

**Department of Public Health** 

# **Summary**

Subject: Executive Meeting

**Date and time:** April 25, 2024 at 12.30 – 13.30

Place: OD SUN M1.21

Participants: Jens Søndergaard (JS), Acting Head of Department and Professor

Birgitte Nørgaard (BN), User Perspectives & Community-based

Interventions

Dorte Gyrd-Hansen (DGH), Health Economics DaCHE Pernille Tanggaard Andersen (PTA), Health Promotion

Jens Søndergaard (JS), General Practice FEA

Tore B. Stage (TBS), Clinical Pharmacology, Pharmacy and

**Environmental Medicine** 

Lisa Loloma Froholdt (LLF), CMSS (online)

Kaare Christensen (KC, Epidemiology, Biostatistics and

Biodemography

Non-attendees:

**Notetaker:** Kirsten M. Gauthier (KMG)

# Agenda:

- 1. Minutes from the Rector's meeting
- 2. Teaching
- 3. Working Environment
- 4. Comments from participants

## Ad. 1 Minutes from the Rector's meeting

SDU and SUND are doing well in a ranking.

SDU applies for too few EU grants. It's very difficult to make joint efforts when countries' healthcare systems are different. Universities are also measured by how many EU grants they receive. Time registration is cumbersome; you must know your collaborators. Support given at the SUND faculty for EU grants.

### Ad. 2. Teaching

Good quota 2 applications. Not such a large reduction at SDU because we haven't admitted as many students as we could. Now, a grade of 7 is required to enter

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high school. There will be more female students at universities in the future. The grade average in the high school exam is important for the rest of your life.

#### Ad. 3. Working environment

There is a report indicating that there are violations of both genders at all universities in Denmark. SDU performs the best, but it's still not good enough. Different generations have different thresholds. Employees should approach research leaders if there are problems. It's difficult to provide a fixed recipe for what not to do. Come in and talk to us about it. Perhaps it's enough to explain to the offended party that it's simply a communication gap or a generation gap. The workplace assessment could be more nuanced, so it would be possible to better understand what the problems consist of. JS believes that SDU will launch a campaign about violations. There must be trust between leaders and employees.

#### Ad. 4. Comments from participants

LLF: A colleague passed away last Sunday. The Rectorate Secretariat has been very helpful; there is a whole list of things that need to be done in these cases. A notice will be sent out shortly about the funeral next week. LLF has written an obituary; it is a difficult situation. LLF has also been in contact with the family. External evaluation of the performance contract with the Danish Maritime Authority, positive evaluation, researchers from Aarhus University conducted it. Visibility significantly improved, many more research activities than before. PTA: Also affected by the colleague's death.

BN: Job postings currently ongoing. Just hired a flex worker and trying to attach an intern, but you must begin well in advance of time.

TBS: KFFM is very proud of Professor Tina Kold Jensen, who has received a prestigious ERC grant for her research on removing PFAS from the body. It's significant, but Tina has also worked hard for it. Perhaps the first female researcher at SDU to receive this award. There is a lot of pressure on HR; the units do not receive keys and contracts on time. International visitors cannot get their cards upon arrival. Assistant professorship and lecturer positions are posted. JS: Received an email about things not working in SUND HR; this overview has been forwarded in the system.

KC: EBB's biobank leader has got a new job at Novo Nordisk, so there has been hectic activity with a job posting for an associate professorship, simultaneously, an assistant professorship has been posted. KC will encourage EBB employees to apply for the positions so they can be evaluated. RIO has signed a National Institute of Health (NIH) supplementary contract. Good flow of applications. EBB included in a Basic Research application from NAT. Initiatives underway to continue the Danish Aging Research Center (DARC), perhaps with menopause as a theme.

JS: OUH and SDU symposium with Eske Willerslev and Sigge Winther. There has been unrest in the unit, but things are calming down again. Employees have been working from home but are starting to come back. Health structure - changes need to be monitored.



DGH: 2 new professors at DaCHE. They complement each other well; together they are strong.

Procurement and Tendering (Indkøb og Udbud) will soon launch the "SDU Clears Up 2024" campaign. It will take place in June, July, and August. Ngaio Ustrup has reported that IST is participating (although it may have been more relevant last year, but we may still have things that we can tidy up). Ngaio will inform all units when the communication material lands on her desk.

Kind regards,

**Kirsten M. Gauthier** Unit secretary