

Meeting date: 16 August 2021 13:00-14:30

Meeting place: 1540-k32

Subject: Research and Business Committee

Attendees: Henrik Balslev (chair, HB), Angela Fago (AF), Peter Grønkjær (vice chair, PG), Michael Møller Hansen (MMH), Tina Santl-Temkiv (TS), Maya Jepsen (MAJ, observer) og Maria Blach Nielsen (MBN, reporter)

1. **Approval of agenda** (13:00-13:02)
2. **Minutes and actions from latest meeting** (13:02-13:05)
3. **Briefing from the chair** - Henrik Balslev (13:05-13:10)
4. **Briefing from the vice chair** - Peter Grønkjær (13:10-13:20)
5. **Nominations for prizes** - Henrik Balslev (13:20-13:25)
6. **Status on review processes** – Maria Blach Nielsen (13:25-13:30)
7. **Input for NAT-visit from Novo Nordisk Foundation** - Henrik (13.30-13:35)
8. **Input for calls and work programmes** - Peter Grønkjær (13:35-13:45)
9. **Pitch-training for senior VIP-** Maria Blach Nielsen (13:45-13:50)
10. **Briefing about self-test for potential applicants for the major calls** - Maria Blach Nielsen (13:50-13:53) -
11. **Any other Business** (13:53-14:00)

1. Approval of agenda (13:00-13:02)

2. Minutes and actions from latest meeting (13:02-13:05)

Minutes are found at the staff pages of the department. The committee has received the minutes for approval and MBN has received no comments. The minutes are seen as approved.

3. Briefing from the chair - Henrik Balslev (13:05-13:10)

HB expressed gratitude to see people face 2 face after corona. We recently held a pitch session for the DFF research project. The projects and presentations were of a good quality and the participants received useful feedback for their projects. For further improvement we need to continue prioritizing to keep the evaluation criteria and the x factor of the project in mind when writing the proposal. Also, the abstract of the proposal is more important than some might think, and we must remember to pay attention to this.

4. Briefing from the vice chair - Peter Grønkjær (13:10-13:20)

PG gave a briefing. There have been no meetings at the faculty business committee since last time. On January 19th 2022 we are hosting BioMatch together with Bioscience. Focus will be the green transition, a number of companies will participate and Connie Hedegaard will do the kick off like last year. Furthermore, there will be One Minute Madness sessions and panel discussions. We urge the sections to discuss who will join the event in order to ensure that as many researchers as possible participate. Read more and sign up here:
<https://bios.au.dk/erhvervssamarbejde/bio-match/>

5. Nominations for prizes - Henrik Balslev (13:20-13:25)

Future nominations: At our latest meeting HB asked the committee for qualified candidates for the AUFF Honorary Doctor. Already, a person is under consideration and thus we do not need to work more on this. It was agreed that the DM Forskningspris will be added to the annual overview of prize nominations.

6. Status on review processes – Maria Blach Nielsen (13:25-13:30)

Review processes for Marie Curie PF, DFF Research Project 1+2 and Carlsberg Young Researcher are undergoing.

It was discussed that some younger applicants might have a disadvantage if the department doesn't cover their salary. The committee discussed that we might need to pay attention to this and ensure that the applicant is aware of this challenge. It was agreed that HB and MBN will discuss this with Hans Brix and Rikke Märcher Rochat at their monthly meeting next week. Also, this challenge should be mentioned at the pitch sessions when presenting the content of the call.

In order to gain more knowledge of the reasons for rejection of the proposals of the department, MBN will collect the rejection letters from Sapere Aude 2021 and DFF Research Project 1+2 2020, and MMH will make a generalized overview where all confidential information is removed.

7. Input for NAT-visit from Novo Nordisk Foundation - Henrik (13:30-13:35)

The Novo Nordisk Foundation will visit the NAT Faculty on 26 October, and the vice dean asks for input regarding the research areas and how to make their calls more relevant to researchers from Biology.

The item is postponed until next meeting. MBN will share a link to the calls from NNF before next meeting.

8. Improvement of fundraising at the department - Peter Grønkjær (13:35-13:45)

PG and MBN presented a suggestion of how we can improve the funding success rate of the department. At the moment we can roughly estimate that 20% of the researchers possess 80% of the grants. There might be some overlooked potential in the small foundations, and we should make people more aware of these possibilities in order to sustain their research. It was agreed that we make an overview of the smaller foundations in order to help people find the smaller opportunities on the funding scene.

It was estimated that there might be some more potential in the larger foundations and that the researchers of the department are not targeting these foundations enough. Some of the larger foundations we are not applying enough. Different possibilities were discussed.

- Make a buddy setup, where a researcher with strong contacts in the foundation introduces you to the foundation or you team up with them in an application.
- Ask other scientific coordinators from the faculty. Maybe some have experiences we can learn from?
- Invite Aage V. Jensen Foundation to visit the department and include more people from the department. They are already invited for a meeting at Kalø, but this second meeting should have a more detailed focus on the Department of Biology.

It was agreed that we will invite Jens Christian Svenning to come to the next Research and Business Committee meeting and talk about 15 Juni Fonden.

9. Pitch-training for senior VIP- Maria Blach Nielsen (13:45-13:50)

On 14 October and 16 November 2021 (both days from 15-18) the department will offer a pitch workshop for senior VIP, facilitated by Linda Greve, Head of learning at the Science Museums. It will focus on how structure, visualizations and delivery play together when preparing to present research and research proposals. The course will be in English. The committee acknowledged the initiative and estimated that it would be useful for many researchers.

10. Briefing about self-test for potential applicants for the major calls - Maria Blach Nielsen (13:50-13:53)

Vice Dean for Research at Health, Hans Erik Bøtker has developed a new self-test, where researchers can check individual potential in relation to the ERC and the Innovation Foundation. We have been granted permission to copy and adapt to Biology. MBN will discuss it in the faculty network for scientific coordinators. The committee suggested that it might be implemented in some form at the pitch-session

See the tests here: <https://clin.medarbejdere.au.dk/forskerstoette/bedre-fond-sansoegninger/test-dig-selv-har-du-potentiale-til-de-store-fonde/>

Read more: <https://newsroom.au.dk/en/news/show/artikel/test-yourself-do-you-have-the-potential-to-succeed-with-the-large-foundations/>

11. Any other Business (13:53-14:00)

Next staff meeting will be held on 8 September 2021: Maya has organized a visit from the HighPerformance Computing responsible person, Rasmus Berg.

Career workshop for postdocs and phd's is coming up in Middle of September and end of September.

Next meeting: 27 September 2021 13.00-14.30

Actions

Reg. date	Subject	Responsible	Deadline
01-12-2020	Organising visits Visits from Innovation Fund Denmark and others	MBN/MAJ	When possible to meet in person
01-12-2020	Diversity Find more statistics on reasons for opting out of a career in academia	MAJ	Before next meeting
01-12-2020	Organise initiatives/events relevant to different instruments	MBN/MAJ	When relevant.
01-12-2020	Information about selected calls Is put on web and e-mailed to the committee who forwards it to relevant people in order to avoid spam.	MBN	Always .Stay on the action list
16-08-2021	Add DM Forskningsprize to annual overview of prize nominations	MBN	Before next meeting
16-08-2021	Make a generalized overview of rejection causes from Sapere Aude 2021 and DFF RP1+2 2020	MBN + MMH	As soon as possible
16-08-2021	Novo Nordisk Foundation visits the faculty MBN will share a link to NNF calls and on next meeting we will suggest input for the Faculty visit.	MBN	Next meeting
16-08-2021	Make an overview of the smaller foundations		As soon as possible



16-08-2021	<p>Network with foundations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ask other scientific coordinators from the faculty. Maybe some have experiences we can learn from?	MBN	As soon as possible
16-08-2021	<p>How to make strong connections with the foundations</p> <p>Invite Jens-Christian Svenning to speak about 15 Juni Fonden on a committee meeting</p> <p>Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Make a buddy setup, where a researcher with strong contacts in the foundation introduces you to the foundation or you team up with them in an application.- Ask other scientific coordinators from the faculty. Maybe some have experiences we can learn from?- Invite Aage V. Jensen Foundation to visit the department and include more people from the department. They are already invited for a meeting at Kalø, but this second meeting should have a more detailed focus on the Department of Biology.	HB	As soon as possible
16-08-2021	<p>Self test for the larger grants</p> <p>MBN will discuss the test in the faculty network for scientific coordinators. The committee suggested that it might be implemented in some form at the pitch-session.</p>	MBN	Before next meeting