



## Minutes - Program Board Meeting - English

Date: 3 March 2021, 12:15-14

Zoom Meeting

Present: Dagmar Haumann (coordinator, linguistics), Erik Tønning (coordinator, literature), Aud Solbjørg Skulstad (coordinator, didactics), Jerzy Nykiel, Kevin McCafferty, Joseph Paul Tabbi, Bente Hannisdal, Carolina Amador-Moreno, Lene Johannessen, Hild Elisabeth Hoff, Andre Storto, Jacopo Romoli, Michael Dopffel, Anja Eriksen (student representative), Clara Debus (student representative), Tormod Lilleårstein (student representative), Hanne Svanholm Misje (secretary)

### 01/21 Approval of agenda

Approved, no comments.

### 02/21 Approval of minutes from last meeting - 25 November 2020

Approved, no comments.

### 03/21 Information items

#### 1. Registration numbers, spring 2021

High registration numbers across the board this semester. Note that registration numbers tend to drop a bit towards the final exam.

#### 2. Fagkritisk dag

*Fagkritisk dag* is on 11 March this semester, and student representative Anja Eriksen informed the program board about the event. Fagutvalet hosts *Fagkritisk dag* and the aim is to connect students and faculty in a less formal way. This year is modeled after the successful *Fagkritisk dag* in spring 2020, where members of staff presented their research/PhD-projects etc. Very fun and social way to create interaction between staff and students.

Carolina, Erik, Jacopo and Sigrid, are participating this year.

#### 3. Virtual Study Trip to York

Erik informed the program board after talking with the NSC. Initial registration had around 50 students. Some students have withdrawn because they need to catch up on course material, and numbers are down to 40-42 students. They are divided into one group for BA-students and one group for teacher training students. It seems to be working well (I heard back from student representative and they are loving the instructors and the set up).

### 04/21 Course reports, fall 2020

The following courses left over from the spring semester 2020 were discussed in the meeting: ENG222/262, ENG337“L”, ENGMAU641.

The following courses from the fall semester 2020 have been evaluated: ENG100, ENG107, ENG118, ENG119, ENG122, ENG331, ENG332, ENG333, ENG339+L, ENG341, ENG343, ENGD101, ENGD111, DIDAENG1.



# UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN

*Department of Foreign Languages*

## Comments from meeting:

Low class participation in fall semester 2020 across the board. Might be time to consider including obligatory attendance or obligatory activities.

200-level: Student numbers are very high for 200-level, and this is a recurring problem. We will look into this in the redesign-project but should still look at possible changes to implement now. We could restrict courses and make them available only for students enrolled in the BA, one-year or teacher training program. We could remove the 200-level (or only the BA-courses) from the course list available for incoming exchange students. Any changes will have to be decided on in the next program board meeting, scheduled 26 May.

Course relevance: seem to be a recurring problem that (mainly teacher training) students feel that the courses we offer are not relevant for their education. We should perhaps emphasize more that everything is relevant. Teacher training students find the 300-level hard. Collisions with practice period make it almost impossible to give the students full freedom in choosing courses; and the frustration with courses could come from not being allowed to choose. This could be taken into account when deciding on course content for 300-level.

Is it possible to raise the question of teaching from 16-18 to help face the challenges we have when scheduling the fall semester at 300-level?

Student evaluation: very low response on most of the student evaluations. The online format might not be helping. We should have another look at the questionnaire, and perhaps change the phrasing of some of the questions. Do the students understand the question of relevance, for instance? We should discuss how to make students answer more and react more. Bringing back a student evaluation on paper could be a solution.

## **05/21 Yearly program evaluation BAHF-ENG and MAHF-ENG 2020**

Based on the discussion in 04/21 the program coordinators (Dagmar and Erik) will write a short program evaluation and send to the department by 8 March.

## **06/21 Other business**

The mandate for the redesign group was briefly addressed. It is important to emphasize that it is the disciplines and, ultimately, the program board that will make will decisions. The redesign group is in charge of moving the project forward, but all future changes will be made by the disciplines and will be approved (or not) by the program board.

Hanne will fill in as head of studies from 12 April, when Silje Grønner Stang starts a new job at NHH. The department is in the process of hiring a replacement for Hanne as student advisor for the English section.

***Comments? Send Hanne by 19 March.***

12.03.21/HSM