

Minutes from the meeting in Programme Committee for Global Health Monday 17 February 2025 at 14.30 – 16.25

Attendees: Ingunn Marie S. Engebretsen (Head), Cecilie Gjerde Gjengedal (IKO), Andrea Melberg, Tehmina Mustafa, David Lackland Sam, Ingvild Fossgard Sandøy, Thorkild Tylleskär, Simon N. Øverland, Anna Teresa Spang (2nd year student); Matilina Huart (1st year student), Linda Karin Forshaw (secretary)

I Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved.

II Minutes from the Programme Committee meeting on 9 December

The minutes were approved.

III Matters arising from the minutes

Career day

Matters of discussion

Subject 1/25 Status of autumn courses

- a. Evaluations. Unfortunately, the evaluation form for the SDG303 course was not distributed to the students. The course coordinator thought everything went OK.
- b. Exams and re-exams. One student failed the quiz part of INTH315 and will retake them this semester.
- c. Planning autumn courses. One position at our department has been advertised, which will assist in running the SDG303 course after two of the professors have retired. Linda will send the dates for the three autumn courses.
- d. The course description for SDG303 remains the same.
Suggestion to separate exams for INTH315:
The student evaluation had many responders. Most of them were satisfied, but many found the course too intensive. Many wished to have the exam split in two smaller exams because they thought a 6-hour exam was a too exhausting. The student representatives said that the students found the quizzes useful, but it would have been even better if there was time to go through the quizzes in plenum. They also wanted some more time for the group work. They also told the Committee that students only focussed on the quantitative (epidemiological, statistics), not qualitative and philosophy of science when preparing for the exam. Ingvild's response was that she is concerned that this will result in the students only focussing on the first exam and then fall behind for the next one. From a learning perspective it is best not to have too many exams but summarize everything at the end of the semester. This is the reason they were merged in the first place. However, she does not want the quizzes to be part of the assessment. Mainly because this is too demanding for the course coordinator. Ingunn pointed out that the whole Master programme is currently under revision so there should not be too major structural revisions in the course descriptions.

Some of the essential staff will retire and the question was raised on who will replace these professors. Bente said that she will continue to teach on the epidemiology part. Ingvild said **these** are only minor revisions. The main one is removing the four quizzes from the assessment. They also agreed that the number of quizzes that are compulsory increase from 8 to 10.

Decision: The Committee approved that the assessment would consist of two parts: a written exam which will count for 70 percent of the grade and an oral exam which will count for 30 percent.

- e. Lecturers – enough people – see above
- f. Literature updates. They strive to provide the students with free literature. Thorkild thought the new SDG303 book was a bit shallow, but a decision must be either to give an overview or go into depth. This book is free of charge and available online. Students preferred this book.

Subject 2/25 Status of elective courses

- a. Course descriptions remain the same.
- b. TROPED accreditation – Bente will take over the responsibility. Linda will provide a list with which ones must be reaccredited this year.
- c. Lecturers. This might be a challenge, not yet settled.
- d. Literature. Same as above.
- e. Exams. No changes.

Subject 3/25 Course description INTH395A

Ingvild Fossgard Sandøy's suggestions from last term and Ingunn's edits.

Decision: After discussion the Committee agreed that Ingunn will make the revisions suggested and contact Karen Marie to clarify about the points on qualitative research methods. It will be circulated for final approval before the submission deadline 20 May for the research proposal (INTH330B).

Subject 4/25 Guidelines examiners

Ingvild Fossgard Sandøy's suggestions from last term and Ingunn's edits.

Decision: After discussion the Committee agreed that Ingunn will make the revisions suggested and circulate it for final approval.

Subject 5/25 Supervisors confidential statement

Ingvild Sandøy's suggestions from last semester.

Decision: Approved.

Matters of information

Subject 6/25 Status of Research seminars (INTH326A)

There are still sessions which are missing chairs: 26 February (Thorkild), 12 March, 26 March, 2 April and 9 April. PhD with duties, Simon will contact

Subject 7/25 Status of internship – how many are taking internship of the 2024 master cohort?

Three students from the 2023 cohort opted to do an internship, but only one did. He has not submitted a report.

One student is interested in the internship in Pakistan (Tehmina)

Subject 8/25 Plan for Master exams

Sixteen students from the 2024 cohort are scheduled to have their Master exam in June. However, three of them will probably be delayed due to various reasons. Internal examiners should keep some days vacant in June.

Subject 9/25 UGLE status

UGLE leader Gunnar Tschudi Bondevik wants to visit us. Monday meeting. Brief introduction to the teaching environment at CIH. Open round. He could attend some of the courses to see how the teaching is performed. Resource allocation – PhDs with capacities due to “duties”. Teaching accounting.

Subject 10/25 Education programme with Epistat V26

Find out what this is about. -Any person appointed to do this?

Subject 11/25 Report from the student representatives

The students repeated their request advice on career opportunities. We should organise a meeting and invite alumni to present.

Questions from Tehmina: What were the students’ expectations when they applied for the master? The student representatives replied that many chose the programme because of the internship. However, they were discouraged and demotivated after attending an information meeting in the beginning of their studies because the impression was that it was not recommended. Simon commented that this will be a key issue for the ongoing revision of the master programme.

Subject 12/25 Semester 10 Global health component

Shifting term again? No, this is not wanted at CIH and this will be communicated to the Sem 10 group.

Restructuring course

Subject 13/25 Student’s satisfaction

Ingunn gave an orientation. The programme was fairly well evaluated, but scores very low on job relevance.

Subject 14/25 Any other business

The course Global Health for medical students will shift to third year which might be a challenge because students that have had medical training in the hospital are better suited for this course. Simon commented that we must simplify we do. We need time to do things properly to ensure good quality.