



UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN

Department of Foreign Languages

Minutes - Program Board Meeting - English

Date: 22 January 2020, 12:15-14

Room 301, HF-building

Present:

Dagmar Haumann, Randi Koppen, Jalaludeen Ibrahim, Raees Calafato, Kimberly Marie Skjelde, Nahum Welang, Bente Hannisdal, Aud Solbjørg Skulstad, Lene Johannessen, Hild E. Hoff, Zeljka Svrljuga, Kevin McCafferty, Jerzy Nykiel, Katherine Zieman, Tormod Lilleårstein (student representative), Anja Eriksen (student representative), Clara Debus (student representative) and Hanne Svanholm Misje (secretary)

01/20 Approval of agenda

Approved, no comments.

02/20 Approval of minutes from last meeting - 4 September 2019

Approved, no comments.

03/20 Information items

1. Provisional registration numbers from 16.01.20

200-level – recurring problem with some instructors having too many students to supervise for the BA-paper (this term it's ENG264). We may have to help alleviate the burden for Sara in ENG264 but will wait until the registration deadline to decide.

200-level is tricky – we have a lot of students, will have to take a better look at the organization of this level in the redesign project.

2. Mentoring (we're trying again spring 2020)

Only one student registered for the mentor-project in the fall semester, and the department wants to try again this semester. We hope that the low numbers in the fall semester can be explained by "information-overload" – that there's just too much information going to new students. If enough students register this semester, we will hire MA-students as mentors.

Tip from the student representatives: the student-mentors should visit lectures to advertise. Hopefully, that would help with recruitment. Perhaps the student-mentors could also help newer students set up study groups?

3. Dialogmøte 12 February

Dialogmøte with department leadership, followed by a redesign session on learning outcomes. Full day at Scandic City, specific times will be announced by Åse.

4. New language requirements for MAHF-ENG

The language requirements for applicants who have their BA from abroad are now the same as UiO.

5. Linguistic positions

Will be joining us for the *Dialogmøte* 12 February.



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6. Erasmus Staff Mobility visitor in week 7

Will be attending ENG224, ENGD201, ENG223 and ENG115. Will contact course instructor afterwards to discuss best practice.

7. Meetings among those involved in teaching at the Lektor-program

Great initiative from didactics. All involved in courses in the L-program are invited to this start-of-term-meeting – will continue with this in future semesters.

8. MA conference

Deadline to submit abstract was 1 February. The conference will be held on 1 April.

9. New programsensorer/eksterne fagfeller/external reviewers/external examiners

Anne J. Dahl (NTNU) and Erika Kvistad (UiO) appointed for the period 2020-2024.

04/20 Course reports, fall 2019

The course reports were discussed in the meeting and will form the basis for the yearly program evaluation of both the BA and the MA-program (2019).

The course reports will be uploaded to *Studiekvalitetsbasen*.

Some comments from the meeting:

ENG100: this course needs a serious revision, does not work with the overall program. Is it possible to link ENG100 and the *mentorordning* together? Seems like an idea worth looking into.

Important to make sure that we separate between “smaller” changes (changes we want to make before a course runs again) and the bigger redesign changes. It’s no problem changing smaller things while being in the process of redesigning the program.

The yearly report should focus on the recurring issues:

Linguistics: failure rate. Failure and not attending class/not submitting exercises. The courses need more contact hours – this should be emphasized in the report. For lower level linguistics: possible to have fewer lectures and more (mandatory) seminars?

General:

Exam forms: this is commented on again and again by both students and staff.

Separate L-courses: we need separate courses for L-students, specially at 200 and 300-level. 100-level could stay the same. This would be beneficial for several reasons: 1) professional relevance 2) class size 3) difference in “level” of English (regular students have more credits in English than L) 4) schedule/other organizational aspects.

Side-note: the program board in English wants to meet people involved in the L-program. Should ask to meet with the new *L-direktør*.

We should also find out if it’s possible to rely on funding for student assistants in the future. Perhaps possible to use for literature as well?



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05/20 Changes to course ENGD101

It is proposed to add the use of an English-English dictionary to the examination aids.

Decision

The program board approves the suggested change in the course description for ENGD101. A revised course description will be sent to the faculty before the spring 2021 deadline.

06/20 ECTSs changes in ENG221 and ENG223

It is suggested that we change the numbers of credits we give for ENG221 (History of English) and ENG223L (Modern Linguistics). From a 'relevance for work life' perspective, it would make much more sense to offer Modern English linguistics as a 10 ECTS course and History of English as a 5 ECTS course.

Decision

The program board approves the suggested change in ECTSs for ENG221 and ENG223 for MAHF-LÆFR. As of spring 2021, History of English will be offered as a 5 ECTS course (ENG221L) and Modern English Linguistics as a 10 ECTS course.

This will have to go to UUI – Hanne will start working on the formalities.

07/20 30ECTs MA thesis for L-students

A tricky subject, and a discussion we should table for a later meeting, perhaps after we meet with higher-ups from the L-program. This will have to be approved at HF (and probably UiB) level.

08/20 Language requirements, incoming exchange students

Both pros and cons here – but it will make the admission process a lot easier for the student advisor and the board generously agreed to give it a go. If we see that this affects grades/level of accomplishment for international students, we can always remove the OLS-test from valid test scores.

Hanne will update the information online: <https://www.uib.no/en/education/96641/english-language-requirements#courses-in-english-language-nbsp-and-literature>

09/20 Other business

The student representatives suggested that we use the course-student representatives for midterm-evaluations. Either that a form is filled out, or that the student representatives are given some time in class to talk to the other students. The student representatives in each course can then talk with the course instructors, might be a more efficient way to start a dialogue. The suggestion as well received, and we should start looking into doing this for at least some of the courses this semester.

04.02.2020/HSM

Comments? Send Hanne by 14 February