

SUMMARY OF EXECUTIVE MEETING OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH 28 JANUARY 2016

1. News from the Department of Public Health

New head of research at the Research Unit of Health Promotion in Esbjerg

Jesper Bo welcomed Pernille Tanggaard Andersen, who has succeeded Arja R. Aro as head of research. Pernille has been following Arja the past 6 months in order to get ready for the task. Pernille is also responsible for bachelor programme in health promotion.

Results of 2015

Due to a better turnover than expected, the results of the annual results 2015 have turned out to be better than expected. Although the Department follows the budget carefully, it is not always possible to predict a growth in external projects or an unexpected surplus in connection with closure of projects. Such situations will of course affect the budget, although the Department is careful.

Budget/ Economy 2016

There is still no announcement from the Faculty about the budget 2016.

The process of additional choice and opt-outs

Every head of department have presented the topics that they have identified as possible efficiency measures. The topics were presented to the head of departments at the Faculty of Health Sciences, the Academic Council and the liaison committee at the Faculty. There was great variation in the concretisation of strategy choices.

Despite the fact that the Faculty wishes the number of PhD-students to be unaltered, the Department of Public Health suggest a reduction with one PhD enrolment.

The Department also suggests a reduction in the practical training, as to the number of days. At SDU it is 10 days, while it is only 8 in Copenhagen. A reduction in the number of days will cause a reduction in the remuneration of general practitioners of about 500,000 DKK per year.

A catalogue of cut-backs will be presented to the University's board on April 4. The board will decide the expenditure cuts to be made. Then the faculty will have to impose the necessary priorities and instruct the departments how to proceed.

Dorte Gyrd-Hansen suggests that the head of department forward an email to every employee informing of the outcome of the ongoing processes as to budget negotiations / savings. To the employee it would signify that the institute recognizes that the process has an impact on the working environment.

Results of the job satisfaction survey 2015

The head of department has presented the result at staff meetings in WP9 and 19 and in Esbjerg. The attendance has been modest. The staffs express a high degree of satisfaction. Generally, the work-life-balance appears to be satisfying.

Some employees have expressed that they would like conflicts/disagreements to be handled more openly and honestly. Thus, the definition of a conflict/disagreement was discussed by the heads of research. It was concluded that a disagreement does not always appear clearly to everybody, and thus is difficult to handle.

From the survey it also appeared that some employees experience bullying and unwanted sexual attention. Both situations are unacceptable and are not tolerated. It is recommended that the employees experiencing this kind of situation shall contact their union representative, safety representative or the head of department - if they wish the situation to be handled.

The Department Forum

The Department Forum will in future take place annually in August.

PhD Defence

In future invitations to PhD defences will be distributed to all employees at the research units (via unit secretary).

2. News from the Management Team at the Faculty of Health Sciences

Rector has summoned the University Director, Deans and Heads of Departments in order to identify possible minors or opt-outs. One of the items on the agenda was the new budget model. The debate also included the stimulus effect and a revision of the newly imposed alteration of the Rector fee.

The university has committed itself to implement some development projects that cannot be altered. It goes for NYTSUND.

Given that the budget for the coming year is not in place, Rector has not been able to sign the agreement as to on the relocation of Campus Esbjerg.

The University's board has asked Rector to consider SDU's presence in every campus city.

2. New logo

Implementation of the new logo has been delayed, but will take place in the beginning of 2016. The implementation is divided into different steps. For a detailed plan, see www.sdunet.dk

3. Around the table

Kim Brøsen wishes to change the research unit name to the Research Unit of Pharmacology and Pharmacy. The head of department contacts the dean to get his approval.

Pernille Tanggaard Andersen has accomplished the Performance and Development Interviews in the research unit. The current agreement with PNU in Riyadh expires in October 2016. The Department is working on a prolongation, but various issues must be negotiated before signing a prolongation.