

Approved on 25 Mar. 2019

Minutes of Board Meeting 81

Present:

Øystein Johnsen, Chair	NMBU	
Geir Løe	SLU	for Ylva Hillbur
Brita Berglund	LBHI	
Jakob Sehested	AU-ST	for Jes Madsen
Pauliina Karvinen	UEF-F	for Jyrki Kangas
Sophia Hagolani-Albov	NSB	
Sabina Sibcic	NSB	

Ingrid Aksnes Hjetland	NOVA Secretariat
Iben N. Andersen	NMBU

Not present:

Ritva Toivonen	HU-AF
Antti Sukura	HU-V

81.1 Approval of the agenda and of minutes of board meeting 80

Resolution:

The Board approved the agenda for board meeting 81 and the minutes of board meeting 80.

81.2 Orientation issues

1. Result of *per capsulam* meeting Oct. 2018

Enclosure: Result of applications for NOVA Board

The resolutions of the NOVA Board's *per capsulam* meeting in Oct. 2018 were as follows:

- Resolutions 1-3 are presented in the column "approved grant" in the enclosure.

- 4. *The NOVA Board wished that the regulations concerning the PhD course fee were treated at NOVA board meeting 81 in November 2019.*

Resolution:

The Board noted the information.

2. NOVA Strategy Seminar 2019

According to the NOVA Strategy for 2018-2021, there should be a NOVA strategy seminar each year. Participants are the board members, local coordinators, the Nordplus coordinator and the NOVA Student Board. Other experts and participants can be invited depending on the topic for the seminar. The purpose of the seminar is to “examine how well the goals have been attained, to prepare an activity plan for two years at a time when relevant, as well as to ensure that all the NOVA functions are focused on achieving the mission, vision and the goals defined in the strategy.”

AU-ST has kindly agreed to host the NOVA Strategy Seminar 2019.

The Board wish that the following proposals for topics for the Strategy Seminar 2019 are incorporated:

- *NOVA's future*
 - Discussion regarding future core activities
 - Role of the NOVA network
- Industrial cooperation and innovation
 - How do the different member universities do this?
 - Potential for organising NOVA courses in collaboration with the industry in the light of innovation
- Interdisciplinary cooperation
 - Cooperation across disciplines to meet UN's Sustainable Development Goals

Resolution:

The Board noted the information presented by the Secretariat.

3. External funding of NOVA courses

At board meeting 80 (resolution 80.3.5), the Board asked the Secretariat to present statistics on external funding reported to NOVA for courses that have been run during the last years.

The presented information is based on reporting from course leaders and calculation of amounts sent directly to NOVA from external partners (i.e. Nordplus, Nordic Forest Research (SNS), the Nordic Joint Committee for Agricultural and Food Research (NKJ)).

The presented figures give an impression of the situation, but they are not exact due to changes in the exchange rates and registered information based on five different currencies. In addition, a review of the replies from teachers shows that the registered information is not completely comparable.

Types of sources for reported external financing and corresponding costs:

- Financing from own institution – e.g. for teachers' working hours and travels, student meals/dinners
- Financing from other sources like Erasmus+ – e.g. for teachers' working hours and travels
- Funding from research networks/schools, doctoral programmes or other projects they are already involved in
- Self financing – e.g. they have organised the course as extra work on top of their regular job

In addition, master's students have received support for travel and accommodation expenses from Nordplus when attending NOVA courses. This is not included in the tables below.

Since 2016, the course organisers keep 50% of the course fee on PhD courses. The rest is subtracted from the final payment from NOVA. In 2015, 100% of the fee was subtracted from the final payment from NOVA.

Short evaluation by the Secretariat:

Evaluating the registered external funding has proven difficult as the registered information is ambiguous.

The amount of reported external funding, not including funding from partners with which the NOVA Network has cooperation agreements, is low. However, financing from the NOVA member institutions of expenses related to NOVA teachers is probably higher than reported as it seems that teachers understand the question regarding external funding differently. For example, course leaders from AU-ST are reporting what they have received from their institution or their graduate school to cover costs for teaching/planning NOVA courses, whereas others do not register that. There is also uncertainty related to whether the financing of some of the funding sources such as research/doctoral schools or PhD programmes comes from NOVA institutions or not. This funding is thus categorised under "Reported funding from miscellaneous sources" in the tables below. Thus, the Secretariat is unsure of the value of the teachers' feedback and thinks that the scientific teams are strategic when reporting on external funding.

It is positive that two of the master's courses also received funding for the course from Nordplus directly. This corresponded to approximately 30% of NOVA's total payments to NOVA master's courses from 2015 to 2017.

Table 1: Reported funding of NOVA PhD courses 2015-2018 (as of 19 Nov. 2018)

Type of funding /year	2015	2016	2017	2018 (until 19 Nov. 2018)	Total
Total amount paid by NOVA*	123077	174795	206724	44965	549561
Participant course fee to be kept by the courses	8100	4700	6750	2125	21675
Reported funding from NOVA member institutions	0	0	6933	0	6933
Reported funding from non-NOVA member institutions	2671	0	2000	0	4671
Reported funding from miscellaneous sources**	0	1495	8561	11814	21870
Total reported amount of financing from non-NOVA sources not including course fee	2671	1495	17494	11814	33474
Total reported amount of financing from non-NOVA sources including course fee	10771	6195	24244	13939	55149
SNS funding to NOVA for the courses	11006	15128	9521	0	35655
NKJ funding to NOVA for the courses	15733	0	0	0	15733
Total external funding paid to NOVA for the courses (NKJ+SNS)	26739	15128	9521	0	51388

*Includes course funding from SNS and NKJ.

** The Secretariat is not sure of the financing of some research/doctoral schools or doctoral programmes etc. that have been mentioned as sources of external funding. This category covers financing from these sources.

Table 2: Reported funding of NOVA master's courses 2015-2017

Type of funding /year	2015	2016	2017	Total
Total amount paid by NOVA*	20878	3470	37526	61874
Reported funding from NOVA member institutions	2928	0	10865	13793
Nordplus funding for the courses	9928	0	9536	19464
Total reported amount of financing from non-NOVA sources	12856	0	20401	33257

*Does not include funding from other sources than NOVA.

Resolution:

The Board noted the information.

4. Verbal presentation by the Secretariat

Contact with SNS

The Secretariat has negotiated a renewal of the agreement between NOVA and Nordic Forest Research (SNS) on funding of forestry related NOVA PhD courses for 2018-2019. By 29 November 2018, NOVA had received the funding from SNS for 2017.

Promotion of NOVA at the member institutions

The Board wished to receive a presentation to use when promoting NOVA to teachers and students at their universities. The presentation were to include some information on NOVA's history, cf. resolution 80.8.2. The Secretariat developed the presentation and send it to the Board and the local coordinators in August 2018.

Resolution:

The Board noted the information presented by the Secretariat.

81.3 Evaluation and revision of regulations for NOVA courses and other projects

At board meeting 78, the Board approved new regulations for NOVA courses and other projects, which were valid from 1 Jan. 2018. At the *per capsulam* meeting in October 2018, the Board wished that the regulations regarding course fee on PhD courses were discussed at board meeting 81. Some courses had applied for an exemption from the course fee. The application process for course series was also discussed at the current meeting.

Some of the main arguments for not collecting course fee on NOVA PhD courses from other students than NOVA/BOVA students, were that it was perceived as unfair, that it could lead to more prospective students

on courses, that it could lead to increased motivation for teachers to run courses as well as increased course quality, and that some institutions/teachers did not collect the fee.

The main reasons for modifying the application process for course series were to improve the course quality and improve and reduce administration for teachers and other employees, as there had been challenges in that respect during the last years.

Resolution:

The Board approved the changes below in NOVA's regulations.

1.5.2. Special regulations for PhD courses – applications submitted to NOVA before 1 January 2018

1.5.2.e.:

There is no course fee on NOVA PhD courses for NOVA and BOVA students. There is neither any course fee for non-NOVA and non-BOVA students, except that teachers/researchers and participants from the industry (i.e. participant categories: other non-PhD student and participants from the industry) can be charged a course fee. The course organiser must charge all participants that are non-NOVA and non-BOVA students for meals.

- The changes regarding course fee are valid for courses running after 1 Jan. 2019. However, the changes regarding course fee are optional for courses running in 2019.

1.5.3. Special regulations for PhD courses (including PhD activities and competence-enhancing courses) – applications submitted to NOVA after 1 January 2018

1.5.3.c.:

There is no course fee on NOVA PhD courses for NOVA and BOVA students. There is neither any course fee for non-NOVA and non-BOVA students, except that teachers/researchers and participants from the industry (i.e. participant categories: other non-PhD student and participants from the industry) can be charged a course fee.

- The changes regarding course fee are valid for courses running after 1 Jan. 2019. However, the changes regarding course fee are optional for courses running in 2019.

1.5.3.1. Special regulations for competence-enhancing courses

1.5.3.1.b.:

Scientists from NOVA and BOVA member institutions who are not PhD students are not regarded as NOVA or BOVA students. In accordance with § 1.5.3.c., such participants (i.e. participant categories: other non-PhD student, as well as participants from the industry) can be charged a course fee.

- The changes regarding course fee are valid for courses running after 1 Jan. 2019. However, the changes regarding course fee are optional for courses running in 2019.

1.6. Non-NOVA students

a. Students and others not registered at a NOVA member institution are welcome to take a course if space is available. Admission is handled by the course leader in accordance with local regulations. On NOVA PhD courses, there is no course fee for non-NOVA and non-BOVA students, except that teachers/researchers and participants from the industry (i.e. participant categories: other non-PhD student and participants from the

industry) can be charged a course fee, cf. §1.5.2.e. (course applications submitted before 1 Jan. 2018) or §1.5.3.c. (course applications submitted after 1 Jan. 2018).

b. The NOVA members at Aarhus University, Science and Technology, are responsible for actively informing their students about their status as regards to NOVA.

c. For PhD course applications submitted to NOVA before 1 January 2018, regulations on accommodation, meals and material costs for non-NOVA and non-BOVA students are detailed in §§1.5.2.d.b. and c., 1.5.2.e., and 1.5.2.f.

d. For course applications submitted to NOVA after 1 January 2018, there are no special regulations on accommodation, meals and material costs for non-NOVA and non-BOVA students.

- The changes regarding course fee are valid for courses running after 1 Jan. 2019. However, the changes regarding course fee are optional for courses running in 2019.

1.4.4. Course series

NOVA UN supports series of courses offered yearly or every second year on PhD or master's level (maximum four courses in a series or two identical courses given every second year will be funded). The courses should preferably be offered by different member institutions each year. The courses can either be a series of courses within a related area, courses that form a thematic whole, or identical courses.

The respective applicant for the second to fourth course in the series must submit an application for his/her course for the board meeting in June the year before the course is scheduled to run. The Board will take student evaluations of previous courses in the series into consideration when reviewing applications for the second, third and fourth course in the series.

- The changes regarding course series are valid for applications for new course series submitted after 1 Jan. 2019.

81.4 Accounts by November 2018 and approval of budget 2019

Table 1 "Result and balance Nov. 2018" contains an overview of the accounts in the period 2014-2017. The accounts by the end of Oct. 2018 and the forecast for 2018 are presented next. The column "budget 2018" shows the revised budget for 2018 (resolution 80.3.3). Finally, the approved budget for 2019 is presented. Table 2 shows the member fee and the probable current future commitments for courses until 2022. Tables 3 and 4 contain the member fee percentages for 2018-2019 (resolution 77.4.4.) as well as the member fees in EUR.

Table 1: Result and balance by the end of Oct. 2018 and draft budget 2019 (numbers in €1,000)

	31.12.2013	31.12.2014	31.12.2015	31.12.2016	31.12.2017	31.12.2017	31.12.2017	31.12.2018
BALANCE (equity)	307	331	311	286	254	254	254	109
	Accounts 2014	Accounts 2015	Accounts 2016	Accounts 2017	Accounts 2018 OCT	Revised budget 2018 (\$80.3.3)	Forecast 2018	Budget 2019
<u>INCOME</u>								
Total member fees	152	161	170	204	115	210	210	280
External funding SNS	10	0	19	0	10	10	10	20
External funding NKJ		21	0	0	0			
INCOME total	162	182	190	204	125	220	220	300
<u>COSTS</u>								
<i>Activities</i>								
PhD courses internal funding	58	86	122	192	85	251	227	192
PhD courses external funding	2	10	21	0	10		10	20
Other projects	15	25	15	0	38	77	65	50
NOVA-guarantee and N+ suppo	5	8	4	5	0	15	8	15
NSB	2	3	2	4	2	6	3	5
Strategy seminar	2	6	1	2	0	8	8	8
<i>Activities total</i>	83	139	165	203	135	357	321	290
<i>Secretariat</i>								
Salaries	43	30	33	31	27	36	35	36
Travels	2	2	0	1	2	3	3	3
Other	10	0	2	1	2	7	6	6
Project: application platform an	0	30	15	0	0			
<i>Secretariat total</i>	55	63	50	33	31	46	44	45
COSTS total	138	201	215	236	166	403	365	335
RESULT	24	-20	-26	-32	-41	-183	-145	-35
BALANCE (equity)	331	311	286	254	213	71	109	74

Some of the Secretariat's salary for 2016 was financed by NKJ as administration costs for the PhD course in the reindeer industry.

Table 2: Member fee and estimated current probable commitments for courses 2018-2022 (no. in €1,000)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Member fee (100%)	210	280	280	280	280
<u>Probable commitments for courses</u>					
Current probable future commitments for PhD courses: Total for courses to be held during the year	195	248	55	30	0
PhD courses held in 2017, paid in 2018	81				
PhD courses to be held in 2018, paid in 2019	-38	38			
PhD courses to be held in 2019, paid in 2020		-74	74		
PhD courses to be held in 2020, paid in 2021			-13	13	
PhD courses to be held in 2021, paid in 2022				-13	13
<i>Estimated payment per year of current commitments for PhD courses</i>	237	212	116	30	13
Current probable future commitments for Master's courses: Total for courses to be held during the year	27	41	0	0	0
Master's courses held in 2017, paid in 2018	38				
Master's courses to be held in 2018, paid in 2019	0	0			
Master's courses to be held in 2019, paid in 2020		-28	28		
<i>Estimated payment per year of current commitments for Master's courses</i>	65	13	28	0	0
<i>Estimated payment per year of current commitments for PhD and Master's courses</i>	302	225	144	30	13
Rest	-92	55	136	250	267

Table 3: Member fee percentages 2018-2019

	Member fee percentage 2014-15	Member fee percentage 2016	Percent of member fee 2016	Approved member fee percentage 2017 (\$75.5.3)	Approved member fee percentage 2018-19 (\$77.4.4)	Av. percentage of degrees 2012-16	Av. percentage of PhD students in NOVA PhD courses 2012-16
AU-ST	11,6 %	11,41 %	12,20 %	14,45 %	15,25 %	13,00 %	17,49 %
HU-AF	13,8 %	14,10 %	15,07 %	17,41 %	17,02 %	13,90 %	20,14 %
HU-V	4,5 %	5,64 %	6,03 %	6,80 %	7,56 %	5,13 %	10,00 %
UEF-F	3,7 %	3,04 %	3,25 %	3,82 %	3,88 %	2,82 %	4,94 %
LBHI	0,7 %	0,53 %	0,57 %	0,64 %	0,50 %	0,27 %	0,74 %
KU-SCIENCE	14,3 %	14,42 %	15,41 %	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
KU-HEALTH	7,2 %	6,44 %	0,00 %	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
NMBU	18,2 %	19,23 %	20,56 %	24,77 %	23,51 %	30,39 %	16,63 %
SLU	26,0 %	25,18 %	26,92 %	32,11 %	32,28 %	34,50 %	30,05 %
TOTAL	100 %	99,99 %	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %

Table 4: Approved member fee per institution 2019 (numbers in €)

	Member fee 2016 (50%)	Member fee 2017 (75%)	Approved member fee 2018 (75%) (\$80.3.3)	Approved member fee 2019 (100%)
AU-ST	20253	30382	32020	42693
HU-AF	25028	36594	35743	47657
HU-V	10011	14292	15886	21181
UEF-F	5396	8020	8149	10865
LBHI	941	1347	1058	1411
KU-SCIENCE	25596	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
KU-HEALTH	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
NMBU	34133	52068	49366	65821
SLU	44695	67509	67778	90371
TOTAL	166051	210212	209999	280000

Resolution:

1. *The Board noted the information on the accounts by the end of October 2018.*
2. *The Board approved the budget for 2019 presented in table 1.*

81.5 Decision on applications submitted in the second round of the NOVA Open Call 2018

1. Applications submitted in the second round of the NOVA Open Call 2018

Resolution:

The resolutions are presented in the column "approved grant" in the table on the next page.

2. Requested courses/course topics for the NOVA Open Call 2019

According to NOVA's Regulations for NOVA PhD and Master's courses and other projects, the NOVA Board can set thematic priorities in connection with the Open Call. The Board will accord an incentive grant of €2,000 to courses held in topics requested by the NOVA Board (cf. §1.5.3.b.).

Resolution:

1. *For the NOVA Open Call 2019, the Board wishes applications for courses within these topics:*
 - a. *soil science*
 - b. *One Health - animal science and veterinary medicine*
 - c. *ecosystems and bioeconomy*
 - d. *sustainable resource management*
2. *Applications for other courses/course topics are also welcome in the NOVA Open Call 2019.*

Course title	Type of application	Course year	Institution	Notes from the Secretariat	Amount applied	Total amount applied incl. incentive grant	Proposed grant	Approved grant
<u>Applications, NOVA Open Call 2018, 2nd Round</u>								
Courses in already approved course series								
1 Functional biodiversity for biocontrol and pollination – underlying mechanisms in crops *	PhD course in course series	2019	HU-AF				19556+2500	19556+2500
New applications								
2 Advanced course of innovation systems in circular bioeconomy	PhD course	2019	HU-AF		10000+1000+2000	13000	10000+1000+2000	10000+1000+2000
3 Hybrid Inference	PhD course	2019	NMBU		10000+1000	11000	10000+1000	10000+1000
4 Advances in Feline and Canine Nephrology and Urology	PhD course	2019	HU-V		10000+1000+2000	13000	10000+1000+2000	10000+1000+2000
5 NOVA course on modelling and simulation of ecosystem services and environmental resource management with artificial intelligence	PhD course	2019	HU-AF		10000+1000+2000	13000	10000+1000+2000	10000+1000+2000
6 Keeping the hindgut and the horse healthy	PhD course	2019	NMBU		10000+1000	11000	10000+1000	10000+1000
7 Multilevel modelling	PhD course	2019	NMBU		10000+1000	11000	10000+1000	10000+1000
8 Advanced production economics	PhD course	2019	SLU		10000+1000+2000	13000	10000+1000+2000	10000+1000+2000
9 Sustainable Nordic and Baltic Food – Technologies, Quality, and Health	PhD course	2019	NMBU		10000+1000+2000+2000	15000	10000+1000+2000+2000	10000+1000+2000+2000
10 Wetland ecology and management	Combined PhD and master's course	2019	HU-AF		10000+1000+2000	13000	10000+1000+2000	10000+1000+2000
11 Biological consequences of selection	Combined PhD and master's course	2019	NMBU		10000+1000	11000	10000+1000	10000+1000
12 Equitation Science	Master's course	2019	SLU		10000+1000+2000	13000	10000+1000+2000	10000+1000+2000
13 Feed ration planning in dairy cattle herds	Master's course	2019	AU-ST		10000+1000+2000	13000	10000+1000+2000	10000+1000+2000
14 Sustainable Urban Planning Charette in Response to a Changing Climate, Sea Level Rise - Mitigation, Management and Planning in Reykjavik, Iceland.	Master's course	2019	LBHI		10000+1000+2000+2000	15000	10000+1000+2000+2000	10000+1000+2000+2000
Total all applications							187056	187056
Max total applications for PhD courses running in 2019							146056	146056
Max total applications for master's courses running in 2019							41000	41000
<u>Courses approved in earlier calls, scheduled for 2019</u>								
<i>PhD courses</i>								
Explorations of collaborative closures in environmental conflicts**	PhD course in course series	2019	NMBU				21883+2500	21883+2500
Epidemiology and populations genetics***	PhD course in course series	2019	NMBU				17122+2500	17122+2500
Image based phenotyping****	PhD course in course series	2019	HU-AF				14156+2500	14156+2500
Plant breeding for sustainable plant health management	PhD course	2019	NMBU		10000+1000+2000+2000	15000	10000+1000+2000+2000	10000+1000+2000+2000
Dynamic modelling of cropping systems	PhD course	2019	SLU		10000+1000+2000	13000	10000+1000+2000	10000+1000+2000
Ecstacking in theory and practise: a new approach to crop protection*****	PhD course in course series	2019	HU-AF		10000+1000+2000	13000	10000+1000+2000	10000+1000+2000
Total PhD courses approved in earlier calls, courses scheduled for 2019								101661
<i>Master's courses</i>								
Total Master's courses approved in earlier calls, courses scheduled for 2019								0
Total so far for PhD courses scheduled for 2019 (if all courses are approved as proposed above)								247717
Total so far for Master's courses scheduled for 2019 (if all courses are approved as proposed above)								41000

*The course is part of the series Climate change entomology in the North:

- Course 3 (2019) was granted funding of maximum EUR 19 556 plus an incentive grant to be used on administration of EUR 2 500. The NOVA funding of the course will be dependent on the student evaluations of previous courses within the series, as well as the yearly NOVA course budget.

**The course is part of the series Environmental collaboration and conflict resolution:

- Course 4 (2019) was granted funding of maximum EUR 21 883 plus an incentive grant to be used on administration of EUR 2 500. The funding of a one-day's excursion, which is included in the maximum grant, is conditioned that the excursion takes place in the five-day's on-site course. The course title is changed to Explorations of Collaborative Closures in Environmental Conflicts. The course is granted an exemption from the NOVA course fee. This is a one-time exemption.

***The course is part of the course series Plant pathology with a Nordic dimension:

- Course 3 (2019) was granted funding of maximum EUR 17 122 plus an incentive grant to be used on administration of EUR 2 500.

****The course is part of the series Phenotyping technologies in plant-environment interactions:

- Course 2 (2019) was granted funding of maximum EUR 14 156 plus an incentive grant to be used on administration of EUR 2 500.

*****The course is part of the course series Ecostacking: a new approach to crop protection. The course is granted the following funding:

- a total lump sum of €10,000, which is a flat rate, plus €1,000 to cover administration, and
- an incentive grant of €2,000 for course in field prioritised by the NOVA Board in the Open Call 2018.

81.6 Rotating secretariat - next chair

NMBU's period as chair of NOVA and host of the NOVA secretariat will end on 31 December 2019. NMBU will then have hosted the NOVA secretariat for the two last periods: i.e. from 2014 to 2016, and from 2017 to 2019. Discussions concerning the future host of the NOVA secretariat for 2020-2022 were initiated.

Resolution:

1. *The decision on the host of the NOVA secretariat for 2020-2022 was postponed to board meeting 82.*
2. *The NOVA Chair will call for a meeting regarding the possibility of AU-ST hosting the NOVA secretariat in 2020-2022. The participants at the meeting will be the NOVA Chair and the NOVA board member from AU-ST, and possibly the deputy NOVA board member from AU-ST.*

81.7 Cooperation with Indonesian university

This item was presented verbally at the meeting.

On October 17, 2018 the NOVA Secretariat received an email from Dr. Ingeborg Menzler-Hokkanen, Department of Agricultural Sciences, University of Helsinki.

The entomology group at HU-AF has entered into cooperation with UNHAS (Universitas Hasanuddin, Sulawesi, Makassar) in Indonesia, and would like to continue this cooperation further. Dr. Ingeborg Menzler-Hokkanen argues that UNHAS and the region need help and encouragement after the large earthquake struck on September 28, 2018 and killed hundreds of people.

Dr. Ingeborg Menzler-Hokkanen suggests that the model, on which NOVA is based, is an excellent example for cooperation. For example, self-financing, course evaluation and feedback, the secretariat structure, etc.

The NOVA Board discussed whether NOVA should enter into cooperation like suggested by the entomology network at HU-AF.

Resolution:

1. *The Board thinks that it is positive to help in crises. The NOVA Secretariat will help with information regarding the organisation of NOVA and can participate in a skype meeting. NOVA will not offer any economic funding.*
2. *Information that is put together to be presented for the UNHAS must be recorded so that NOVA can use it for similar questions in the future.*
3. *The University of Helsinki is responsible for following up on the matter, including putting together information provided by NOVA and sending a copy of this to the NOVA Secretariat.*

81.8 Meeting dates 2019

There are three board meetings per year. One meeting is a face-to-face meeting in connection with the annual NOVA Strategy Seminar. The other two are video meetings. The first video meeting is normally in March, the strategy seminar in June, and the last video meeting in November/December.

Resolution:

Meeting dates 2019:

1. *Board meeting: 25 Mar. 2019, 10 am – 12 noon Central European Time (Scandinavian time), video*
2. *NOVA Strategy Seminar: 3-4 June 2019, in Foulum, Denmark*
3. *Board meeting: 22 Nov. 2019, 10 am – 12 noon Central European Time (Scandinavian time), video*

81.9 News from the member institutions

AU-ST

No news.

SLU

The new vice-chancellor at SLU will be appointed on 17 December 2018. The Division of educational affairs at SLU will be reorganized. This will not affect NOVA.

UEF-F

No news.

LBHI

LBHI is in the process of hiring a new rector and one new dean. The strategic planning which the University

started in the spring 2018 will not terminate until those are on place. A new NOVA coordinator started in the autumn 2018. He is an international coordinator and a research coordinator.

NSB

The NSB had a meeting on 28 November 2018. It is not possible for the NSB to do very detailed analyses of the NOVA student survey that they conducted during spring 2018 due to lack of time and financial resources.

A link to a presentation of the student survey is available on the NOVA website:

<https://www.nmbu.no/en/students/nova/about/seminars/2018/documents-for-strategy-seminar>

Sabina Sibicic will end her term as NMBU's NSB representative in January 2019. The NOVA Chair thanked her for her work on the NOVA Board.

NMBU

In Norway, open science and Plan-S is a big concern. The University's new Strategy is approved. NMBU will be a Sustainable Development Goal University. The Strategy emphasises interdisciplinary collaboration, the digital society, lifelong learning, arrival of the Veterinary Faculty at Campus Ås, and collaboration with the working life and the industry.

81.10 Other issues

No other issues were raised.