



**Minutes from the meeting in
Programme Committee for Global Health
Monday 3 October 2022 at 2.30 – 4.00 p.m.**

Attendees: Ingvild Fossgard Sandøy (head); Cecilie Gjerde Gjengedal (IKO); Sven Gudmund Hinderaker; Bente Moen (Head of CIH); Tehmina Mustafa; Ana Lorena Ruano; Rafael Duran (1st year), Justin Pruitt (1st year), Fernando José Jerez Pietropaolo (1st year). Rajeshwar (2nd year), Ferdausi Maheen (2nd year) and Penias Tembo (2nd year), Anna-Karin Hurtig (Programme auditor)

Secretary: Linda Karin Forshaw

I Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved.

II Minutes from the Programme Committee meeting on 22 August 2022

The minutes were approved.

III Matters arising from the minutes

None

Subject 33/22 Matters of information

New student representatives

Rafael Duran, Justin Pruitt are new student representatives for the 1st year students and Fernando José Jerez Pietropaolo and Marina Abou Hanian are substitutes.

Submitted course evaluation INTH325A

Course coordinator David Lackland Sam has submitted a report for “Culture and Psychopathology” (INTH325A), this is the more extensive one which is due every third year.

Follow-up: The grade distribution should be added by the administration and suggestions for improvements should be added by the course coordinator.

Thesis guidelines

Based on inputs in previous discussions in the Programme Committee, the Thesis guidelines for the 60 ECTS credit Master thesis have been finalised.

Master projects

There has been a call for Master projects. Only 8 projects were proposed. Ingvild has sent a reminder to potential supervisors. There are 22 students whereof 4 already have projects which means 18 students need projects. Students are encouraged to suggest their own projects, they will be guided on how to find relevant supervision.

Master thesis writing seminars

In order to help the students get started with the thesis and support them in the writing process, an introductory session about thesis writing and four writing seminars this academic year will be arranged. The students will be expected to submit a draft text 1 week before each group seminar, and 2 students give comments in MittUiB on each draft before the seminar. During the seminar the groups discuss challenges and share tips on how to make the section good. There will be three groups according to the methodology the students use, i.e. quantitative qualitative and literature review. The attendance of the writing seminars will be compulsory.

One of the student representatives raised a concern that the discussion in the writing seminars for the quantitative group in the Spring semester did not feel relevant for students with laboratory projects. They need more tailored information on writing.

Bente mentioned that Professors Kamal Mustafa and Asgeir Bårdsen at Department of Clinical Dentistry have indicated that they are willing to provide better support to the students who have a background in dentistry.

Follow-up: Ingvild will discuss with them whether Department of Clinical Dentistry could organize a writing seminar for the students with a laboratory project.

Revised course description for INTH356

Course coordinator Cecilie Svanes has made minor revisions to "Observational Epidemiology" (INTH356). These have been registered in EpN.

Status as meritorious teacher - announcement 2022

The Faculty invites its lecturers to apply to be awarded merit teaching status. Meritorious status is awarded to academic staff who have shown significant results and efforts to ensure educational quality in the broadest sense. The title the meritorious obtains is "merited teacher". The deadline for applying is 15 November.

Follow-up: The Committee should identify candidates and encourage them to apply.

Subject 34/22 Guidelines for examiners of 60 ECTS credit Master thesis

The revised guidelines for examiners of the 60 ECTS credit Master thesis (Encl. 6) was discussed in the August meeting, but we forgot to discuss:

- Can we specify how much weight the paper should be given compared to the cover-story for a paper-based thesis?
The relative weight of the two parts was discussed. The Committee agreed that this can vary depending on how independently the student has worked on the thesis and decided that the paper should count from 50 to 70% (with a higher percentages when the student has done most of the work on the paper) and the cover-story should count 30 to 50%, accordingly.
- Can we specify how much the oral exam should count towards the overall grade?
The Committee decided against a distribution of percentages between the two parts because it would make it unnecessarily complicated and create room for confusion. The majority thought it was better to keep the current statement that “Based on the performance during the oral exam, this can be adjusted with maximum one grade up or down compared to the grade set for the written Master Thesis.”

Decision: The Committee approved the guidelines when the suggested revisions are made.

Subject 35/22 Revised course description for INTH317

Ana Lorena Ruano has revised the course description for the Internship course (INTH317). She was concerned with the fact that the students doing 60 ECTS credits Master get a whole year’s specialization when preparing their thesis, while the students doing 30 ECTS credits Master thesis only have one semester to focus. This can be sorted out if the internship is aligned with the topic of the thesis. The Scientific committee that is mentioned in the previous course description was established when the course was new but is not needed any more and will be deleted in the text.

Decision: The Committee approved the revised course description.

Subject 36/22 Revision of guidelines for 30 ECTS thesis

Ana Lorena Ruano is revising the guidelines for the 30 ECTS credit Master thesis. Inputs from the committee are requested.

Her suggestion is that literature reviews are the norm, but that exceptions can be made if the students have good arguments. The project should be connected to the internship.

Decision: The revised guidelines examiners will distributed to the members of the Committee this week and everyone is encouraged to review them and give Lorena inputs so she can prepare a final version of the thesis guidelines and guidelines for the examiners before the next meeting (12 December) when we hope both sets of guidelines can be approved.

Subject 37/22 Visit from NOKUT

In relation to the NOKUT audit of the master's programme, there will be a site visit 14 to 16 November. Student representatives, teachers and external representatives from working life should be available for interviews.

Follow-up: The report that was sent to NOKUT should be shared with the members of the Committee.

Subject 38/22 Report from the student representatives

One of the student representatives inquired how feedback from fellow-students should be obtained. Some of them might want to do this anonymously. One suggestion was to have a "Suggestion box" where students post their feedback.

Subject 39/22 Any other business

None