

Executive meeting

Institute of Public Health

31 October 2013

Participants: Arja Aro (AA), Kim Brøsen (KB), Jan Sørensen (JAS), Jens Søndergaard (JES), Jesper Bo Nielsen (JBN), Jørgen Jespersen (JJ), Lotte Huniche (LH),

Absent: Kaare Christensen (KC), Philippe Grandjean (PG)

Minute taker: Ellinor Kruse (EK)

Education / Training (Bernard Jeune)

BJ reviewed the settlement of Student FTE for autumn 11/spring 12 and autumn 12/spring 13. Since 2008, Institute of Public Health (IPH) has had an increase in FTE revenues. Standard programmes such as medical studies have not changed. However, the number of hours taught on Public Health has increased by 20 % since it has been possible to take the bachelor programme in Odense. The staff at the Research Unit of Health Promotion teaches a greater number of hours than most of the staff on the IPH's other research units.

JBN: The research unit's is allocated accordingly resources to hire part time staff.

BJ: As the PhD School is also required to cut down expenses. It means that the number of PhD-course is reduced (except for generic and general courses).

BJ: Since 2005, the number of biostatistical guidance of PhD students has increased by 450 % simultaneously with the increase of number of PhD students. The number of staff has not been adjusted accordingly. In the coming years, the number of PhD students will be reduced from 143 to 90, and thus the need for guidance reduced accordingly. IPH and the faculty are now working on a useful solution. Employees from MaxO are expected to be able to assist in the acute situation.

BJ: The number of hours spent on guidance in connexion with examination and examinations in general is only recorded at the local research unit - not at institute level.

General news from IPH

Construction Drawings on NytsUND in Odense are available at the IPH's secretariat (Ellinor's office)

News from the Management Group (meeting where all Heads of Institutes at the Faculty of Health Sciences meet)

The Faculty management will continue the strategy work. One of the focus areas will be economy.

The SDU Grant Office recommends the scientific staff and research units to seek more international funding, i.e. EU funds. AA has good experience with applying for start-up grants. One of her colleague has just received DKK 150,000.

Esbjerg Campus has been working with a new profile. So far, IPH (Health Promotion) has not been involved in the process and it is dissatisfactory. On a recent meeting with UC, possibilities of cooperation were discussed; and the UC was very excited about a future cooperation. The Dean is working on IPH taking part in the process

Status on the economy of the IPH

JBN: The economy of all the research units looks reasonable. As announced on the last meeting for Heads of Research Units the Institute's budget must be reduced by approx. 700,000 DKK. Redundancies will not be the solution, but the funding of positions must change from ordinary to external funding and postponing vacant posts.

The Faculty Administration has increased - due to the decentralization of tasks originally solved at the Central Administration. The Dean's Office will focus on a reduction in the administrative costs when savings are to be identified.

Staff news

- Susanne Møller is extended for a year on external funding
- Anna Okuzuzyan is hired as assistant professor 1/11 2013 - 31/10 2016 on external funding
- Eva E. Væhrens is extended as postdoc 1/11 2013 - 31/10 2016 on external funding
- Elisabeth Sopoine is hired research assistant 15/1 2014 - 14/1 2015 on external funding
- Birgit Debrabant has been hired as assistant professor in biostatistics 1/11 2013 - 31/10 2016 on ordinary means
- Lene Christiansen appointed as professor with special responsibilities in epidemiology 1/11 2013-31/10 2018 on ordinary funds

Posts under review

- Professorship in Biostatistics

Present is following vacancies available:

- Associate professor in epidemiology
- 2 senior researcher at Centre of Maritime Health and Society
- 2 consultants at CAST (Centre for Applied Health Services Research)
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3 professors have been assigned as a coadjutors:

- Jan Mainz (Health Economy)
- Jørn Olsen (Epidemiology)
- Glenn Laverack (Health Promotion)

How does funding become relevant to society?

For more than 10 years, the Netherlands has had experience with evaluating research seen from a social point of view, and likewise in Australia. When applying for external funding it is important to specify the social relevance. It was decided to discuss the issue on a future meeting.

