

Departmental Forum Meeting: 5 April 2022, 15:00-16:00

L-242

Minutes

Present:

Niels Haldrup (chairman, head of department), Sune Lauth Gadegaard (deputy chairman), Karin Vinding, Timo Trimborn, Jorge Hansen, Anja Zimmerdahl, Steen Andersen, Tobias Dreisler, Nicola Maaser, Stefan Hirth.

Absent:

Zeynep Yilmaz, Annia Hoffmeyer, Mads Jakob Vieland Jensen, Jonas Pilgaard Kaiser, Helle Yde, Thor Donsby Noe (substitute for Jonas Pilgaard Kaiser), Christel Brajkovic Mortensen, Kristoffer Holst Ibsen

Moderator:

Sune Lauth Gadegaard

Department of Economics
and Business Economics

Date: 05-04-2022

Note taker:

Anne la Cour

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1. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of minutes from last meeting (22 February 2022)

The minutes were approved.

3. News from HoD

Niels Haldrup (NH) gave a short status regarding new recruitments at junior level and explained that all the junior positions at this year's listing are externally funded.

NH also mentioned that the 2022 workplace assessment (WPA) report had just been made available to all employees via [AU's website](#). The response rate at the department was 86 %. Now follow-up and dialogue meetings will follow in the sections, and in June the WPA result will be discussed at meetings in the Departmental Forum and LSU.

Lastly, NH referred to the information sent out a few weeks ago regarding the decision of establishing the National Centre for Register-based Research (NCRR) as a separate centre unit with its own financial responsibility under the faculty of Aarhus BSS. NH explained that the organizational structure of the centre has been under consideration for some time, and all parties included are happy with this new construction. 2022 will be a transition year, and the full move will take effect from 1 January 2023. The exact organizational framework as well as practical details have yet to be decided.

4. NDAs

Sune Lauth Gadegaard (SLG) raised the issue of time spent on the administrative handling of non-disclosure agreements, NDAs. Many VIP colleagues spend time communicating with the Technology Transfer Office (TTO) when students collaborate with external parties because agreements concerning confidentiality and rights must be approved and signed. SLG pointed out that there should be some sort of infrastructure to support the BSS strategy on collaboration. NH said that this is not only an issue at ECON, but also at the Department of Management (MGMT), and he will bring up the issue with the director of studies for HA and cand. merc., Lars Esbjerg to discuss how to move forward.

5. Annual cycle – Financial statement

Referring to the financial statement 2021 (appendix), NH gave a short summary of the department economy. NH also provided a short comment on the current ECON 2022 budget which momentarily includes a deficit of DKK 2.4m. NH explained that a number of outside factors affect the budget, e.g., salary increases (1.7 %) due to a wage regulation (*reguleringsordningen*), which means that the public sector wages follow the development and pay increase in the private sector. This has a negative impact on the overall budget. NH doesn't see structural challenges at present. Contrary to MGMT, the department has had a significant increase in the intake of students. However, when recruiting the department must focus on fields where the department has a need for resources, and external funds are also vital for the departments ability to secure new positions.

6. News from the student representatives

Nothing to add.

7. Miscellaneous

Nothing to add.