

**Departmental Forum Meeting: 29 April 2021, 13:00-14:00  
2632 via Zoom**

**Minutes**

**Present:**

Niels Haldrup (Chairman, Head of Department), Sune Lauth Gadegaard (Deputy Chairman), Karin Vinding, Jonas Nygaard Eriksen, Timo Trimbom, Kristoffer Holst Ibsen, Alexander Overdal Kjærsgaard Marin, Nicola Maaser, Trine Munk-Olesen, Zeynep Yilmaz, Kristoffer Holst Ibsen, Anja Zimmerdahl, Katrine Studsgaard Albrektsen

**Absent:**

Steen Andersen

**Moderator:**

Sune Lauth Gadegaard

**Note taker:**

Anne la Cour

Department of Economics  
and Business Economics

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**1. Approval of the agenda**

The agenda was approved.

**2. Approval of minutes from last meeting (24 February 2021)**

The minutes were approved.

**3. News from HoD**

The HoD briefly informed the members about different ongoing projects including the latest news about Campus 2.0 and the winning proposal and contract to develop buildings and outdoor areas for Aarhus BSS in the University City.

Following up on the staff development dialogue meetings before Christmas (autumn 2020) in which specific matters related to the COVID-19 situation were discussed individually, the HoD mentioned that the management group is currently looking at the issues that have been raised across employees and sections in order to prepare and facilitate the return to the workplace after COVID-19. This will be discussed in more detail (see item 4 Reboarding).

The HoD also commented briefly on the most recent news regarding the partial reopening of higher education including documentation requirements and testing facilities. A limited number of students have been allowed access to designated study spaces and facilities on campus, and first-year students primarily are able to attend tutorials on-site. At this point, the universities are still awaiting further instructions regarding the return of (non-critical) staff. However, it is likely that there will be a phased return of the workforce in the public sector from late May or early June.

There was brief discussion of digital teaching in general. The HoD informed that a formal evaluation will be initiated at faculty level including the study boards and heads of studies.

#### **4. Reboarding**

Members were asked to consider issues and expectations in connection with “reboarding” of employees after the corona lockdown. Most members mentioned the importance of a flexible and individual approach to the return to the workplace. It was suggested that especially international (and newly recruited) employees as well as PhD students and junior faculty should be prioritized if necessary.

A few members mentioned that some social (outside) activities would probably be popular when allowed and depending on the current restrictions and guidelines.

#### **5. Financial statement**

The HoD gave a brief overview of the current (and longer-term) financial situation of the department.

#### **6. Hearing statement for Aarhus BSS Strategy 2021-2025**

There were a few comments to the joint consultation letter from LSU and DF concerning the draft Aarhus BSS strategy 2021-2025. It was decided that minor corrections should be made before the deadline.

#### **7. Input from student representatives**

The student representatives mentioned that some doors on campus are still locked despite posters indicating otherwise. Despite the partial reopening for students, campus is still quiet. However, it seems that students are slowly returning to campus, and when the self-testing facilities on Fuglsang's Alle are fully established, hopefully more students will return.

#### **8. Miscellaneous**

Nothing to add