
**MINUTES OF SODOC BOARD MEETING HELD ON Tuesday 15
December 2020**

Members present

- 1) *Vinay Kumar Reddy Nannuru*
- 2) *Micah Lucy Abigaba*
- 3) *Bikal Ghimire*
- 4) *Olga Mikhailova*
- 5) *Gard Frækaland Vangsnes*
- 6) *Emil Jarosz*
- 7) *Grace Alinaitwe*
- 8) *Anders Dugstad*
- 9) *Aleksander Hykkerud*
- 10) *Tora Asledottir*
- 11) *Abhilash Nair*

Agenda	
Meeting started at 16:15	
MINUTE	ACTION BY
MINUTE 1:	
<p>Norwegian course funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gave update on Norwegian course <p>Reactions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suggested possibility of allocating part of the SODOC savings towards an alternative activity (such as the Norwegian courses) whose budget is exhausted. Suggested allocating 71,000NOK - Suggested alternative financing such as re-allocating part of the Ski trip budget towards other activities, considering cheaper destination for the Ski trip - Suggested a maximum of 22 people for the Norwegian course at a cost of 60,000NOK - Inquired for clarity on the 71,000NOK savings and whether these are inclusive of savings for the year 2020 <p>Response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasised that most of the budget is going towards compensation and less is left over for social activities. 	<p>Tora</p> <p>Vinay</p> <p>Emil</p> <p>Tora</p> <p>Tora & Emil</p> <p>Vinay</p> <p>Vinay</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarified that SoDoC has no savings from its 2020 budget, particularly because the budget was adjusted upwards to compensate previous 2019 Board members. - Provided clarity on expenses of 2020 vs budget based on Julia's (treasurer's) email - Clarified that the savings of 71,000NOK were from 2019 and previous years - Raised concerns about sustainability of expending savings - Advised SoDoC not to use up all savings - Reminded members of request for extra 30,000NOK from the Research Support Office and expressed optimism about having it approved. Plans to have it allocated towards the Norwegian course expense. - Brief from Norwegian course survey: 34 participated; 4 people were not willing to pay anything; 24 willing to pay 500NOK and 6 willing to pay 1000NOK. Members resolved to set course fee at 500NOK in order to motivate members to commit to course participation. - Vinay committed to contacting the Research Support Office on their promise for the additional 30,000NOK - Tora committed to contacting Research Support Office in order to inquire about possibility of funding Norwegian course - In reference to Treasurer's email, suggested having participants of Norwegian course sign against their names on letter to Research Support Office requesting for funding - Suggested that the survey on Norwegian course participation be submitted to the Research Support Office along with a signed letter with participants' names requesting for funding - 	<p>Vinay</p> <p>Vinay</p> <p>Olga Abhilash Vinay</p> <p>Tora</p> <p>Vinay</p> <p>Tora</p> <p>Emil</p> <p>Vinay</p>
MINUTE 2: Vote on how to expend the SoDoC savings	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asked members on whether funds should be drawn from savings Results: - Asked members to vote on upper limit of 30,000NOK to be drawn from savings 	<p>Vinay</p> <p>Vinay</p>
MINUTE 3: Contact person for Postdocs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raised concern about support from Research Support office for Postdocs - Raised concern about representation on the SoDoC Board - Requested for clarity on whether Postdocs already had representation on the SoDoC Board <p>Response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revisited discussions from SoDoC Board meeting with Prorector on assistance to Postdocs (can be found in minutes for meeting date 19th November 2020) - Members were informed that the Postdocs already had representation on the Board as early researchers <p>Reaction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members were informed Early researchers are those that have completed their PhD tenure in the last 5 years 	<p>Olga</p> <p>Olga Abhilash</p> <p>Vinay</p> <p>Vinay</p> <p>Tora</p>

MINUTE 4: Possible date for AGM in 2021	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thanked 2020 Board for the job well done. - Suggested last week of January 2021, with possibility of physical meeting while observing SOPs and restrictions from the government amidst the prevailing pandemic 	Vinay
MINUTE 5: Briefing on Research Committee activities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Briefed Board on the RENT model; Publishing in Open access; Publishing in Closed source but archiving in Open source; sharing Published work - Delays due to the pandemic: most professors delayed in research because of teaching; PhDs that were involved in teaching were delayed too but compensated less. - Professors said delays depended on area/faculty, for instance Professors from HH said they were less affected - Shared concerns about students with research in Latin America that have been delayed by 1 year and how this could be addressed - Revisited issue of PhD students with children whose work has been affected due to homeschooling - Shared results on survey of satisfaction with PhD programme; majority were generally satisfied but dissatisfied with career guidance beyond the PhD <p>Reaction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Highlighted Unions where PhD students could seek for compensation for staying home with children (similar to sick leave compensation) - Revisited SoDoC's involvement in career day 	<p>Aleksander</p> <p>Anders</p> <p>Aleksander</p> <p>Vinay</p> <p>Vinay</p> <p>Anders</p> <p>Tora and Anders</p>
MINUTE 5: AOB	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requested Board members to share experiences about approval of contract extensions (due to delays from the pandemic) - Some members requested for their current positions to be filled since their contracts would be ending before their tenure <p>Response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Matter of filling positions to be handled at AGM - Members had varying feedback on their experiences of applications for contract extensions 	<p>Vinay</p> <p>Vinay</p>
Meeting ended at 17:45	

Chairperson:



Secretary:



15-12-2020