decision:

That the Board commits NOVA EC to ask NOVA Pedicnet for

- a survey to identify obstacles for making a low budget upgrading of the technical functions to facilitate the use of ICT in distance learning and video based meetings.
- a suggestion to how the NOVA Strategy could be upgraded regarding use of ICT.

That the Board meeting in January 2009 shall be held as a video based meeting.

That NOVA should consider launching a course for teachers regarding the use of ICT in distance learning.

### 50.4 The Annual report 2007

Item: Decision on the Annual report 2007

Material: Printed Annual report 2007, and Annex to Annual report 2007

Presented by: Knut Wålstedt

Short discussion on the material on the Annual report and in the Annex.

Decision:

That the Board decides formally on the Financial report for 2007, and that 175 418 euro are balanced as Equity to 2008, to KUFs disposal following the Boards recommendations.

That the new Central NOVA Coordinator shall follow up on the request for national student mobility data

That next NOVA seminar should be held on the mobility item, with a general overview from an invited national agency, possibly in cooperation with ELLS.

## **50.5 Follow-up of Activity plan and prognoses 2008, and financial frame for PhD courses 2009**

Item: Follow-up of the Activity plan and prognoses for 2008, and decision on the financial frame for funding PhD courses 2009.

Material: Comments on the activities so far during 2008  
Activity plan 2008  
Activity plans for Local NOVA Teams 2008

Presented by: Lena Andersson-Eklund, Knut Wålstedt

Comments from NOVA Secretary General, short discussion.

The Board recommends KUF to change the rule for the minimum number of partners eligible for NOVA Erasmus Mundus planning grants from three to two members and countries.

Decision:

That the Board asks all members to take responsibility for suggesting new items for NOVA intensive MSc and PhD courses, including new funding possibilities.

That the Board agrees to increase funding for PhD courses 2009 to 450.000 euro, provided we keep up the tradition to fund only high quality courses.

## **50.6 Fees for PhD course participants**

Item: New discussion on the rules for introducing fees for non-NOVA PhD students.

Material: Example on a PhD course budget  
Suggested rules

Presented by: Knut Wålstedt

Short discussion about the problems.

Decision:

That the Board accepts the suggested principles and rules for issuing fees for non-NOVA and non-Nordic PhD students.

That fees will not be charged from BOVA PhD students during the following one year, and that this will be evaluated one year from now.

## 50.7 Next NOVA Board meeting

Item: Decision on where to have the next NOVA Board meeting.

Material: Invitation from BOVA rector  
Letter of intent regarding NOVA-BOVA cooperation.

Presented by: Lena Andersson-Eklund, Knut Wålstedt

Short discussion.

NOVA secretariat will suggest a timetable and will check the interest to have a local touring in connection to the meeting.

Decision:

That the Board agrees to have the next Board meeting in Jelgava and thanks BOVA rector for his kind invitation. A formal reply should be sent as soon as possible.

## 50.8 Other items

Items: - Faculty of Agricultural Sciences at University of Aarhus as new NOVA member  
- Cooperation between NOVA and ELLS, report from ELLS Board meeting

Presenting: Lisa Sennerby Forsse, Knut Wålstedt

Short introduction to the plans for inviting Aarhus as full member.

Decision:

That the Faculty of Agriculture Sciences at University of Aarhus is formally invited to become full NOVA member from 2009.

That the invitation is sent as a letter, which includes a suggested member fee and an offer to send a small delegation from NOVA to formally discuss the invitation.

That the suggested fee shall be calculated on the basis of a predicted number of under graduate and graduate students, and that the amount shall be sent to the board for approval before it is sent to Aarhus.

Short report from the ELLS Board meeting.

ELLS is positive to an extended cooperation with NOVA.

Decision:

That EC is committed to make a list of items on possible NOVA ELLS cooperation.

## **50. 9 End of meeting**

The meeting was ended at 15.30.

Thanks to Secretary General (his last Board meeting) for his achievements. Secretary General was warmly thanked at the Joint Dinner on the evening before.

Thanks from Secretary General for very good cooperation.

Next meeting: in Jelgava/Latvia on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October, 2008.

Helsinki, April 25, 2008

Lisa Sennerby Forsse

Knut Wålstedt