



# Minutes of the Steering Committee Meeting of Statistics@SLU and of the Graduate School in Applied Statistics & Scientific Computing

07.06.2018, 14.00 –15.00 hrs, by telephone.

## Members of the Steering Committee

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

## Absent

Harimurti Buntaran (SLUSS).

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

Göran and Arne welcomed the members of the Steering Committee. Arne gave a short summary of the minutes of the last telephone meeting on 16.04.2018. The minutes of that meeting and the agenda of the current meeting were approved.

Decision

## 2 Proposed changes in Statistics@SLU

Göran explained that Arne will move his professorship to the Department of Forest Ecology and Management at Umeå on 01.07.2018. He suggested that following this move it is best for Arne to step down as director of the Centre of Statistics. Göran proposed Claudia and Jan-Eric Englund as new director and new deputy director, respectively. The Steering Committee endorsed this proposal. The future of the Umeå unit of Statistics@SLU remains to be decided at this stage. This is the responsibility of the Forest Resource Management Department.

Decision

### **3 Reconstitution of the Graduate School in “Applied Statistics and Scientific Computing”**

Göran explained that after Arne’s move also a new coordinator/head of the Graduate School needs to be appointed. This responsibility falls to the FUN committee at the Forest Faculty. He also suggested that since the Graduate School will continue to have more of a local focus, it would be better to recruit a new steering committee specifically for this School. The Steering Committee agreed, though the exact process and dates are still to be decided. Kristina added that the laudable intention to create a Graduate School in “Applied Statistics and Scientific Computing” for all of SLU (a united graduate school) should not be abandoned.

Decision

### **4 Ongoing recruitment at Ultuna**

Claudia reported that she recently has successfully employed Staffan Betnér, an assistant and MSc graduate in statistics, who will work in her unit until the end of the year. The recruitment of a researcher and a senior lecturer in statistics are ongoing. There have been problems with differences in the salary offered by the Head of Department and that expected by the successful applicant for the researcher post. Finally, Staffan Betnér was officially acknowledged as statistical consultant by the Steering Committee.

Decision

### **5 Preparation of the meeting on 27.09.2018**

Given the recent structural problems encountered by Statistics@SLU Arne explained that it would be desirable to have a more focussed agenda for the meeting with the Heads of Departments. We agreed that it would be best to focus the discussions on the recruitment process of staff in statistics and the role of statistics within SLU. Göran and Richard added that SLU investigate the possibility of launching new engineering degrees at NJ and possibly also at other faculties where a well-functioning Statistics@SLU would play a key role. Erik found this an interesting development. Claudia will prepare an agenda for the next meeting in early September.

### **6 AOB, next meeting and closing**

It was decided that another member of the Centre will be seconded to future meetings of the Steering Committee of Statistics@SLU representing any SLU campus not otherwise represented by either the director or the deputy. Given the current decision this will be a representative of the future Umeå unit.

Decision

Claudia and Erik reported successful joint SLUBI and Statistics@SLU meetings at Ultuna and Alnarp. Erik particularly emphasised the laudable effort of drop-in sessions. The Steering Committee was in favour of this development and encouraged further discussions with SLUBI.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee of Statistics@SLU together with the Heads of Departments will be at Ultuna on **27 September 2018, 0930-0300pm**.

On behalf of the Steering Committee Göran thanked Arne for his work.

  
Arne Pommerening  
Director

  
Göran Ståhl  
Chairman

#### **Appendices**

1. Minutes of the meeting on 16.04.2018.