

Minutes of Departmental Forum Meeting, 09.05.2014

Participants: Allan Würtz, Lars Relund Nielsen, Casper Worm Hansen, Stefan Hirth, Valdemar Smith, Finn Schøler, Sune Lauth Gadegaard, Karin Vinding, Mette Hyldetoft Jensen, Martin Duus, Joachim Mikkelsen

Apologies received from : Maren Grønås Birkeland, Morten Krægpøth, Bibiana Paluszewska

Moderator: Stefan Hirth. Notetaker: Margit Sommer

1. Approval of the agenda

Approved.

2. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Approved.

3. Budgetary situation

Allan informed of the current financial situation of the department.

A forecast 1 (FC 1) meeting (first quarter follow up on budget 2014) has been held last week.

Main numbers for 2014:

Required result 2014: 7,6 mill kr

FC1 2014: 3,2 mill kr

Difference: 4,4 mill kr

Required results coming years: 2015: 4,3 mill kr; 2016: 2,5 mill kr; 2017: 0,3 mill kr

If FC 1 was to hold the next 4 years, the accumulated result for 2014 to 2017 is 12,8 mill kr

Accumulated required result for 2014 to 2017 is 14,7 mill kr

Hence, taken over the next four years, there is a need to improve by 1,9 mill kr.

Initiatives to improve result

- Lunch arrangement (no department subsidies for staff lunch)
- Residential meeting has been cancelled in 2014
- Budget restrictions for wine and dining
- Reduction in travel funds
- Offices and classrooms adjustment
- Senior arrangements
- Reduced work time
- Fewer hires (only considering hires in fields, where many DVIPs are used (part of strategy))

Initiatives, not motivated by budget, but will have budgetary effects

- Fewer exams (5 to 10 ects courses)
- New study program (Public Policy)
- Support to raise quality of applications for external funding

Initiatives not succeeded yet

- Move study rooms from Trøjborg to Fuglesangsalle (cheaper and closer)

Based on this information Allan considers that the plan is going to work

If the above results have been achieved, the department will be allowed to run a deficit after 2017,

Q Valdemar:

1. examples of fields in which hiring of part time teachers are required? Allan: Accounting, auditing, HD
2. Could we consider hiring an assistant professor to the teaching in fields presently taught by the two professors who are leaving. Allan: we are planning to hire assistant professors in this field

Allan: We have tried to reduce the costs without too much harm for the students

Valdemar Smith asked about the financing of the difference between the expected results in the next years, and the required results as stipulated by the Dean. Allan replied that there are uncertainties within the budget but based on the result for the 1st quarter of 2014, he expects that the financial plan implemented earlier this year holds, including the financing this year of the deficit compared to the required result by the Dean.

4. Information from VIP/TAP/PhD Students/Bachelor and Master students

Finn: Raised a question on Wiseflow (the system which will be used for the digital written exams from Summer 2014). He suggested that the project will be postponed since the teachers have too little information.

Allan will bring it up at a Business and Social Sciences meeting.

Valdemar Smith is concerned on the health of the teachers who will have to read all the exam papers on a screen instead of in print

Finn: Norm system implemented as per Feb 2014. People are still confused. Need a follow up explanation with a complete list of the new norms.

Allan: corrections/adjustments will made within a year

5. Information from Management

- Digital exams will be carried into effect from Spring 2014
- New Email addresses such that everyone gets an email address of the form <name>@econ.au.dk
- Implies that <name>@asb.dk cannot be used (but emails will be forwarded to the new address)
- Staff Development Dialogue (SDD or “MUS”) with the heads of sections and the Faculty are held at present
- Rector Brian Bech Nielsen will visit the Department on May 12. The meeting will be hosted by Departmental Forum with Lars Relund Nielsen. Rector will give a short speak followed by a discussion

6. Meetings 2014 and themes

27.06.2014, 12:45 (Hiring policy and strategy)

05.09.2014, 12:45 (Student environment)

31.10.2014, 12:45 (Budget next year)

05.12.2014, 12:45 (Organization and working climate)

7. Miscellaneous

Valdemar Smith suggested that speed limits on the street from Fuglesangs Allé to the old main entrance are imposed.