

---

**MINUTES OF SODOC MEETING WITH RESEARCH SUPPORT OFFICE  
HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2020 AT 10:00 VIA TEAMS**

---

**Members present**

Name	Designation
1) Vinay Bumar Reddy Nannuru	Leader, SoDoC
2) Micah Lucy Abigaba	Secretary, SoDoC
3) Line Oksnes	Senior Executive Officer, Research support Office
4) Anna Lewandowska-Sabat	Senior Adviser

<b>Agenda</b>	
1. Introductions 2. SoDoC activities this year 3. Plans for a career day? 4. What is in the pipeline for 2020	
MINUTE	ACTION BY
<b>MINUTE 1: Introductions</b>	
⇒ Line chaired the meeting and opened with each member introducing themselves.	
⇒ Acknowledged receipt of SoDoC annual report and said they were impressed with SoDoC achievements and plans	Line
⇒ Inquired about Academic events	Line
<b>MINUTE 2: SoDoC activities this year</b>	
⇒ Discussed SoDoC plans; seminars/ courses on writing skills, lunch seminars.	Vinay
⇒ Raised concern about use of Norwegian at faculty-level meetings	
⇒ Discussed Board plans of updating SoDoC webpage so responsibilities of each Board member are clear.	
⇒ Raised concern about salary raise and equal pay	
⇒ Discussed how COVID-19 pandemic has affected SoDoC activities	
⇒ Discussed contents of Gard's document on COVID-19 effects. Highlighted effects of pandemic on PhD and groups them in 4 categories; i) those that had to travel to do their research; ii) parents with school-going children; iii) those that have had their lab work delayed; iv) delayed deliveries for lab work whose schedules have been delayed.	
⇒ Highlighted SoDoC plans of social events (barbeque and balling) and how COVID-19 prevention guidelines will be followed, as per the government and university guidelines.	
⇒ Discussed about the meeting with the Rector and some pertinent issues that were discussed such as effects of CoVID-19 on PhDs.	Line

<p><b>Reaction/Response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Acknowledged delays of PhD completion due to COVID-19</li> <li>⇒ Advised that PhDs follow-up about contract extensions with their faculties.</li> <li>⇒ Research support Office not in position to actively help with PhD contract extensions.</li> <li>⇒ Advised that all these issues are raised during meeting with rector in October</li> </ul> <p><b>Resolution</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ All issues about effects of COVID-19 on PhDs to be discussed at our next meeting in August or September with the Research support Office.</li> <li>⇒ Anna shall communicate proposed date of next meeting with Research support Office</li> </ul>	
<b>MINUTE 3: Plans for a career day?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Requested to hear about the plans SoDoC has for Career day, that was planned by the former leader, Pablo.</li> <li>⇒ Informed us about NAV career day on 15 August 2020.</li> </ul> <p><b>Resolution</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ SoDoC to get in touch with NAV and plan on how to be part of their career day for the benefit of PhDs.</li> <li>⇒ Line to share information and links on general skills courses suited for PhDs. Vinay to share information with SoDoC from Line.</li> </ul>	Line
<b>MINUTE 4: What is in the pipeline for 2020?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Requested to hear about the plans SoDoC has on attracting more members to partake in SoDoC activities, as per the goals in SoDoC annual report</li> <li>⇒ Raised query about how members can be reached beyond Facebook</li> </ul> <p><b>Reaction/Response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Plans to attract more members; i) updating SoDoC webpage; ii) sharing newsletters; iii) opening discussions on social media; iv) organising events with writing centre</li> <li>⇒ Advised SoDoC to make use of NMBU internal age for information in both English and Norwegian to reach out to more members. Also emphasised need to make SoDoC more diverse, particularly with involvement of Norwegians.</li> <li>⇒ Advised SoDoC to plan more small scale events to reach out to diverse groups of people with different interests</li> <li>⇒ Reminder of course with writing centre on 25 June</li> </ul> <p><b>Resolution</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Line to send invitation and agenda for meeting with Pro-rector(scheduled towards end of August)</li> </ul> <p>There being no further submissions, the meeting was adjourned at this point at 10.42.</p>	Line  Vinay Anna  Line


The next meeting was not scheduled	
------------------------------------	--

Signature

Date

Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: 

22/06/2020