

# NOVA KUF meeting

## Nr 19

Date: June 13, 2006

Place: SLU Ultuna

### Agenda

	Time	Item
<b>19.1</b>	10.00	<b>Opening of meeting and agenda</b>
<b>19.2</b>		<b>Follow-up of decisions from meeting No 18 (Paul Jensen)</b>
<b>19.3</b>	10.15	<b>Presentation of SLU and the new marketing strategy (Anna Lauritz)</b>
<b>19.4</b>	10.45	<b>PhD course applications (Paul Jensen and Knut Wålstedt)</b>
	12.00 - 13.00	<b><i>Lunch</i></b>
<b>19.5</b>	14.00	<b>Framework for developing Joint Nordic/NOVA Master Programmes (JNMP's) - Case Aquaculture (Knut Wålstedt)</b>
	15.00 - 15.15	<b><i>Pause</i></b>
<b>19.6</b>	16.30	<b>Information (NSF, KUF members, NOVA rector)</b>
<b>19.7</b>	17.00	<b>End of meeting</b>

Present: Flemming Frandsen, KVL, chairman (19.1-19.5)  
Reeta Pösö, HU-V, vice chairman (19.6-19.7)  
Björn Thorsteinsson, LBHI  
Marketta Sipi, HU-AF  
Trine Hvoslef-Eide, UMB  
Kristina Glimelius, SLU  
Yngvild Wastesson, NVH  
Ronnie Babigumira, student representative, UMB  
Mårten Karlow, student representative, SLU

Coordinators, others: Paul Jensen, NOVA  
Knut Wålstedt, NOVA  
Christina Hove Oddgaard, KVL  
Sari Mikkola, HU-AF  
Haavard Reksten, UMB  
Melanie Etchell, NVH  
Anna Lauritz, SLU  
Päivi Ala-Poikela, HU-V  
Daniel Lundberg, PhD student representative

Absent Riitta Kaitajärvi, HU-V, coordinator

### 19.1. Opening of meeting

The meeting was opened, short presentation around the table.

### 19.2. Follow-up of decisions from meeting No 18

Matter: Follow up of decisions from the latest KUF meeting.

Material: Minutes from meeting 18.

Short comments from NOVA rector, no comments from KUF.

#### Decision:

that KUF approves the presentation and the follow-up of decisions from meeting 18.

### 19.3 Presentation of SLU and the new marketing strategy

Short presentation and discussion around the new marketing strategy at SLU, and the current situation at the member institutions regarding student applications. Presented by SLU local NOVA coordinator Anna Lauritz. She also presented some ideas about activities in the local NOVA Team at SLU.

### 19.4 PhD course applications

Matter: Evaluation and approval of applications for funding of NOVA PhD courses 2007

Material: 19.4a Applications (sent separately by mail)  
19.4b Preliminary ranking of PhD course applications  
19.4c Personal responsibility for applications  
19.4d Evaluation form (Excel document)  
19.4e Evaluation from SNS (handed out at the meeting)

Based on the applications and the material presented by the NOVA secretariat, KUF first discussed evaluation procedures in a general perspective, and then decided on the ranking and on the approval of funding for 14 courses. In total 29 applications were evaluated.

Members of KUF who were involved in certain applications did not participate in the specific discussion.

#### Decision:

That based on the discussions at this meeting NOVA rector presents, at the next KUF meeting, a draft of a new procedure for evaluating PhD course applications, including a list of evaluation criteria.

That 14 courses were approved for funding, see list in the appendix.

That if any of the 14 courses receive other external funding, NOVA rector can approve funding for additional courses, following the ranking decided by KUF.

That to eventually support more courses, KUF will reconsider the possibility to extend funding for 2007 from the 2006 budget, at the next KUF meeting.

### 19.5 Framework for developing Joint Nordic/NOVA Master Programmes

Matter: Using the Aquaculture area to develop a Framework for developing Joint Nordic/NOVA Master Programmes (JNMPs).

Material: 19.5a Framework for Joint Nordic/NOVA Master Programmes  
19.5b Mandate  
19.5c Gemensamma studieprogram i Norden.  
19.5d Suggested national programme structures

Introduction by NOVA coordinator, discussion on questions suggested by the NOVA secretariat.

Decision:

That KUF appreciates the work achieved in the Aquaculture network, and encourages it to continue its work, both on the national and Nordic level, according to the recommendations suggested in the minutes from the KVL meeting (30<sup>th</sup> of May 2006).

That the general recommendations suggested in the minutes from the KVL meeting are summarized, by the NOVA secretariat, in a document.

That the document can be used as guidelines in cases where it is relevant.

That NOVA rector proposes one or two periods for intensive courses (windows) and sends the proposal to the member institutions for consideration, before the next KUF meeting. After agreement in KUF, the periods shall be decided by the NOVA board.

## **19.6 Information**

Matter: Information from NSF, KUF members and NOVA rector

Material: Letter from NSF  
NSF action plan  
Prognoses for 2006

Short introduction from NSF representatives. Short information from KUF members and NOVA rector.

## **19.7 Ending of the meeting**

A special thanks to Kristina Glimelius who now steps down as SLU representative in KUF.

Uppsala, June 13, 2006

Flemming Frandsen  
KVL, chairman

Paul Jensén  
NOVA rektor

Knut Wålstedt  
Central NOVA  
coordinator

### Minutes

Welcome, short presentation around the table.

Local coordinators will leave the meeting during the item on PhD courses.

### 19.2 Follow-up of decisions from meeting No 18.

Short comment from NOVA rector regarding the follow up from meeting 18.

No comments from KUF.

### 19.3 Presentation of SLU and the new marketing strategy.

Presentation from SLUs local NOVA coordinator on the situation for SLU regarding the new marketing strategy, by local NOVA coordinator Anna Lauritz. She also presented some ideas about the future work in the local NOVA Team at SLU.

Discussions and comments from the Nordic level.

### 19.4 PhD course applications

Short introduction by KUF chairman, and from NOVA rector.

Frame for this meeting is set by NOVA board to be 320.000 € Another 30.000 can be used in the fall if funds are available due to other external donors or in the 2006 budget.

Criteria used for initial ranking were discussed.

Special ranking of the forest applications, made by SNS. The result of this ranking is handed out. Course(s) that get NOVA funding will get additional funding (4.000€) from SNS.

Both course 1 and 8 are applying for a series of events.

Suggest a general discussion before we start selecting.

\*We could suggest maximum cost for accommodation, 120 € is quite expensive.

\*What kind of topics can we support; something that individual universities can not support on their own?

\*Some have very many teachers from NOVA, some very many teachers from outside NOVA.

\*The work of the secretariat gives a leading list, narrows our minds. Should we make independent evaluations? Courses under the first line can just come in when courses above the line drops out (get other funding etc).

\*The judgements of some criteria are unclear.

\*Standard form of course plan lacks in several of the application. Unfortunate, would help us to see if all requested details are in the plan.

\*Hard to see the contributions of teacher in some cases.

\*In some cases very high workload during the course.

\*Should be clear what deadline there is for “after course” examination.

\*Technical evaluations could be done by the secretariat, KUF could do the scientific evaluation.

\*We must think about on what areas/topics that we should concentrate.

\*What could be the benefit for Nordic teachers to arrange and participate in NOVA courses.

\*Not very easy to impose restrictions in the budget, if they fulfil the requirements set before the application round.

\*Added value of the Nordic dimension (should it be in the application form)????

Decision: NOVA rector presents a draft new procedure for PhD course evaluation at the next KUF meeting, incl. a list of evaluation criteria.

Suggested procedure for this evaluation: short comments from KUF member according to the list of responsibility.

Course 1. Very good application, we agree to give funding.

Course 2. Many teachers, where is the glue. Looks more like a conference. It is a world level group, will have no problems to recruit students. Is it the type of course we want? We have not given any such directions. Expensive course. Can we cut down on miscellaneous? Secretariat must look into the rules for miscellaneous, and decide in this case.

Restrict the procedure to comments on selected courses.

Comments on course 11, Applied micro economics. Not a good course plan. We approve but ask for a better description.

Question mark for course number 4, was given a low evaluation from SNS (V). No member and no students from UMB, many MSc students (how many MSc can we accept?). Agree to put course number 4 under the first line, switch places with number 20 (high evaluation from SNS (II)).

Course 23 should be encouraged to form a network and come back with new application next year. What can we do to stimulate this network to come back with a new application?

Course 17 should also be encouraged to improve.

Course 8, do PhD students need training to write protocols? The course was developed with NOVA funding and was given a good evaluation by the students in 2006.

Course 1-14 are accepted as suggested, with the exception for courses 4/20 that switches place.

The 14 courses are shown in appendix 1.

Courses 15 and below are ranked in the order they stand after suggested changes, that is:

- Analysis... as 15
- Plant pathology as 16
- Bovine mastitis as 17
- Animal breeding as 18
- Forest pathology as 19
- Forest restoration as 20
- Hum nutrition as 21,
- Fish welfare as 22,
- Horticulture as 23,
- Multifunctional forest..as 24 and so on.

Should we have a special sub-group that evaluates the application?

What about fees for non-NOVA students? Should all non-NOVA/BOVA pay full cost? Will be discussed and suggested at the next meeting.

### 19.5 Framework....

Short presentation from NOVA coordinator. Comments from KUF chairman that we need to start off with small steps and make approvals in due time. The work done by the group was considered very good.

After a general discussion, some comments on the questions from the NOVA secretariat:

Question one (actions for joint degrees?)

- No action at this time, its still a national matter.

Question two (diploma supplement)?

- Diploma supplement is good enough.

Question three (course approval)?

- OK, go on with the suggested procedure.

Question four (national admin)?

- Take the problem as it comes.

Question five/six (semester periods/NOVA window)?

- SLU is ready to discuss a window in the beginning of January.
- Call them windows for “elective” courses. At same stage of the education there may also be mandatory courses within these windows.
- All but KVL seem to agree that a period (at least one week) can be available in January.
- NOVA rector makes a suggestion on dates for two windows, in August and January, to be sent to the member institutions for consideration.

Decision: NOVA rector proposes period(s) for intensive courses, and send to member institutions for consideration, before the next KUF meeting, to be taken to the board for a final decision.

Discussion on the need for anchoring a draft document; No need for anchoring, but we have the framework in the document. NOVA secretariat makes a document, can be used as guidelines in areas where the same concept is relevant.

We must focus on Aquaculture, make things happen there. It is a national process now. NOVA coordinator will ask the national representatives for a report at the following meetings.

KVLs position is that there should be a joint degree in Aquaculture, a joint programme is not meaningful enough and brings about only credit transfer.

Decision: send a message to the Aquaculture area that KUF is very satisfied with their work and that we will expect a report to the following meetings, via each local coordinator.

## 19.6 Information

Information from NSF.

Short discussion about their suggestions.

We should ask the Local NOVA Teams to report on their actions at the KUF meeting. LNTs can be used before each KUF meeting.

Draft version of minutes to the whole of KUF as soon as possible.

Short information from NOVA rector, especially on his visits to BOVA universities.

Information from KUF members:

- UMB is introducing technique for distance learning, do other have experience?
- Second two year MSc programme in English is now starting up at HU-AF
- SLU



- Video conf often used at SLU, but is not functioning smoothly.
  - New MSc programmes proposed and accepted in principle by the SLU board.
  - New programmes will start from fall 2007.
- Increase to 70 new vet stud at NVH from next year, increasing intake from 15 to 30 in the MSc programme.

#### 19.7 End of meeting

Courses approved for funding 2007

- \*Wood technology
- \*Insect Chemical Ecology
- \*Forage evaluation in ruminant nutrition
- \*Data acquisition strategies for analysis of sustainable forestry
- \*Scales and cross-scales in ecosystem services in agriculture and organic farming
- \*Cognition and emotions in animals
- \*Applied and fundamental aspects of responses, signalling and developmental process in the roth-microbe systems
- \*Experimental design in clinical studies. Clinical intervention and evidenced-based medicine.
- \*Insect pathology
- \*Quality traits in molecular plant breeding
- \*Applied microeconomics with focus on censored models
- \*Postgraduate course in Veterinary Epidemiology, Part 1.
- \*Bayesian approach - when and why (not)
- \*Ripening of Northern European Cheese