

Department of Geoscience Research committee Meeting

19 October 13.00 – 14.30, Meeting room 1671-234

PRESENT: David Egholm (chair), Thorsten Nagel (Deep Earth), Jan Piotrowski (Surface), Marit-Solveig Seidenkrantz (Climate), Ole Rønø Clausen (Basin geophysics), Esben Auken (Hydrogeophysics), Søren Bom Nielsen (Head), Niels Balling (Deep geophysics), Nicolaj Krog Larsen (Surface, climate), Christian Tegner (Deep Earth), Thomas Nielsen (Scientific coordinator & For the minutes)

ABSENT: Andrew Murray (Chronology), Lene Kjeldsteen

Agenda & Minutes

1. Short debate about the Research committee (RC). How can we use RC to improve the research environment at Geoscience? (20 min)

The function of the RC is to advise the leadership of the Department in matters related to research. E.g. advice on initiatives, applications and external financing, research applications, internationalization.

DISCUSSION:

Søren Bom: Working on “Version 2” of the Geoscience Strategy Card. Deadline is 13 Nov 2015. Would like comments from RC. Suggests **RC meeting in week up to 13 Nov.**

Jan Piotrowski: Should we develop **guidelines** as to *rotation* of membership of the RC and *who* should be members,

Esben Auken: Important to ensure that the “research heavy” groups are represented.

David Egholm: The Head of the Department decides who should be member of RC.

David Egholm: Should we develop an “**internal peer review**” system to offer quality control for project applications. Could we get our success rate up with such a system? Applications that are re-submitted should go through the internal review process as there should be time enough.

For the **upcoming FNU application** (28 Oct 2015) Thomas Nielsen and Jan Piotrowski will give feedback to applications if they get them in due time. David will circulate an e-mail to all VIPs.

In the longer term we should identify a group of international reviewers.

2. News from ST-RC (15 min).

AUFF Mobility Grant – the call closes 06th November 2015 –very short deadline. Can finance 3-9 months sabbatical for ST-VIP.

ST-RC works to get the call out in better time in the future.

QUESTIONS from ST-RC: Can the mobility grant cover expenses that can be difficult to cover from other sources (e.g. family costs, salary loss, and replacement teacher at department).

DISCUSSION:

Søren Bom: A sabbatical is very important for the academic development of the department. Would like to recommend VIPs to actively consider doing a sabbatical.

It will be a point for discussion at a future RC to discuss a policy for this area at the department level.

AUFF have given 500 000 to the faculty. To be used to “small items” and not to be applied formally for. Can we come up with ideas: Software, support to Workshops / Conferences at AU (secretarial assistance, VIP speakers ..).

Faculty is suggesting using some of the funds to develop a **“Marie Currie Master Class”** for potential Individual Fellowship Applicants. **GEO-RC supports this idea.**

3. Funding from private funds. Ideas for new Geoscience research endeavors? ST asks for input to a catalogue before November 2. (30 min).

Focus will be on LARGE activities outside the “normal” application deadline of the private funds. It is the plan to develop an ST Catalog of Ideas (5 years projects, 50 mio DKK – societal relevance).

GEO will submit: Water (Esben Auken to be lead); Geo-chemistry (possibly with elements of Dating) (Christian Tegner to be lead); Climate (Marit-Solveig Seidenkrantz to be lead – will also submit a proposal with Jens Christian Svenning Bioscience); Sustainable Energy /Geothermal energy and storage of energy from sun and wind (Niels Balling to be lead);

TIMING: 02 Nov David Egholm will have to submit the ideas to the ST-RC. 23 November all contributions from ST will be collated and the ST-RC will meet to discuss the ideas. The Catalog will be circulated to all Department RC to allow for development of cross-department projects and synergies.

4. Upcoming funding opportunities and deadlines. Thomas Nielsen informs. (10 min).

EU Horizon2020: New call has just opened. However nothing looks exactly to be for GEO. Thomas Nielsen will organize an “EU Info Event” at GEO in January with The Research Support Office (Partner Anya Bjørn Vinstrup, EU Special Consultant Ole Henckel) and someone with ERC / H2020 experience

Thomas Nielsen is working on an overview of private Danish foundations that could be of interest for GEO (VIP and STUD).

5. AOB (15 min)

Søren Bom: Remember the infomeeting with the Danish National Research Foundation regarding Centres of Excellence 04 November.

Ole Rønø Clausen: Will participate in an Energy Seminar in Israel medio-November with CEUS and CU. Aim to deliver a capacity lift to Oil, structural geologists and paleontology etc

Esben Auken: ECG Distinguished Lecture 2016 (Aug – Dec). 30 lectures. An opportunity to promote AU-GEO – should we develop info material for Esben to bring?

/Thomas Nielsen