



Minutes of Steering Committee Meeting of Statistics@SLU

03.03.2017, 14.00–15.00 hrs, by telephone

Participants

Kristina Blennow (LTV), Erik Bongcam Rudloff (VH), Claudia von Brömssen (NJ, deputy director), Richard Johnson (NJ), Johannes Pohl (SLUSS), Arne Pommerening (S, director), Göran Ståhl (S, chairman).

1 Opening of the meeting, approval of the minutes of the last meeting and of the agenda

No additional questions were raised. It was decided that *the consultants of the consultation units will be listed on the Centre's website*. Reporting eligible consultants to Hilda Edlund is delegated to the heads of the consultation units. Decision

2 Short revision of the recent annual members' meeting

Arne gave a short account of the recent annual meeting of Statistics@SLU at Alnarp on 16.02.2017. There were no comments on the minutes of this meeting and specific issues raised by the consultants were discussed in the subsequent agenda items below.

3 How best to take up strategic matters?

The idea of the Centre is to bring statisticians working at different campuses together so that they can coordinate their work and exchange experience among other things. Certain issues, however, need to be discussed at a higher level, which can be difficult for individual units. The vice-chancellor has given the mandate to the steering committee to decide and facilitate strategic matters within the frame of the budget. For smaller matters the heads of the consultation units are free to take matters up with their dptm heads together with the director of the Centre.

As an example for such a strategic matter Claudia described the question of base financing the posts of statisticians in her unit. Consultation work is

reimbursed by the Centre and it is not easy to clearly document a need for additional staff, i.e. that additional positions are required to increase or improve consultation work, whilst the increased demand and the income from subsequent additional consultation work would eventually match the salary costs. At the moment S, LTV and NJ faculties have statistical units to participate in consultation work. VH has individual statisticians employed that are entirely financed by Beijer funding and therefore not available for consultation work. However, many VH employers take up the consultation offer provided by the Ultuna unit.

A decision was made to *investigate the staffing situation and the demand for consultation of each consultation unit*. This document will then be sent to the members of steering committee well in advance of the next meeting. Decision

4 Software for logging down consultations

A web-based log system for consultancy hours would potentially increase transparency of the budget and allow faster, more timely analyses of the budget spent to date. Many projects use such systems to report project time and the Committee asked Arne to contact Cecilia Wolkert at IT-support to find out whether any existing provision would fit the purpose. In case the costs are larger than expected Arne will report back to the Committee, otherwise he decides.

Decision

5 New budget item for competence development

Competence development should be part of the Centres remit. This item will provide an opportunity to receive funding for travelling and subsistence in connection with professional workshops, courses and conferences. It was decided that *this item is budgeted every year*. Arne can decide which activities are supported and this process can already start in 2017 using unused funds from the Statistics@SLU budget.

Decision

6 SEK 50 000 föreståndare “disposal money”

The availability of this money was *confirmed and the director has the mandate to determine* how these funds are spent. Decision

Next meeting, AOB and closing

The next meeting will be a telephone meeting and will take place on 23 May 2017, 1400-1500 hrs. There will be a face-to-face meeting at Ultuna in autumn.


Arne Pommerening
Director


Göran Ståhl
Chairman