

Minutes of Meeting

Research Committee, Department of Geoscience

04 April 2017, 12:00 – 14:00

Meeting Room 1672 - 238

PARTICIPANTS: David L. Egholm (Chairman), Jan Piotrowski, Marit-Solveig Seidenkrantz, Nicolaj K. Larsen, Ole Rønø Clausen, Søren B. Nielsen, Thomas Nielsen (& referent),

Excuses from: Anders V Christiansen, Andrew Murray, Niels Balling, Charles Lesher, Thorsten Nagel, Christian Tegner

GUEST: Jens Peter Andersen (Department of Political Science – responsible for the Benchmarking exercise for Geoscience)

1. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Agenda and Minutes were approved (Minutes will be posted on the website).

2. Benchmarking of Department of Geoscience (30 min)

Jens Peter Andersen from Department of Political Science, AU presents his benchmarking of Geoscience (material attached).

BACKGROUND

The Committee for External Collaboration at Aarhus University (UFE) and the Danish Centre for Studies on Research and Research Policy (CFA) has agreed, on the evaluation of research activities at 19 Aarhus University departments. The agreement includes the production of:

An annual standardized reports (same information for all departments)

One single, tailor-made report for each department (impact report is a *citation* report (e.g. usage of the research production by other academics – impact is not automatic quality!))

The aim is to provide continuous evaluation on a series of key areas of general relevance for the research management of the individual department as well as the faculty management. The individualized reports aim at contextualizing the annual reports and elaborating topics such as research collaboration, benchmarking or interdisciplinarity. Under the acronym IMPALA (IMPact AnaLyses Aarhus university), CFA has developed a web-based user interface for annual standard reports at the intranet address <https://impala.au.dk>.

The starting point is PURE data, citation data is from Web of Science.

For Geoscience in the period 2008 – 2014:

585 publications (peer review papers & review papers – that can be matched in WoS)

75 of these have not yet been cited

14% with pure Danish collaborators

74% with international (and Danish) collaborators

~approximately 3000 citations. Mean Citation Score is 5,24. Mean Normalized Citation Score (MNCS) is 1,64 for Geoscience (AU average is approx. 1,3 – World Average is 1,00)

20% of the publications are found in Top 10% journals.

Table 3 of the Report shows that the MNCS varies depending on which external collaborator we choose to publish with – with some we produce papers with very high MNCS.

3. Discussion of benchmarking and its future use (25 min)

We would like to continue receiving the Standard Report. Partly because we would like to track the development of the Department – we have gone through a generational change at Geoscience and it will be interesting to see how it develops with time.

We would like to recommend that the initiative is continued.

We identified a few “strange” issues in the report – they were all addressed and we found very good explanations for this (e.g. some fields of Geoscience are not very well indexed in WoS – consequently quite a number of PURE publications cannot be found in WoS and are thus not part of the analysis).

ACTION: Jens Peter will send us the key words for the “80% of publication” as well as the key words up to “90% of publication” so we can check if some areas should be interchanged to give a better picture of the department.

4. **Young Talent** (25 min)

We look to have 3 **ERC Consolidator** applicants at the Department this year. We will offer as much assistance to these applications as possible. In addition the Faculty offers individual “Master Class” assistance to ERC applicants. It is highly recommended to make use of this free offer.

MENTOR at AU – EMPOWER TALENT – is open (deadline is 20th April). David and Marit-Solveig have signed up – more are encouraged to sign up. The VIP will be mentor for a young researcher from another department at the university. We would like for our young researchers to get the support, so we have to be willing to also offer it to others.

There was a discussion on Career Supervision for PhD students as well as Post Docs at the Department. We will try and develop a “concrete concept” for how we can offer supervision to PhD and Post Docs. This will include research support (e.g. assistance with fundraising) and career supervision.

5. **Recruitments** (25 min)

Søren gave an update on the recruitment plan.

Position #10: The “Deep Group” is working on a text

Position #10a: The position has been advertised, a search committee is operating.

Position #11: Interviews are on-going

Position #12: Three persons have been invited for interviews

Position #12a: A call has to be formulated and a search committee has to be formed

Position #13: There have been interviews. The position has been offered – at the level of Assistant Professor – to one of the candidates. The Head of Department has applied for a Start Package. In addition a “*Strategic Recruitment*” of an additional candidate – at the level of Associate Professor – is under review.

Position #14: Is filled.

The concept of a new and updated Recruitment Plan has been presented to the Department Forum. The Forum agrees to advertise two professorships (in the field of the remaining two MSO Professorships, which we currently have at the department). In addition the Forum

agrees that the new Recruitment Plan should be flexible, so we can “pick talent” when it presents itself.

The Research Committee agreed that a flexible Recruitment Plan with “jokers” would be a good thing, as the department recently have undergone a generational change and that there are no major gaps in relation to education at the department.

David L. Egholm, Søren B. Nielsen and Bo Holm Jacobsen will formulate a new Recruitment Plan – an addendum to the Strategy Plan of the Department – that takes the MSO Professorships in to account and allows for flexible talent recruitment.

6. A.O.B. (10 min)

ElifeForsker Prisen 2017: AU can nominate 8 candidates. Deadline is 05 Sept 2017. It was decided that the Research Committee will not nominate candidates from Geoscience.

/Thomas N

NEXT MEETING

Early May

TO DO (FROM MEETING 04/04-2017)

WHAT	WHO	STATUS
Get the key words for the "80% of publication" as well as the key words up to "90% of publication" so we can check if some areas should be interchanged to give a better picture of the department.	Thomas	
Formulate a first draft of the new Recruitment Plan – an addendum to the Strategy Plan of the Department.	David L. Egholm, Søren B. Nielsen and Bo Holm Jacobsen	

TO DO (FROM MEETING 06/03-2017)

WHAT	WHO	STATUS
Call a new meeting with only the double recruitment as a point & Send out Material to Committee	Thomas & David	<i>Done – Meeting called for 14th March. ST Strategic Recruitment Procedure sent out</i>
Advertise the Associate Professor Position in "Computational Earth surface processes": Thomas to send text to Søren B. Søren B to go on with the recruitment process	Thomas and Søren B.	<i>Text sent to Søren B.</i>
Set up an information meeting with Vice-Dean Søren Keiding (former Head of the FTP) to hear about the opportunities.	Thomas and David	<i>Thomas has contacted Søren Keiding. He is happy to come – a date for this is being finalized. DONE!</i>
Identify a suitable date for the Inaugural Lecture and Reception to celebrate Christian Tegner becoming a Full Professor	Søren B, Christian T and Lene Kjeldsteen.	
How do we celebrate new appointments of Assistant and Associate Professors	David & Thomas	<i>To be discussed at a later Research Committee Meeting</i>

TO DO (FRA MØDET 8/2-2017)

Hvad	Hvem	Status
Indstille kandidater til Marie Curie Masterclass	David og Thomas	<i>Done</i>
Tekst til opslaget i "Quaternary Terrestrial Palaeoecology" opdateres så det passer med diskussionen	Thomas	<i>Done.</i>
Formulering af Opslag af Tenure Track Stilling	Nikolaj/David	<i>Done</i>
Rekrutteringsplanen – til næste møde	David og Thomas	<i>Done</i>
Udsend reminder om Kortlægning af planlagte ansøgninger mm	Thomas	<i>Done</i>

TO DO (FRA MØDET 3/1-2017)

Hvad	Hvem	Status
Ny tekst til opslaget i <i>Quaternary Palynology / Paleolimnology</i>	Jan Piotrowski	<i>DONE</i>
Indsamle navne til listen "Eksterne internationale forskere" til QS ranking	Thomas Nielsen	<i>Liste indsendt til ST</i>
Udsend reminder om ST Marie Curie Master Class 2017 Primo-januar 2017.	Thomas Nielsen	<i>Udsendt til alle GEO-VIP 5/1-17</i>

TO DO (FRA MØDET 28/10-2016)

Hvad	Hvem	Status
Information om MCC på næste FAST-VIP Frokost. Herefter udsendes MCC ansøgningsblanket til VIPs	Thomas Nielsen	<i>DONE</i>
Forår 2017 - Thomas opdaterer sin database over GEO-VIPeres planer for ansøgninger – for at kortlægge om der er vigtige fonde hvor vi er "tynde" – alle VIPere indkaldes til møde med TN i løbet af foråret.	Thomas Nielsen	<i>Pipeline - indkaldes til samtaler ultimo januar 2017</i>

7. ERC Consolidator – barselsregler – tjeck	Thomas Nielsen	<i>Tjekket, skrevet ind i referatet fra mødet 28/10-16</i>
AU Æresdoktorgrader	Thomas Nielsen	<i>GEO har indstillet 2 kandidater (ud af i alt 4 til ST)</i>
Bibliometrisk analyse	Jan Piotrowski & Thomas Nielsen	<i>Den endelige benchmark kommer ultimo feb og præsenteres herefter på et FU møde.</i>
Pkt til næste møde: Priser / indstillinger	David Egholm & Thomas Nielsen	<i>MØDE i MARTS</i>

ANNEX 1: BENCHMARKING of GEOSCIENCE, AU

Report was circulated with the Agenda for the meeting.

