

Minutes of Departmental Forum Meeting, 31.05.2013

Participants: Allan Würtz, Lars Relund Nielsen, Casper Worm Hansen, Malene Thygesen, Anders Nyegaard Jepsen, Morten Krægpøth, Bibiana Paluszewska, Finn Schøler, Lene Gilje Justesen, Christoffer Strandby, Rainer Lueg, Valdemar Smith, Karin Vinding, Peter Løchte Jørgensen, Morten Svendsen (deputy for Maren Grønæs Birkeland)

Apologies received from : Stine Ludvig Bech, Maren Grønæs Birkeland

Moderator: Lars Relund Nielsen. Notetaker: Margit Sommer

1. Approval of the agenda

Approved

2. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Approved

3. Discussion of student environment

Purposes:

- Increase awareness of current conditions
- Exchange ideas on future conditions
- Initiatives to be pursued

Suggestion of topics to discuss

Physical facilities (study places for groups, quiet reading places, work space for master's thesis students)

- Campus Fuglesang as a study environment

Students (ABC) informed that it is difficult to book study places. Suggestion from an oecon student that quiet study places and study places in the library cannot be booked in advance. compromise: half of the study places should be booked in advance, and the other half should be on a first come, first serve basis.

It is random how to enter the S-Building through weekends. Some days you have to use one entrance, others another entrance.

Difficulties to plug in computers.

The closing of the Economic Association's Friday Bar is very unpopular among oecon students.

Suggestion from a VIP member to close both student organizations (oeconraadet and abc) and create a new organization including all students at Fuglesangs Allé.

Allan pointed out that when it comes to academic activities, cooperation between merc and oecon students are performed without problems, it seems that is it only when it comes to partying, the disagreements are visible.

- Relationship between students and VIPs

No comments

- Administrative support (exams, classroom scheduling)

Allan informed that a number of class rooms will be renovated over the summer period.

Great satisfaction that there is no longer teaching in the R-building.

- Engagement of students in activities surrounding study programs e.g. student organizations, academic activities (e.g. case competition)

Things have improved since last Fall (when a letter written by students of the department in a newspaper described the situation of the studies at the Department of Economics and Management).

Will make an arrangement where e.g. a wall to post suggestions/complaints will be possible.

Regarding evaluations: very few students give feed back to teaching as a consequence of implementating electronic evaluations.

Suggestion from oecon student to replace end of course evaluations by mid term evaluations at - will motivate more students to respond to the evaluation.

Discussion on the competition between students from Aarhus and Copenhagen to find jobs in Copenhagen - rumours that students in Copenhagen get higher grades, they have more student job opportunities than Aarhus students.

4. Process regarding psychological Workplace Assessment “APV”

Three step process to make action plan

- Clarification of results from WPA
- Decision on actions to be taken
- Implementation

There should be an indication on each action with respect to the following three criteria

- What are the biggest challenges?
- What are the biggest assets?
- What are the areas easiest to improve?

When selecting issues, characterize the issues regarding to where action is warranted using the IGLO division: Individ (Individual), Gruppe (group), Ledelse (management of Department), Organisation

Processes for TAP, VIP and PhD-students

Process for TAP

- Four groups to discuss the results of the WPA. Each group makes report
- The reports are shared among all TAPs
- LSU makes proposal for actions
- The four groups discuss the proposal for actions
- A revised plan of actions to be approved at LSU

Time frame: Reports from groups ready in June. Approval in LSU at the latest in August

Process for VIP

- Each Section is responsible for clarification and a proposal on actions
- The proposal may be based on work in groups. The proposal must be discussed among all members of the section at a meeting
- LSU makes proposal for plan of actions
- Sections discuss the plan of actions
- A revised plan of actions to be approved at LSU

Time frame: Proposal from Sections ready in June. Approval in LSU at the latest in August

Process for PhD

- Identify representatives from PhD-students to be responsible for clarification of WPA results (management can help in suggesting issues to be considered)
- Write report on clarification and proposal for actions
- LSU makes proposal for plan of actions based on report
- Meeting of PhD-students to discuss the LSU proposal
- A revised plan of actions to be approved at LSU

Time frame: Report from PhD-students ready in June. Approval in LSU at the latest in August

In general, evaluation of initiatives at residential meeting in October

Specifically on stress handling

PRESCRIBA (Psychological assistance)

Courses from HR

- Selvorganisering (Planlægning og styring af egen arbejdsdag, evnen til at prioriterer, samarbejde)
- Fra stress til trivsel i travlhed (evne til at skabe større trivsel og energi i arbejds- og privatlivet)

Actions in progress

VIP organization: Adjustment to sections to better support teaching activities. It may also include revising the number of sections. Expect to have a suggestion on June 20.

VIP work load: Revision of norm catalogue. Expect to have a revised proposal on June 20.

VIP history: Clearance of old norm accounts still expect to have ready in June.

Comments:

Huge mistake that no one is allowed to see the comments written in the APV form. Nobody will spend time on writing comments at the next survey.

People are so busy and stressed that they don't have time to attend the stress courses offered by the HR department and CUL

5. Information from VIP/TAP/PhD/Students

Phd students are confused about rules to apply for funding for phd students. A demand for more transparent rules for phd students. From now, all applications for conferences for phd students will be Bo Sandemann Rasmussen's responsibility. Hans Frimor and Bo Sandemann will set up rules for phd students' participation in conferences, going abroad etc.

6. Information from Management

- Office situation

Management working on getting more offices, e.g. we might have some offices in the H-building for student organizations. Then the ground floor in the C-building can be allocated to faculty members. We also have offices in the K-Building.

- Meeting in the management group to initiate a strategy (action plan) on the departmental level is scheduled on June 12 (e.g. PHD program, performance incentive structure, career paths)

7. Miscellaneous

None