

KUF meeting 37 meeting minutes

Date: 18 November 2010

Time: 10:00-15:30

Place: *Norwegian School of Veterinarian Science, NVH*

Present

KUF members

Björn Þorsteinsson, LBHI (chair)
Lena Andersson-Eklund, SLU
Halvor Hektoen, NVH
Maria Wiberg, HU-V
Aija Ryyppö, UEF-F
Lise Arleth, subst. for Grete Bertelsen, LIFE
Mari Sundli Tveit, UMB

NOVA coordinators

Þorbjörg Valdis Kristjánsdóttir, LBHI
Stina-Lena Hellgren, SLU
Melanie Etchell, NVH
Janna Koivisto, HU-V
Sari Mikkola, HU-AF
Jill MacDoughall Archer, LIFE
Marianne Aarø-Hansen, AU-DJF
Þórunn Reykdal, NOVA (secretary)

NSB

Lasse Sommer Mikkelsen, AU-DJF

Absent regular members:

Grete Bertelsen, LIFE
Juha Helenius, HU-AF
Jørgen Jespersen, AU-DJF

Iben Andersen, UMB, NOVA coordinator
Marie Sjölin, SLU, NSB representative

37.1 Opening of meeting and approval of agenda

The chair opened the meeting and a short presentation round was made. Þorbjörg Valdís Kristjánsdóttir asked for discussion on support to Nordplus coordination under other items and the agenda was approved with a slight change; item 57.9 discussion on annual seminar would be moved prior to report on local activity (item 57.8).

37.2 Follow-up on KUF meeting 36

Björn Þorsteinsson reported on NOVA KUF meeting minutes and announced that the meeting minutes from KUF meeting 35 has been approved by *per capsulam decision*. The meeting minutes from KUF meeting 36 were approved.

37.3 Information from Board meeting

Þórunn Reykdal presented draft of Board meeting minutes from Board meeting minutes 57, the meeting minutes were acknowledged.

37.4 Funding of applications autumn call

a) PhD course applications

Ten applications for PhD courses 2011 were submitted during autumn call 2010. When announcing open call the secretariat drew attention to revision of criterion on Nordic dimension for PhD courses and updated the criteria on the NOVA web page. The compiled evaluation of the ten PhD course applications was presented, a discussion and decisions on each application was held thereafter.

All applications were evaluated by three KUF members, who all participated in the evaluation process prior to the meeting, with the exception of Grete Bertelsen at LIFE, who was not able to participate due to other commitments. Lise Arleth, Head of Graduate School at LIFE replaced Grete Bertelsen during the evaluation process and attended the meeting in her place.

The following seven applications were evaluated and approved or conditionally approved; with total funding of 171.510 Euros:

| Appl. ID | Registration Number | Title | Decision | Granted amount (€) | Series of Event |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---|-----------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | 06-101014-391 | Quantitative genetics with integration of genomic selection 2011 | Approved | 47.066 | No |
| 3 | 75-101008-393 | 13 th Nordic Soil Zoology symposium and PhD course <i>Remark: The course organizer should make more descriptive time plan and use of student evaluation in future applications</i> | Approved | 10.333 | No |
| 4 | 11-101013-395 | Wood structure and properties with a special emphasis on wood durability | Approved | 7.889 | No |
| 5 | 64-101013-396 | Forest restoration theory and practice | Approved | 29.333 | No |
| 6 | New-101014-402 | Carbon dynamics in terrestrial ecosystems with implications for climate change mitigation | Approved | 13.333 | No |
| 7 | 57-101014-403 | Decision-oriented data acquisition strategies for analysis of a sustainable forestry <i>Remark: Strongly recommended to invite teacher from the 3rd Nordic country. Accommodation cost is not to exceed 100 Euro per student and night.</i> | Approved | 18.556 | No |
| 10 | 65-101015-406 | Ecology and silviculture of multifunctional forests | Approved | 45.000 | No |
| Granted amount in Euros | | | | 171.510 | |

Three applications were disapproved with comments, where criteria for NOVA PhD courses were not met:

| Appl. ID | Registration Number | Title | Decision | Applied amount (€) | Series of Event |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 2 | 77-101008-392 | Globalization and public policy for agriculture <i>Remark: Disapproved due to lack of Nordic dimension</i> | Disapproved | 25.444 | No |
| 8 | 61-101014-404 | Applied nonparametric modelling <i>Remark: Disapproved due to lack of Nordic dimension</i> | Disapproved | 22.500 | No |
| 9 | 73-101015-405 | Forest operations research and supply chain management <i>Remark: Disapproved with reference to comments on previous PhD course application during spring call 2010; the criteria on course plan, schedule, student activity and learning outcome is not met.</i> | Disapproved | 30.600 | No |
| Disapproved total in Euros | | | | 78.544 | |

37.4 b) Project / MSc applications

Three applications on MSc level were submitted during autumn call 2010.

Application 10-1014, MSc Project, network SoilSoc – NOVA network on Soils and Society, project title: *Programme of Nordic co-operation in graduate education*. Head applicant Ólafur Arnalds, LBHI, total amount applied for: 11.000 €.

Decision:

The application is granted the applied cost of meeting and administration applied for, total amount granted: 6.000 €.

Application 10-1019, MSc course, network, NorPath / Plant Pathology for three years MSc course, project title: *Plant Pathology in a Changing world 2011-2013*. Head applicant Anne Marte Tronsmo, UMB, total amount applied for: 15.000 €; 5.000 € per year for three years.

Decision:

The application is unconditionally approved, 5.000 € per year 2011, 2012 and 2013.

Application 10-1020, MSc course, *Sustainable Pig Production*, head applicant Dan Rantzer, SLU. Previous NOVA/BOVA courses on sustainable pig production have been at BSc level, but the course has now been upgraded to MSc level. Total amount applied for is 37.214 €. Corrections were made on the budget of the application and the share of Nordplus funding was discussed.

Decision:

The application is granted 7.024 €, NOVA does not fund salary of NOVA and/or BOVA teachers and Nordplus covers travel expenses for students and teachers and accommodation of the latter.

37.5 c) EC funding of application

Þórunn Reykdal presented NOVA EC decision of funding of one MSc course application, from the network SoilSoc; *Preservation of microorganisms in microbial resource centres*, NOVA ID: 10-1018, which was granted 5.000 €.

37.5 Revision of evaluation process for PhD course applications

Follow up on discussions on evaluation process for NOVA PhD course applications and proposal from Juha Helenius took place. Since Juha Helenius was unable to attend the meeting, Sari Mikkola, NOVA coordinator at HU-AF introduced Juha's thoughts on revision of evaluation process for PhD course applications.

Decision:

The secretariat will sum up comments on the proposal of revision of evaluation procedure of NOVA PhD course applications and send it to KUF members to comment on. Edited document will then be sent out for *Per Capsulam* decision.

37.6. NOVA Strategy 2011-2014

Prior to the meeting slight changes in the NOVA strategy were suggested from SLU regarding 2.3.2 on MSc courses, an addition: "In some areas it could also be relevant to arrange courses that are open to BSc students." and another suggestion on change of heading in 2.4 for clarification. Suggestions from AU-DJF, on involvement of local student advisers in 2.3.2. b) Intensive Masters Courses and 2.6 on NOVA visibility were also discussed. During the discussions it was suggested from HU-AF that in 2.1. "from at least three Nordic countries " should be added to the description of networks: "These networks include partners from at least three member institutions." It was also suggested that 2.2. c) should be changed to "student assessment of networks previous courses will be used as quality criteria. Finally it was suggested that the secretariat would delete 2011-2014 in as many headings of the documents as possible.

Decision:

The NOVA Strategy 2011-2014 with suggested changes will be sent to the Board for final approval.

37.7 Draft of NOVA's general activity plan 2011

Due to discussion on NOVA strategy the discussion on NOVA General Activity was not scheduled at the NOVA KUF meeting in September. Þórunn Reykdal presented a draft of activity plan 2011, based on current general activity plan, budget 2011 and the draft of the new NOVA strategy. A few suggestions of changes were made and decided that video meetings 2011 would start at 13:00 hour Danish, Norwegian and Swedish time.

Decision:

NOVA General Activity Plan 2011 will be sent to KUF for comments and *Per Capsulam* decision and presented to be NOVA Board at its meeting 26th of January.

37.8 2010 Annual seminar 2011

The theme of the NOVA Annual Seminar in May 2011 has been decided by the Board: *Education for Sustainable Development*. The topic and possible approach to the subject was discussed. KUF members and coordinators were urged to discuss the topic and possible speakers in their local NOVA teams and submit their ideas to the NOVA secretariat which will prepare the annual seminar 2011 in close collaboration with the local NOVA team at AU-DJF.

37.9 Report on local activity

Local NOVA coordinators reported on local activity during 2010, the reports will be submitted to the secretariat after the meeting.

37.10 Report on Nordplus mobility 2009-2010

Stina-Lena Hellgren, who was the Nordplus coordinator until 2010, when the secretariat moved to Iceland reported on Nordplus mobility during the academic year 2009-2010.

During the academic year 32 NOVA students and three BOVA students went on normal semester mobility, where 23 NOVA students had used this mobility opportunity the academic year before. 107 NOVA students went on express mobility (less than 4 weeks) and 39 BOVA students, where 92 NOVA and 22 BOVA students went the academic year before. Teacher mobility was approximately the same between the years; 13 NOVA teachers and six BOVA teachers went on mobility 2009-2010, where 12 NOVA teachers and four BOVA teachers went on mobility 2008-2009. Nordplus funding during the academic year was 31.000 Euros and NOVA guarantee will be 48.890 Euros, accounted in 2010. Total Nordplus mobility during the academic year was thus 79.890 Euros.

37.13 Other issues:

Support to coordination of Nordplus networking

Þorbjörg Valdís Kristjánsdóttir Nordplus coordinator reported on Nordplus funding during 2010-2011, where no support is given to networking. Previous years an annual meeting of NOVA and BOVA coordinators and study advisors have been funded and held. These coordination meetings have proven very effective in promoting NOVA and BOVA courses within the NOVA and BOVA networks. Therefore NOVA is now asked for support to cover cost of Nordplus networking in 2011, one annual meeting which had been planned in Jelgava in March, estimated cost is 10.800 Euros.

Björn Þorsteinsson responded that funding of Nordplus coordination would need discussion within NOVA EC and Board.

37.14 End of meeting

The chair closed the meeting at 15:30



Björn Þorsteinsson
Chair



Þórunn Reykdal
Secretary