

Board meeting 8th of May 2019



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Agenda

1. FORMALITIES **15:30 – 15:35**

- A) ELECTION OF CONDUCTOR AND MINUTE TAKER
- B) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
- C) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST BOARD MEETING

2. ORIENTATIONS (O) **15:35 – 15:45**

3. STUDENT WELLBEING (WS) **15:45 – 16:30**

B/ Katrine and Mathilde

The talk will start by a presentation about the work and experiences from the special guidance service of RUC to give overview and knowledge of the problem. Then we are going to discuss what our position in the Student Council should be on student wellbeing and how we will work with the topic.

BREAK 16:30-16:45

4. INTERNATIONALIZATION PAPER (DE) **16:45 – 18:25**

B/ Calvin

10. AOB. (O) **18:25 – 18:30**

DINNER **18:30 –**

Abbreviations: O = orientation, DE = decision, DI = discussion, WS = workshop

Appendix 1:

Minutes from the board meeting of the Student Council 23th of April 2019

Members of the board present: Katrine Damberg (CP), Mathilde Elisa Vendelholt (CP), Michael Marigliano (EC), Lea Holritzer Pehrson (EC), Signe Bøtzau Paulsen (UNIPOL), Micky Winther Ronnenberg (UB), Erik Lørup (UB), Rasmus Tronier Hansen, Sif Stokholm, Cecillie Haumann Möller, Thorkil Ørbæk, Calvin Carlson, Casper Valentin Otto, Bastian Winter Danielsen, Philip Crilles Bacher, Erik Slot Malmqvist.

Absent: Maria Køpke Kjeldsen (EC), Marc Backhausen Erichsen.

Observers: Freja Høy Hansen (AR), Nicoline Samantha Schmidt (AR).

Visitors:

CH: Chairpersonship

EC: Member of the Executive Committee

UNIPOL: Coordinator of UNIPOL

UB: Member of the University Board

AR: Member of the Academic Council

1. Formalities

Election of conductor: Katrine and Calvin

Election of minute taker: Phillip and Michael

Approval of last BM minutes: Approved with the change to the right date.

Approval of the agenda: The proposed agenda was approved.

2. Orientations (O)

Unipol: Academic council meeting was in English, so this was a nice experience for our non-Danish speaking electives. The academic staff was very positive about having the meeting in English.

PR: We have had a meeting. It was great. Focusing on the Roskilde Festival right now, and are planning PR videos among other things to promote RF.

Student rep: In the next meeting on the 29th where Peter Lauritsen will visit to talk about the economics of the university.

3. Account of 2018 (D)

Economical vice-chair of 2018 presents the annual accounts of 2018. Jeg skriver på dansk så Årsregnskabet og processen omkring dette tilblivelse fremlægges. Der redegøres for de problemer der har været med regnskabet de seneste par år, det skyldes at der i 2017 har været en syg bogholder og derfor blev godkendelsen af dette meget forsinket hvilket har haft en række konsekvenser for regnskabet 2018.

Regnskabet 2018 gennemgås, det bemærkes blandt andet at RUC har skyldt os nogle midler for regnskabsåret 2018.

Tilskudregnskab:

Politiske tilskud: overordnet fremstår det pænt. Der besvares tekniske spørgsmål fra bestyrelsen.

Drift tilskud:

Studentersocialt tilskud:

RUS administration: Der er oprettet tre nye poster

Årsregnskab:

Note 2 er blevet omstruktureret, således at det ikke ser ud som alle vores indtægter kommer fra tilskud, da dette ikke er retvisende

Note 3 Bemærk indførelse af nyt navn, før øvrige deltagerbetaling – nu ruskursus

Note 6 posten Valg er oprettet

Note 7 RUC-sport udgår til næste regnskab

Note 15 DAF er stadig uafklaret

Kritisk revision:

Camilla siger nej og fortæller at hun er her på vegne af den kritiske revision. Hun var økonomisk næstformand i 2016.

Opfordrer til, at udvalgene budgetterer deres penge.

Opfordrer til en diskussion af vores egenkapital.

Der bliver spurgt til hvordan man kan adskille de enkelte huses økonomi fra studenterrådets, dette kan gøres ved at indgå en skriftlig aftale herom.

Reviderer budget efter omlagte poster.

Rusvejledningen har været en økonomiske last for studenterrådet i 2018 og FU skal arbejde sammen med rusformandskabet om at det går i nul i 2020.

Vigtigheden af at afholde budgetrevidering to gange før generalforsamlingen indskærpes.

Budget 2019 skal op på hjemmesiden.

Der indstilles til at regnskabet godkendes.

Diskussion:

Det nyoprettede økonomiske udvalg skal også se på årsregnskabet, budget samt diskuterer vores økonomiske forretningsgange.

Det foreslås at de økonomiske ansvarlige i husrådne skal være tilstede ved disse diskussioner. Dette ses dog ikke som en optimal løsning da meget af der tales om her ikke er relevant for dem.

Årsregnskabet er godkendt

4. Student Handbook (WS)

The proposal is whether we should have two handbook one in English and one in Danish or one in English.

A vivid discussion followed the main points were:

The end user should be in focus

The cost and labor involved is not important

We should follow our general language policy

It would send a nice signal to RUC if we only had an English book

There will be two books.

5. NOM Climate Conference (WS)

Calvin holds a presentation about climate change and student activism

What should the student council do?

- We should push this agenda everywhere we are represented

- We should use less single use products

- Free coffee for students, if they bring their own cup

- Lecture lunch on the subject

- Positive motivation to get students to do good stuff

- The sustainability student

6. A.O.B.

There will a study start campaign about sexual harassment and inclusion during tutoring. Dsf is responsible

Folkemøde, we wanted to go, but we did not have anywhere to stay so we are not going. But you can become Hannes driver.

The student movement is doing a demonstration and we need to find out if we want to have a pre-demonstration. We will do something.

Appendix 2: Orientation from the Chairpersonship

Financial

After the annual account was approved and signed it was sent off to RUC. The chairpersonship of 2018 also made a report on what activities the money was spend on and we sent that to the administration as well in due time. Lea has been meeting with our accountant, and everything is smooth sailing now. From now on Lea will have monthly meetings with the accountant to ensure that the different points from last year's annual account will be taken into consideration.

The study start

Last week we had a meeting with two representatives from the student guidance service. It was mainly about the study start: we discussed cooperation and support during tutoring and sexual harassment focus during the study start. There will be made working groups for both where Mathilde will be attending from now on.

DSF committees

In the last couple of weeks, we've had a few different meetings with the different committees of DSF. Katrine has a meeting in the University Political Committee (UPU), where they discussed student ombud (which we decided to talk about as student ambassadors), the new admission system (optagelsessystem) as well as had a presentation about the new budget model of KU. Mathilde was at a meeting in the Social Affairs Committee (LU) where they had an introductory brainstorm about student well-being and planned what themes to work with in the coming year. This will probably include inclusion of international students and better student environments in general.

The next meeting in these two committees might be joined and will amongst other things be about climate. So in general the work in the political committees of DSF is aligning well with our work at home, which is always exciting.

There has also been a meeting in the Organizational Committee (OU) in DSF. This took place at the same time as our own board meeting, which is why we had visitors from the other universities. Here the process for electing 2020 DSF EC members was discussed. It was also a really good chance to talk to some of the representatives from the other universities about what is going on locally with their organizational priorities to see what we can do to learn from each other. There might be more about this in the fall.

Study Environment Report

Katrine participated in the Study Leader meeting where the study environment report of RUC 2018 was presented. The numbers aren't too impressive, and it shows that there is a lot to work with on campus. We need to be well prepared for the UDDU meeting where we will get the opportunity to work with it next, so that we can push RUC to act on this.

Appendix 3: Orientation from the Executive Committee

Week 15

Skype meeting with other MO's about an internationalization workshop in the future.

Attended the reception in Aalborg.

NOM 75 in Copenhagen, where the theme was Climate Change. We listened to a variety of very engaging presentations, had productive workshops, and shared ideas, knowledge, and culture across the Nordic and Baltic unions.

RBC had a meeting with RUCbar to discuss the summer party.

Week 16

A lock box for a key to the offices and basement was installed in student house.

We discussed a change in PR and how EC can do its part to help out and strengthen this aspect of Student Council. It was decided that we will plan a post for everyday of the week during our weekly meeting and assign an EC to be responsible to post it. This will be done in conjunction with PR and their strategies. In addition the efforts from Jonas on PR were also discussed and the plan to push the ideas to PR was made.

Week 17

Board meeting was this week.

The Student Council representatives attended the AR strategy Seminar.

CIC designed a logo and established some PR roots. Also had two strategy meetings for promoting and recruiting volunteers for the May event. IC was finally brought in and the collaboration effort feels very strong.

RBC has more meetings to discuss summer party and has two soundboxes fall into its lap.

Basement gets measured again for a potential redesign.

Jonas' 3-week report idea was sent to the PR committee so they can discuss it at their meeting on the 6th, and of course invited him to the meeting as well.

1 **Appendix 5:**

2 **The Student Council's Policy on Inclusion of** 3 **International Students at RUC**

4
5 It is the Student Council's position that any progressive university, including Roskilde
6 University, should tend towards globalization. The principles behind problem-orientated project
7 learning, that are a foundational cornerstone of RUC, suggest that the university should hold a positive
8 outlook towards the exchange of global knowledge and experience. It is our belief that the university
9 does not do enough to be able to claim that it has a progressive and inclusive view
10 on internationalization. International students and staff bring new and fresh perspectives that only
11 serve to benefit our university in a positive way. We believe this viewpoint should be harnessed by
12 RUC as a driving force for progress, and not repressed or limited by a mere lack of inclusion or focus
13 on internationalization.

14 International students have been a recurring theme in the public debate about the Danish educational
15 system. On the national scene, different initiatives, such as limits on study places available in
16 English, are making it increasingly difficult to be an international student enrolled in a Danish
17 university. The Student Council is against this tendency. Therefore, we are working together with
18 Danske Studerendes Fællesråd and other relevant collaborators to ensure better access and conditions
19 for international students on a national level.

20 International students regularly face unique barriers and difficulties in their pursuance of an
21 education. These exceptional challenges, when coupled with a pernicious university environment, can
22 socially alienate the students from their peers. This hinders internationals from establishing valuable
23 connections with their local communities that would otherwise encourage inclusion and involvement
24 in their university.

25 The Student Council at RUC believes that all students should have equal opportunities to take an
26 active role in their own educations, through both academic and structural involvement. Any lack of
27 access to information and programs in English leads to an undesirable exclusion of non-Danish
28 speaking students academically, socially, and democratically. Roskilde University must work towards
29 becoming a more internationally-minded university by actively supporting international involvement
30 and representation.

31 32 **Language Policy**

33 We believe that for RUC to be successful in ensuring equal opportunities for international students, it
34 needs to maintain a comprehensive and inclusive language policy. Such a policy must provide concrete
35 guidelines that secure these opportunities for it to uphold Roskilde University's institutional integrity.

36 In a language policy, subjective language that allows for open interpretation of guidelines must be
37 avoided, particularly when addressing topics like what information should be available in English. We
38 believe anything but unambiguous guidelines to be insufficient, as the alternative allows for the
39 exclusion of international students based on language. This is especially problematic in the case where
40 important and academically relevant information is not available or accessible for international
41 students. RUC must take full responsibility for the translation and availability of all educationally
42 relevant information.

43 The university must never expect that students and staff should be proficient in Danish within any
44 given timeframe. This is because it is unreasonable to require that for students and staff to actively
45 participate in their university, they must take a separate Danish language education on top of their
46 current workload. In addition, the time it takes to learn any language is itself prohibitive. RUC
47 should encourage and support internationals through the process of learning Danish as a benefit to
48 their life in Denmark, and not as a requirement for university involvement. This should be done
49 through locally provided and accessible Danish language courses.

50

51 **Inclusion of International students in Academic and Political Bodies**

52 The Student Council believes it is crucial that all students of RUC have equal access to partake in the
53 decision-making processes at the university. It should be the responsibility of RUC to secure that
54 international non-Danish speaking students can participate in these forums.

55 Currently, there is a democratic issue that not all students have the same opportunity to take part in
56 the political forums at RUC, which is to a great extent caused by the lack of access to general
57 information, as well as official documents, in English. It is problematic that many of the official political
58 bodies at RUC are only equipped and prepared to function in Danish. This goes for the Board of
59 Directors, Academic Council, institute councils, and most of the study boards.

60 For many of these it is true that all members of the political bodies are Danish speakers, and therefore
61 it makes sense to conduct those meetings in Danish. While this is fine if all active members understand
62 Danish, it also means that getting involved in these bodies as a non-Danish speaking student becomes
63 more difficult. Therefore, the Student Council believes that all official political bodies that represent
64 programs with non-Danish speaking students should be prepared to switch to English in the event of
65 an international elected representative. It is important that all relevant materials as well as the
66 meetings themselves are in English (or that help with translation is provided) for all meetings and
67 forums where there is a non-Danish speaking student present.

68

69 **Inclusion of International Students in the Study Environment**

70 For many students a vital part of their education is a healthy and thriving study environment. It is
71 important that these are developed in a way that creates a space for all students to grow and challenge

72 themselves, both socially and academically, throughout their studies. Through this the wellbeing and
73 ultimately the retention of the students is increased. This can be especially important for international
74 students because their situation sometimes lead to struggles with social and psychological issues.

75 The Student Council believes that it is in general important to prioritize study environment regarding
76 all students, but also specifically with the focus of further inclusion of international students. This task
77 should be done in a collaboration between the administration and the students of RUC. It is, however,
78 important that RUC takes the responsibility for creating the frame for this work to unfold.

79 It is the belief of the Student Council that a better inclusion of the international students at RUC not
80 only will improve the education and experience of those students, but also improve the overall study
81 environment for all student in the international programs – and conclusively create a better and more
82 diverse environment benefitting the entire student body.

83

84 **Academic Programs for International Students**

85 The tendency to shut down academic programs or limit subject-combination possibilities has been
86 influencing Roskilde University in recent years. This tendency is especially problematic with
87 international programs already being notably smaller than their Danish equivalents. RUC's basic
88 academic structure is intended to give each student a broad fundament for further study so that
89 students are enabled to communicate and work together across subjects. It is important that every
90 student at RUC has enough programs and subjects to choose from so that the flexibility, academic
91 opportunities, and principles that define the education at RUC are conserved. This is not the reality for
92 non-Danish speaking students at RUC. Therefore, it is our belief that more academic programs and
93 subjects should be created in English.

94 By increasing the number of programs and subjects available to international students, RUC would not
95 only improve the conditions and opportunities for international students, but also the educational
96 quality for Danish students. We believe that RUC should create equal access to knowledge and
97 education.