



**Minutes from the meeting in
Programme Committee for Global Health
Monday 22 October 2018 at 2.30 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.**

Attendees: Karen Marie Moland (Head of Programme Committee); Thorkild Tylleskär (INTH304); David Lackland Sam (INTH316); Bente Moen (Head of CIH, INTH301); Ingunn M. S. Engebretsen (New Methods course); student representatives: Olawale Adeosun; Pierina Benavente and Katja Isaksen (on Skype)

Secretary: Linda Karin Forshaw

I Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved.

II Approval of the Minutes from the Programme Committee meeting on 17 September 2018

The minutes were approved.

III Matters arising from the minutes

None

Subject 27/18 Matters of information

New member of the Committee

Ingunn Engebretsen, who is leading the planning of the new methodology course, has accepted the invitation to join the Committee.

Admission to elective courses at CIH

The deadline for applying for elective courses at CIH is 1 November, so far we have received 171 applications. However admission is only offered to students from partner institutions, Nordic network in global health or tropEd, so most of the applications will be rejected.

Subject 28/18 Revision of core courses

The application deadline for international applicants is 1 December, therefore preliminary descriptions for the two new courses must be approved by mid. November so everything can be registered in the study administration systems before the deadline.

Thorkild gave a briefing on behalf of the working group for the Global health course. He presented a draft for the course description, the discussion was mainly regarding compulsory course work and assessment. The Committee agreed on a series of compulsory course work (group work;

individual assignment; board game etc.) as a precondition for sitting for the written exam.

Ingunn gave a briefing on behalf the working group for the Methods course. One of the main issues was how to implement statistics in the course. Trond Riise, the course coordinator for the HELSTA course, is positive to joint teaching, however it is challenging due to the various types of students. One suggestion was to have two courses in one (two course codes); one shorter for other students and a longer one for the master students in global health. The course will last 9 weeks. The introduction to the Proposal development course will be an integrated part. The students will be granted 10 ECTS credits for the development of their proposal when it is approved in the spring semester. The work group suggests that compulsory course work should include presentation of a submitted concept note of one page. The course assessment will be a written exam, mainly with knowledge based questions.

Decision: The two working groups should be finished with the course descriptions with all details such as ECTS credits, how many weeks the courses will last (in detail) and which assessment method will be used. The descriptions should be distributed to the members of the Committee for final approval by mid. November.

Subject 29/18 Internship

An application to establish a new Master thesis course with a 30 ECTS credit thesis combined with an internship of 30 ECTS credits was sent to the Faculty. The Faculty considered the proposal to be within the requirements of the Regulations on Master's Requirements and the Education Regulations at the University of Bergen and therefore supported the proposal. Since the changes only affect one master program, the Committee may, with the support of the Department, decide to establish the master's degree course and the internship without further involvement from the Faculty. The Programme description must also be updated.

However, one issue that was pointed out was funding. According to Section 7-1 of the University and Higher Education Act, state colleges and universities cannot claim self-payment from students for regular education leading to the degree (principle of free education). The University of Bergen states that "some teaching is offered at institutions abroad which entails expenses for travel and stay for the students. Whether this is to be considered a study trip / excursion or as a campus outside campus is not fully clarified and may vary according to the nature and extent of the offer. In our view, it is a key factor that if such stays entitle you to support from the Norwegian Loan Fund, and the support is intended to cover both travel and stay, the offer is fully financed, and there is no question of self-payment from students. Whether or not the individual student chooses to apply for support, it is not essential.

In other cases, we assume that such offers fall under the prohibition of self-payment, which means that the institution must cover the students' additional expenses." (*Secretary's translation from Norwegian.*) The

Committee has been to report back to the Faculty on how this problem will be solved.

An agreement regarding mutual internship is being negotiated with two units at a Hospital in South Africa and an application for funding has been submitted to SIU. The plan is that one to three students will be offered an internship through this agreement each year. Students can also organize their own internship. WHO has a programme that the students can apply for incl. funding, and the Committee will look into other options.

Decision: The work group should finalize the programme and course descriptions and send them to the Committee for final approval by mid. November.

Subject 30/18 Report from the student representatives

- The students had quite a few issues regarding the Epidemiology course and exam. They were very satisfied with the learning tool EpiVillage and thought it was helpful. They wish to give feedback about the course asap. The administration will contact the course coordinator regarding this.
- They pointed out that there should be a possibility for students to continue for a research position, such as PhD. They were informed that there are only two calls a year, which means there is a fierce competition, and that these PhD candidates are employees at the University and receive a salary. Another option is getting a PhD stipend through a research project.

Subject 31/18 Any other business

None

Last meeting in 2018 – 26 November!