

**5<sup>th</sup> June 2012 9:00 – 16:30**

**Present**

**KUF members**

Anna Valros, HU-V, chair

Aija Ryyppö, UEF-F

Lena Andersson-Eklund, SLU

Juha Helenius, HU-AF

Björn Thorsteinsson, LBHI

**Coordinators**

Janna Koivisto, HU-V

Helena Eklund Snäll, SLU

Thorbjörg Kristjansdottir, LBHI

Elizabeth Jill Archer, LIFE

Iben Andersen, UMB (via video connection, present from 43.6 until 43.7 except for the 13th PhD application)

**NSB representatives**

Marcus Andersson, Hanna Grisum Husum

**Absent KUF members**

Halvor Hektoen, NVH

Grete Bertelsen, LIFE

Elise Norberg, AU-A

Mari Sundli Tveit, UMB

**Absent coordinators**

Sari Mikkola, HU-AF

Melanie Etchell, NVH

Marianne Aaro-Hansen, AU-DJF

**43.1 Opening of meeting, presentation of the new NSB representatives**

Anna Valros opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present. The new NSB representatives for KUF, Hanna Husum and Marcus Andersson presented themselves.

**43.2 Approval of the agenda**

The agenda was approved with two additional items, information from NSB and information on NOVA BOVA Nordplus cooperation, which were agreed to be handled as the meeting item 43.11.

**43.3 Follow-up on KUF meeting 42**

The meeting minutes of the KUF meeting 42 were presented. No questions or comments were made.

**43.4 Information from Board meeting 62**

The meeting minutes of the Board meeting 62 were presented. No questions or comments were made.

### 43.5 Information on EC decisions

The secretary informed the meeting participants about the decisions made by EC since the last KUF meeting: A kick-off meeting for the NOVA network administrators of adult education, 5000 € funding granted, and a planning grant application “NordicDENDRO, a network in dendrochronology in Nordic countries”, 4999€ funding granted.

No questions or comments were made.

### 43.6 PhD grant applications, decision on funding

The following decisions about funding PhD applications were made:

Evaluation nr	Application number	Title	Granted	Comments from KUF
1	33-120322-459	Spreading and adaptation of weeds, pest insects and plant pathogens in current and future climate and cropping systems	16.000€	The course leader will be prompted to invite Århus into the course group.
2	03-120402-465	Breeding for Disease Resistance in Crop Plants	30.000€	
3	63-120405-469	Forage Evaluation in Ruminant Nutrition	Rejected	The teachers of the course come only from 1 NOVA member institute; pedagogical approach not clearly expressed
4	61-120411-472	Applied statistics with R for the agricultural, life, and veterinary sciences	Rejected	The teachers of the course come only from 1 NOVA member institute
5	57-120412-473	Planning REDD inventory: Using existing databases, field work and remote sensing based concepts	21.000€	
6	06-120417-475	Breeding Plans for Sustainable Animal Breeding	50.599€	
7	81-120417-477	Management of forest ecosystems for bioenergy, with implications for climate change	19.611€	
8	11-120417-479	Wood structure and properties with a special emphasis on wood durability	8.255€	The course leader will be prompted to explain the pedagogical aspect of the course.
9	54-120419-482	Post graduate course in research methodology, planning of controlled clinical and experimental trials (CCT) and basic and laboratory research (BLR)	46.233€	
10	42-120419-485	Molecular typing and next generation sequencing of food and waterborne pathogens	24.000€	
11	72-120420-	Sustainable beef and lamb production systems in an international perspective –	18.528€	

	488	NOVA2		
12	64-120421-489	Forest restoration and global change	Rejected	NOVA funds only 2 external teachers; main applicant will be welcomed to apply again in the autumn but pay attention to the budget
13	88-120515-493	Landscape democracy – researching the right to landscape and collaborative landscape practices	Rejected	Main applicant will be prompted to invite LBHI into the course group; Nordic dimension lacking; the course must run in the following year of application, not in the same year. The main applicant will be invited to apply again in the autumn.

### 43.7 MSc applications, decision on funding

The following decisions about funding MSc course applications were made:

Application title	No	Granted	SoE	Notes
NOVA-courses in Agroecology: Developing new digital farm cases and a repository for shared resources	31-M-120530-495	12.700 € (47.700 €)	Yes, this project was granted with 47.700 € in 2010, this is the application for the last year of the project	The secretariat has received the grant report of this project for the years 2010 and 2011
Cryptogams and nature conservation	new-M-120418-480	14.949 € (2013:4983 €)	Yes	This is a new network. Funding applied for the years 2013-2015
Designing tomorrow's agriculture: Role of ecosystem services	70-M-120412-474	Rejected	Yes	The course doesn't qualify as a NOVA course, which must be prepared within a NOVA network
Sustainable Pig Production	86-M-120405-471	(11.388 €) Decision making transferred to NOVA EC.	No	The secretariat will ask for more detailed information about the course, after which EC will make the decision.

**43.8 Promotional campaign: Ideas and action plan**

The NOVA promotional campaign was discussed and ideas of how to proceed with it were presented by the meeting participants. SLU expressed their willingness to participate in the campaign project by providing a part time project leader from their communication office to produce a campaign leaflet. The project leader would be paid by NOVA funds, according to the time spent in the project. SLU agreed to send their official proposal to the secretary, after which NOVA EC could make the decision about accepting SLU's suggestion.

It was agreed that the NOVA web page is an important medium to promote NOVA, and that it should be regularly updated and cleared from outdated / incorrect information. The secretary will allocate time to this as soon as possible. The secretary will also check if the current Power Point presentation about NOVA needs updating, so that it could be used locally for example in the teachers' meetings to give information about NOVA.

LBHI suggested that video clips could be used as a promotional tool advertising NOVA to the students. LBHI promised to think about the possible content of video clips.

At the next KUF meeting, a follow up of the promotional campaign will be done.

**43.9 NOVA Course packages, a follow-up**

The secretariat explained having received links or documents about the possible courses / course packages NOVA MSc students could take at different NOVA member units. The links are downloaded at the NOVA webpage.

**43.10 Reflections on Annual Seminar 2012**

A very short discussion (due to the lack of time) about the Annual seminar in Tartu took place. The secretary summed up the feedback received by the meeting, informing KUF that overall the seminar participants were very content about the seminar and the seminar arrangements.

It was pointed out that especially summing up the workshops should be more effective and something that could be really used to develop NOVA. A suggestion about a panel discussion as one element of the next annual seminar was made. During the panel discussion the audience would pose question prepared before the seminar. Questioning could also be used in the context of seminar plenaries. The secretary pointed out that in order to plan an effective and beneficial seminar, the planning should start almost a year before the event, not half a year before, like it has been done so far.

A question about the overall usefulness of an annual seminar was raised, and an idea of possibly using the time merely as a networking event was outspoken.

**43.11 Other issues**

**NSB news:** The new NSB KUF representatives gave a short summary of the NSB activities. NSB did a survey among the students about how NOVA is seen and known within NOVA students, and the survey has been given to the secretariat since NSB is out of resources for analyzing the results. The secretariat will allocate some time to analyze the outcome of it.

NSB has created a decision paper, which it intends to update and / or complement on a regular basis. NSB is also working to create an action plan. In Tartu, a new NSB Board was elected.

**NOVA BOVA Nordplus** network news: Thorbjörg Kristjansdóttir told that during 2011-2012 year in total 120 students have been mobile within this network. The total amount of funds used will be approximately 93.800,00 € for mobility (of which Nordplus has given 50.000,00 € and NOVA has to pay for 43.800,00). NOVA will also fund the network meeting in Iceland in Spring 2012, this will be around 6.200,00 €.

Janna Koivisto will take over the task of the central NOVA BOVA Nordplus coordinator from July 2012 onwards, for a two year period.

**43.12            End of meeting**

The chair ended the meeting at 16:30.