

## **KUF meeting 41 minutes**

Date: November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2011,

Place: LIFE, Copenhagen, Denmark

Time: 10:00-16:00 (GMT+1; Swedish, Norwegian and Danish time).

### **Present**

#### *KUF members*

Björn Þorsteinsson, LBHI (chair)

Lena Andersson-Eklund, SLU

Maria Wiberg, HU-V

Juha Helenius, HU-AF

Aija Ryyppö, UEF-F

#### *NOVA coordinators*

Þorbjörg Valdis Kristjánsdóttir, LBHI

Helena Eklund Snäll, SLU

Janna Koivisto, HU-V

Sari Mikkola, HU-AF

Marianne Aarø-Hansen, AU-DJF

Elisabeth Jill MacDougall Archer, LIFE, coordinator

Þórunn Reykdal, NOVA (secretary)

#### *NSB representatives*

Julia Weijola, student representative, HU-AF

Kristian Krag, student representative, AU-DJF

### **Absent:**

#### *KUF members*

Grete Bertelsen, LIFE

Halvor Hektoen, NVH

Jørgen Jespersen, AU-DJF

Mari Sundli Tveit, UMB

#### *NOVA coordinators*

Karin Klitgaard Møller, LIFE, coordinator

Melanie Etchell, NVH, NOVA coordinator

Iben Andersen, UMB, NOVA coordinator

#### *NSB representatives*

Camilla Sæbjørnsen, student representative, UMB

## **41.1 Opening of meeting and approval of agenda**

Björn Þorsteinsson opened the meeting at 10:00 and the agenda was approved. A presentation round was made, where new members from HU-V were especially welcomed, Anna Valros, who will chair KUF from January 2012 and Terttu Virri the becoming Central NOVA Coordinator introduced herself.

## **41.2 Follow-up on KUF meeting 40**

Björn Þorsteinsson reported on KUF meeting 40 and the meeting minutes were approved.

## **41.3 Information from Board meeting 60**

Þórunn Reykdal reported on NOVA Board meeting 60, by presenting draft of meeting minutes, which were accepted.

## **41.4 Funding of NOVA PhD course applications, autumn call 2011**

During Autumn Call 2011 six applications for NOVA PhD courses were submitted

Decision: The following six applications were approved with total amount of 154.366 €.

Application number	Title	Granted amount	Series of Events:	
			Applies for SoE	Has status of SoE
30-111012-431	Fundamentals of Ventilation, indoor Air Quality, Air Motion and Emissions	26.855 €		N
<i>Comments were made regarding long periods/modules and suggested that students could be awarded ECTS for one module</i>				
09-111012-434	Innate immunity of plants: basal defence and pathogen counterdefence	30.000 €		N
<i>The secretariat asked to inform the applicant that BOVA is planning a Phd course in the same field in June</i>				
36-111013- 435	Animal Ethics	25.000 €		N
57-111013-436	3D Remote Sensing of Forests	29.822 €	Y	
05-111014-437	The Empirics of Economic Organizations and Transaction Costs	25.089 €		N
34-111014-438	The good, the bad and the ugly sides of human - animal interactions	17.600 €	Y	
		<b>154.366 €</b>		

#### 41.5 NOVA/BOVA cooperation, suggestions from BOVA

NOVA KUF and BOVA CC held a joint meeting at the NOVA Annual Seminar in May 2011, the discussion from the joint meeting was followed up at KUF meeting 40 and to be decided on at KUF meeting 41, regarding discussion points on PhD and MSc level:

##### NOVA/BOVA cooperation on PhD level:

A. Two questions were raised concerning participation of BOVA students in NOVA PhD courses; a) If NOVA is satisfied with BOVA student participation?, and b) if there will be any limitation to number of student attendance from BOVA per year or single courses? As listed in Table 3 in Appendix to Annual Report 2012, participation of BOVA students reached its minimum in 2009 (20 students) while in 2010 the total of 30 students participated.

During discussion on item A. Elisabeth Jill MacDougall Archer presented discussion within LIFE that two BOVA students should have a free space at a NOVA course –not more. Based on statistics from BOVA student attendance at NOVA courses in previous years the following decision was made:

Decision: No limitations are set to number of BOVA students per year or course.

B. Organization of NOVA PhD courses in the Baltic's and involvement of BOVA professors in NOVA teaching teams was discussed.

Decision: These items could be part of discussions at the joint seminar, as could BOVA PhD courses and involvement of NOVA students and teachers.

C. At the NOVA homepage the regulations for PhD course fees are hosted. According to current situation BOVA PhD students pay no course fee, but accommodation and meals are charged by the course team, and other Baltic students pay 200€ course fee. In the joint meeting the question was raised if young Baltic students-researchers could participate in NOVA courses for lower price than 300€.

Decision: To the PhD course fee regulations the items "BOVA non-PhD students 200€" and BOVA – MSc student 0 Euro in participation fee are added and "Developing countries" should be changed to "Low income countries".

### **NOVA/BOVA cooperation on MSc level**

A. Future joint courses of NOVA and BOVA / possible financial scenarios – there the question is raised "What does each part understand by NOVA/BOVA course? The NOVA –BOVA – Nordplus network has applied and received funding of joint NOVA/BOVA MSc intensive courses and the regulations within Nordplus are that there is a maximum financial support three times /course. As an example the course Sustainable Pig Production is mentioned, where 2011 is the third year. The two previous courses were on BSc level and in 2011 it was moved to MSc level.

Decision: No limitations are set for number of times a course is supported, as long as it is functioning well with good evaluations. However NOVA support will continue to be in the same manner as now practiced- see expenses covered at the home page.

B. Proposal of ERASMUS MUNDUS Partnership project.

Decision: Such possible cooperation can be discussed at the joint annual seminar in May 2012

### **NOVA-BOVA cooperation agreement:**

The secretariat has gone through the NOVA-BOVA cooperation agreement and the suggestion is that at the joint seminar in May 2012 it should be renewed, with update of name of the Lithuanian University of Agriculture (LZUU) to Aleksandras Stulginskis University, period of validity and date of signature (Encl. 41.5 b)).

Decision: Suggestion from the secretariat is accepted.

### **41.6. The joint annual seminar in May 2012, discussion on possible themes**

Janna Koivisto presented suggestions from the local team meeting at HU-V for possible annual seminar theme:

*Bridging countries – bridging generations: Life Sciences in Europe in 2020*

*Subthemes:*

- *Upcoming trends in Life Sciences*
- *Using new technologies in Nova Courses*
- *Presentations on Bova universities*
- *Expectations and concrete initiatives on NOVA-BOVA cooperation 2012-2020*

Marianne Aarø-Hansen suggested that the themes need to be narrowed a bit, such as “Can we make use of technology to improve NOVA courses”. To this discussion Kristian Krag added a suggestion on how to make use of IT – guidelines for pre course, during and after, a guide for a good practice in a NOVA course. Blended learning had been suggested, which includes many different things, high technology and different kind of structure and planning. Anna Valros contributed to the discussion by adding: What are our strengths in the Nordic and Baltic region, how can we contribute in the future?

Decision:

Terttu Virri will contact the local NOVA teams and ask for inputs in January to annual seminar theme and subthemes.

#### **41.7 NOVA course package, suggestion from NSB**

Kristian Krag presented the idea behind the NOVA course packaged, how local teams could make use of what already is there and promote it – rethink it

The nature of these course packages was discussed; positive and negative experiences from similar arrangements at the member universities.

Björn Þorsteinsson suggested that local NOVA coordinators could prior to next meeting find possible examples within their universities and introduce to KUF in March 2012.

#### **41.8 Joint list of NOVA PhD courses**

The following point was directed to the meeting for discussion: Is it possible to set up directory of PhD courses held by individual partners where students from other NOVA partners are welcome to participate? Björn Þorsteinsson raised the questions “Are there any courses given at the member universities, where visiting students could be allowed to participate?” - and “Can we establish some kind of directory of such courses with a name of responsible persons for interested students to turn to?”

Possible ways of providing the information was discussed, with as limited effort from the NOVA secretariat as possible.

Decision: The NOVA members will provide the secretariat with links to PhD education at the member universities, which will be linked to the NOVA home page.

#### **41.9 NOVA General Activity Plan 2012**

Follow-up on Board meeting 60.7. The General Activity Plan 2012 will be implemented with the following changes of KUF meeting times:

Decision: KUF video-meetings will start at 12.00 Scandinavian time and KUF meeting in Joensuu will start at nine in the morning.

#### **41.10 Report on local activity 2011**

The local NOVA coordinators reported on local activity within the year of 2011. Written reports will be submitted to the secretariat and uploaded on the internal KUF page.

#### **41.11 Report on Nordplus mobility 2010-2011**

Þorbjörg Valdís Kristjánsdóttir reported on NOVA/BOVA N+ Network activities 2010-2011.

From NCM the network received 36.000 € for mobility, 20.000 € for intensive courses and 0€ for networking. The network used 89.258 € for mobility, 12.523 € for Intensive courses and networking 5.173€ (travel expenses and printing of N+ brochure). The allocated sum for

intensive courses was not fully used, part of it was used for networking and the remaining 2.292 € will be returned to Nordplus. NOVA guarantee for 2010-2011 will be 53.285 €.

Total number of mobile students 2010-2011 was 39 students on normal mobility (more than 4 weeks) and 89 on express mobility (less than 4 weeks), 13 teachers went on mobility.

The network offered 4 intensive courses and total 89 students attended those courses. Report on these courses can be found on the intranet.

Budget for NOVA/BOVA N+ Network 2011-2012 will be 50.000€ for mobility and 39.100 € for intensive courses. If allocated money for intensive courses will not be used in the academic year 2011-2012, it will be possible to use that money for networking. In March 2012 a meeting with all partners of the network is planned in Iceland, where academic advisors will also be invited.

#### **41.12 Rotating NOVA secretariat**

By January 1<sup>st</sup> the secretariat rotates to HU-V and the Þórunn Reykdal has started the rotation preparations, Terttu Virri will visit the secretariat at LBHI in Iceland in December as a part of the preparations. She will take over the secretariat's responsibilities from January 1<sup>st</sup> and Þórunn Reykdal will have overlapping period into January, to ensure smooth rotation.

Þórunn Reykdal was thanked for her two years in office as central NOVA coordinator and accepted a gift from the coordinators at this last NOVA meeting of hers, a "NOVA heart" to carry into the future. Björn and Þorbjörg Valdís were also thanked for their contribution during the LBHI's chairmanship.

#### **41.13 Other issues**

Lena Anderson Eklund reported on her input to the Danube Regional Conference she and Þorbjörg Valdís Kristjánsdóttir attended on November 17<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup>. Lena presented the NOVA-BOVA networks as an example of a regional strategy; her presentation partly based on information from annual reports and the secretariat will be uploaded on the internal KUF page. Lena Anderson Eklund concluded that perhaps EU strategy for the Baltic region could be part of annual seminar topics.

Elisabeth Jill MacDougall Archer announced that Per Holten Andersen will leave LIFE by January 1<sup>st</sup> 2012; he has accepted the position as rector of the Copenhagen Business School.

#### **41.14 End of meeting**

Björn Þorsteinsson closed the meeting at 15:30, expressed his gratitude to the members of KUF for the good and fruitful cooperation during the last two years and wished the new secretariat and chair of KUF all the best in the future.

Björn Þorsteinsson  
Chair

Þórunn Reykdal  
secretary