MINUTES
FODOS board meeting Friday 7 January 2005
U05, start: 1000, end: 1200

Attendents:

Lisbet Bach, LB
Jon Anders Stavang, JAS
Heidi Vebø, HV
Jon Volden, JV
Jørn Henrik Sønstebø, JHS
Ole-Gunnar Støen, OGS
Stein Joar Hegland, SJH

Agenda:

1. Approval of minutes: board meeting 1st December
2. Committee updates
    *PhD, 3 to 4 years – Stein Joar Hegland
3. DION and SiN invites to seminar February 11-13th: "Possibilities after a PhD", Trondheim.
4. Economic status
5. Other issues
6. Next meeting

Minutes: JAS

Agenda:

1. Comments on the approval of the minutes from the board meeting 1st of December 2004

OGS commented that substitutes are not required to participate at board meetings unless any of the board members can't meet. The minutes from earlier board meetings gives the expression that they are supposed to meet at all meetings. It was decided to correct this.

2. Committee updates

International com: LB informed about the meeting held December 2nd. The international students are placed second, after 1st year students on the priority list for apartments at Studentsamskipnaden. This might improve the housing situation for international students. The Int. com will also investigate whether international PhD students and relatives (wife, children) gets enough help and information to establish the necessary Norwegian network at campus (and elsewhere) to function properly. The issue of whether the level of stipends for international quota-PhD-students are sufficient, was also discussed.

In order to clarify rules and funding practice of international PhD students, the FODOS board decided to raise the issue of regulation, rules and stipends for international PhD students to a national level by suggesting this issue as a case for the coming annual general meeting in SiN.

Academic com: SJH informed that the academic committee wants to activate more PhD students in their work. It was suggested that this can be done by developing the FODOS

website to an active forum with possibilities to raise and discuss important issues concerning PhD students. Further, they will also invite the contact persons at each institute to important meetings. It was also commented that FODOS was not asked to give their opinion on the matter of whether PhD students should be given 3 or 4 years employee contracts at UMB. A committee with JV, JHS and SJH was elected to make a response to this issue, and they will try to have a meeting with rector and write a letter to HS to avoid that decisions concerning PhD students are taken without letting FODOS present the opinion of FODOS. FODOS wants all PhD students to be offered a 4 years contract.
SJH also informed that the academic committee closely follow up the development in the "Start-Mid-End seminars". It was decided that the academic committee should work for an external referee as a part of the "SME-seminars".

Social com: OGS informed that there will be a meeting in the social committee soon and that there will be arranged a party this semester, most likely at the same time as the AGM.

3. DION and SiN meetings: It was decided that OGS and JHS should attend the SiN meeting in Trondheim. JHS will also try to be elected as a member in the SiN board.

4. Economic status: JV informed about that the economic status in FODOS and by late December there was 20 000,- NKr at the FODOS account.

5. Other issues: It was further discussed the need of a person to be responsible for the FODOS website. It is a goal that all committees should write minutes from their meetings and that these minutes should be made public at the FODOS website. This way the board wants to let more PhD students get to know the important work that FODOS contributes with at the university. If necessary, it is possible to give this person a salary.

6. Next meeting.
It was decided that the next meeting is stipulated to take place on 8th of February 2005 at 1000.