



## AGENDA

### Programme Committee for Master programme in Global Health

**Date and time:** Monday 23 August 2021 at 14.30 to 16.00

**Venue:** Zoom, click this link to join:

<https://uib.zoom.us/j/61508161722?pwd=OFZ4azNDbUtFemFIOHc0SThaaEF1Zz09>

**Members:** Ingvild Fossgard Sandøy (head); Thorkild Tylleskär; Cecilie Svanes; David Lackland Sam; Bente Moen (Head of CIH); Tehmina Mustafa; Ingunn Marie S. Engebretsen, Stein Atle Lie (IKO); Sven Gudmund Hinderaker; student representatives: Mudasar Iqbal and Marta Wysocka (2<sup>nd</sup> year)

**From the administration:** Linda Karin Forshaw

#### I Approval of the Agenda

#### II Minutes from the Programme Committee meeting on 31 May (Encl. 1)

#### III Matters arising from the minutes

##### Subject 29/21 Matters of information

##### *New student representatives*

The new students will have to select two representatives before the next Programme Committee meeting.

##### *Admission to Master programme in Global Health* (Encl. 2)

The administration of admissions has been centralized, which means the Division of Academic and Student Affairs at UiB administers the admissions with input from the Admission Committee at CIH.

*Self-financing International applicants:* Of 38 who accepted the offer of admission, 21 commenced their Master studies this autumn (most online due to quarantine on arrival in Norway).

*Self-financing Norwegian and EU applicants:* Of 38 who were offered admission, 19 commenced (some online).

*NORPART students:* There are four NORPART students this year.

*StAR student:* There are two so called *Students at Risk* this year.

In addition one student who was granted one year deferral last year commenced.

### **Subject 30/21 Elective courses Spring 2021**

How did the change to online teaching go? The Committee should discuss the challenges and lessons learned.

How will we use our acquired digital competence to improve access and quality of teaching and learning in the future? Will be run any of the elective courses as online courses in the Spring semester 2022?

*Suggested decision:* To be decided after discussion.

### **Subject 31/21 Literature review projects**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic many students have chosen literature review projects. Ingunn has suggested that two Master students can cooperate and write their Master Thesis together. The Committee should discuss the suggestion.

*Suggested decision:* To be decided after discussion.

### **Subject 32/21 Establishing thesis writing support groups**

At CIH supervisors spend a lot of time on individual supervision of students. This makes many feel that supervision of master students is a burden, and now that it looks like we will have a very high number of master students in the programme the next 2 years, we need to find ways to work more efficiently but still ensuring that the students get proper support during the writing process. We should therefore discuss whether we to establish writing support groups where students who use similar methodology (quantitative, qualitative, systematic literature review, laboratory study) can share their drafts with each other and get and give inputs on draft texts. The students' supervisors can share the chairing of meetings between them, and will not have to come every time. At each meeting 2-3 students could share drafts of a section of their thesis (Introduction, Methods, Results or Discussion). Two students will be tasked to be reviewers for each text (i.e. if 3 students share texts, 6 students will act as reviewers). Such a system where students do not only get feedback from their supervisor, but also from fellow students and possibly another supervisor, and where they get several opportunities to see how others write and what advice they get, will reduce the need for individual supervision and will also ensure that those who have external supervisors who have never supervised students in our master programme will be given guidance on what expectations we have in our programme. Each group could meet once or twice per month, depending on the size of the group, and the aim could be that each student shares texts for times so they get feedback on each section of their thesis.

If we want such groups, should they be compulsory? And should we also offer such groups to first year students when they come to writing their proposals in the Spring semester?

*Suggested decision:* Participation in thesis writing support group will be established as an offer for this year's second year students and will be made compulsory for second year students from the next academic year. Participation in proposal writing support groups will be optional for first year master students.

**Subject 33/21 Report from the student representatives**

**Subject 34/21 Any other business**