



**Minutes from the meeting in  
Programme Committee for Global Health  
Monday 30 October 2017 at 2.30 – 4.00 p.m.**

**Attendees:** Karen Marie Moland; Tehmina Mustafa; Cecilie Svanes; Daniel Gundersen; three student representatives: Amalie K. Kleppe; Hannah Regitze H. M. Kristensen and Ingrid Mork Sletta

**Secretary:** Linda Karin Forshaw

**Guest:** Elinor Bartle

**I Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved.

**II Approval of the Minutes from the Programme Committee Meeting on 18 September 2017**

The minutes were approved.

**III Matters arising from the minutes**

**Re. Subject 4/17 - Organization of autumn courses.** There has been too little emphasis on qualitative methods in the core courses and the two days set aside for qualitative research in INTH310 come very late. The programme committee has recommended that a one week introduction to qualitative research methodology should come either before or after INTH302 Epidemiology, and should come in addition to the two days in INTH301 which should focus on application. The relationship between INTH301 and the suggested INTH Introduction to qualitative research needs further work and the Committee should continue discussing it at next meeting.

**Subject 11/17 Matters of information**

***Evaluation of Master programme in International Community Health, University of Oslo***

Karen Marie Moland has been part of the evaluation team. There are many similar challenges to the Master's programme in Global Health.

After the discontinuation of the quota scheme there has been a shift in the backgrounds of students; now there are very few medical doctors, more female students, more students from MIC in Asia and less students from LIC countries in Africa, and more Norwegian students. Should the course content be changed to fit the new type of students or should we retain the programme profile on institution building in LIC and work to secure stipends for students from collaborating institutions in LIC through grant applications and private company sponsored stipends?

***Christmas party for students and staff***

CIH will invite students and staff to a Christmas party at the CMI canteen Wednesday 13 December at 4 p.m.

**Subject 12/17 tropEd accreditation the elective course “Qualitative Research Methods for Global Public Health”**

An online version of the course “Qualitative Research Methods for Global Public Health” was accredited at tropEd General Assembly meeting in Antwerp in October (this has to be done every five years). Not offered on-campus in 2018. A UiB template version needs to be approved by the Committee before sending it to the Faculty to add to the course portfolio.

***Decision:*** The Committee approves the online version of the course.

**Subject 13/17 Webpage for Master’s students at CIH**

Linda and Elinor have worked on a new web-page for Master students to replace the handbook that was phased out this year. Elinor Bartle took the Committee through the webpage and discussed further information that should be included before it is published.

***Decision:*** The student representatives would like the following information to be included: List all the courses at the Faculty of Medicine offered in English; the date for the Christmas holiday; when the spring semester starts; to clarify that this is a master of philosophy; mention that some of the elective courses run every other year; information about CIH’s research groups

The webpage should be published after it has been updated according to the student representatives’ feedback. They are welcome anytime to suggest amendments.

**Subject 14/17 Student progress**

Follow up from the last meeting (Subject 5/17) and meeting 31 October 2016 (Subject 16/16).

***Decision:*** To implement a more structured system for follow-up of students both before and after fieldwork. The research seminars in May should be used for feedback on the research proposals (first year master students). The research seminars during the autumn semester can be used to stimulate the students’ progress by focusing on thesis writing (second year master students). CIH should facilitate making student groups according to research topic in May. The groups are expected to meet regularly and provide peer-support. CIH should organise a follow-up in autumn semester in the form of a one day seminar for all the students; half the day in plenum and half the day divided topic-wise to compare and discuss research methods. The Wednesday seminars should be planned by the administration and students listed taking into consideration that those who prepare early will present early drafts and get feedback as such.

**Subject 15/17 New Thesis guidelines**

New Thesis guidelines should be compiled. The old ones for the Master's programmes in International Health and Oral Sciences can be used as a basis.

*Decision:* The head and the secretary of the Committee will compile Thesis guidelines for the Master's programme in Global Health, which should be approved by the Committee.

**Subject 16/17 Report from the student representatives**

- Confusion about the different dates and deadlines, hopefully this will improve when the new webpage is published.
- Regarding Research seminars; there is no specific schedule apart from that they run on Wednesdays between 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. to the end of May. They start up as soon as students have something to present depending on who signs up.
- The course "Statistical Methods in Health Science" (HELSTA) is taught at too high a level and the students learn very little. The tutorials with PhD candidate Melf-Jakob Köhl are very good. The course has cut into the course on epidemiology (INTH302), which is unfortunate and students get too little time to work with epidemiology. This problem should be addressed.
- Re. the course "Epidemiology" (INTH302); very different levels in the lectures, continuity in the class and the group work. The lecturers should break the topics down and explain them, not just repeat the exact same information as in the course book. A suggestion from the course coordinator Cecilie Svanes: perhaps 45 min. lectures with a 15 minute break in between would make it easier for the students to digest all the information.
- The exam for INTH302 was chaotic and some of the text on one of the questions was missing. The students should have had extra time.
- The students were very satisfied with the course "Major global health problems (INTH304)

**Subject 17/17 Any other business**

None