



Swedish University of
Agricultural Sciences



Minutes – Steering committee meeting Research School Focus on Soils & Water: 16th of September 2019, 10:00-12:00, room Marken (B3051) in the MVM centre, Ultuna, SLU.

Participants: Karina Engelbrecht Clemmensen, Lisbet Lewan, Prithvi Simha, Jelena Rakovic, Magdalena Bieroza, Maria Kahlert, Brendan McKie, Hannes Keck. Not present: Erik Petersson.

1. Chair, secretary

Lisbet Lewan appointed Maria Kahlert as chairperson and Magdalena Bieroza as secretary of the meeting. Jelena Rakovic will adjust the protocol.

2. Minutes steering committee 3rd of April 2019 (see Attachment_1) approved by all

3. Decisions

3.1. Mobility grant reports

3.1.1. **Report Jenna Senecal**, participated in the course “The SAIL (Sustainability Applied in International Teaching and Learning) for Teachers, Denmark. Budget: 4647 kr, result 4651 kr.

Approved by all

3.1.2. **Report Sophia Renes**, study visit to the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Duration of study visit: 5 weeks (extended by 2 weeks of holidays). Total budget: 30000 kr, amount awarded by FoSW: 10000 kr. Result total 13899,46 kr. 3899,46 will be paid for by project funding, result for FoSW as approved 10000 kr.

Approved by all

3.1.3. **Application Mattias Sörengård**, study visit to The Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA), Girona, Spain. Budget: 10000 kr.

Approved by all

3.2. **Mobility grant rules:** only SLU students can benefit from the grants. Request by Georgios Niarchos from UU was therefore declined.

After each decision, secretary of the meeting sends a decision letter with details for how to claim the money – send an invoice to 435MBA. Money is paid after the report is approved so the cost is actually reimbursed. It is up to a grantee to contact relevant financial officer or administrator to prepare the invoice.

4. Lunch seminars

3 seminars close together (16. Sept, 30. Sept and ~3. October).

How often between the seminars? They should be spaced but if we get interesting speakers, it would be good to have them present. Hannes is fine with sending the invitations. However, Prithvi has decided to quit organization of lunch seminars. His position will be replaced by Jelena. Jelena will therefore not co-edit the webpage, so it will continue to be Simon's sole responsibility.

5. Ongoing activities

5.1. Autumn 2019:

- Multivariate statistics** 14-31/10 (Ulf Grandin announced in May, almost full now, deadline 15/9; webpage: <https://www.slu.se/mva2019>)
- Workshop current topic public/private sector: **EDNA workshop** 7/11 (with UMBLA & SwAM) - Metabarcoding in monitoring and research. Maria is a coordinator of EDNA. FoSW doesn't need to pay but should be a co-organizer. 7th of November.
- Careers outside university**. End of November. Magda to contact Lea. Check when is the Soils Day.

6. Planned activities in Excel table

6.1. Year 3

- 6.1.1.**Ecosystem functioning**: Brendan will prepare the plan and propose a date during the next meeting.
- 6.1.2.**Ecosystem services**: due to low interest from the students and overlap with other course, we decided to postpone this course for now.
- 6.1.3.**Minerals in soils**: Magnus Simonsson will give the course in spring 2020. Despite only 7 students interested.
- 6.1.4. **Agriculture in practice**: no course leader, postponed for now. There is a similar course Agriculture for Biologists organised by the Ecology Research School.
- 6.1.5. **Catchment and connectivity**: Magda happy to lead the course with a focus on agricultural catchments since other courses (Kryklan and Birmingham) have more focus on catchment

hydrology and biogeochemistry in forest systems. Magda to prepare a plan for the next meeting. Course will run autumn 2020.

6.1.6. **Understanding and coding R and multivariate statistics** will run again in autumn 2020.

6.2. Year 4 scheduled and potential activities

6.2.1. **Aquatic sciences:** Magda is happy to lead the course, planned spring 2021. No details yet.

6.2.2. **Soil system:** Anke said she will run the course 2021.

6.2.3. **Organic micropollutants:** Lutz needs to revise the plan, pending that, the course can run 2021.

6.2.4. **Reviewing and Summarizing Science** - Everything You Always Wanted to Know About: spring 2020, Antonia Liess and Maria.

6.2.5. **Food webs:** potential course leaders Tomas Roslin and Brendan McKie.

6.2.6. **Advanced R course:** Helena Bylund is happy to coordinate. She needs suggestions from interested students and teachers. Jelena to provide names of the students. Perhaps a brainstorming event with the interested group can be organised. FoSW co-organiser.

6.2.7. **Fundamental mathematics for environmental scientists.** Lisbet contacted Hans Liljenström and he is happy to discuss with Jelena.

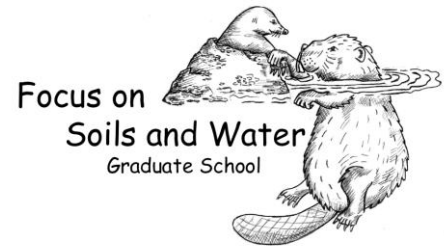
6.2.8. **1-day-workshop:** Based on the book "Bli klar i tid och må bra på vägen: handbook för doktorander" (The doctoral student handbook: master effectiveness, reduce stress, finish on time) by Åsa Burman. Suggestion: early 2020, max. ~20 participants (Maria to book date).

6.2.9. **Kappa workshop:** Maria discussed with other schools. Coming in 2020.

6.2.10. **Soils of Sweden workshop** (1-2 days) – learning about soil horizons (digging holes in different soil types, both agricultural and forest), learning about soil formation



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processes, soil classification, importance of clay minerals, soil structure, soil texture (invite everyone interested, but mainly PhDs and post docs) (7 MoM PhD students interested). All agree it is a good idea, perhaps Jan Eriksson would be interested? Magda to contact him.

6.2.11. **Agforee collaboration:** Magda and Maria will travel to Helsinki on the 9th of December to discuss potential collaboration.

7. **Budget:** Magda meeting with Åsa Brorsson to get a better idea of the costs. Magda and Åsa are following up on several not claimed grants/courses.
8. **Other:** no brainstorming event needed for now. New deputies are needed. Prithvi will contact Claudia Von Brömssen.
9. **Next meeting:** 6th December, 13-15, Magda to book the room and prepare agenda.