



Minutes – Program board meeting for the Bachelor's program in Chinese 27.09.2019

Present: Guowen Shang, Shouhui Zhao, Tomas Hawkes (student representative), Karoline Aksnes (secretary).

Agenda:

1/19 Approval of notification of meeting and today's agenda

Approved.

2/19 Approval of minutes from the program board's last meeting (app. 1)

Approved.

3/19 Program censor's report (app. 2)

Topic: Evaluering av frafall og fullføring, faglig oppbygning og kvalitet i programmet.

The board reviewed the report, and discussed its main topics.

The report's central topic was the Chinese program's dropout rate. The report states that this rate is comparable to dropout rates of other programs at UiB, as well as the national average. During the meeting, the board discussed possible explanations for why students drop out. One factor which was mentioned is that KIN100 has many students who take the course as an individual course, without intending to continue on in the Chinese program.

Another topic mentioned in the report is UiB's new mentor arrangement. The board took this opportunity to discuss how best to implement the mentor arrangement in our Chinese program. The faculty of the Chinese program aims to create a culture/ atmosphere within the program which helps and motivates students, and where the students experience the faculty as approachable. Focusing on creating less distance between students and faculty, activities where students and teachers will interact were suggested and discussed.

The report also mentions UiB's collaboration with the Confucius Institute. It states the importance of teachers approaching social issues of Chinese society from a politically objective point of view. According to the report, this has so far been done successfully. The board discussed this, and agrees with the report that the collaboration with the Confucius Institute has so far been without problems. It is worth noting in this regard that the teachers from the Confucius Institute has only taught language classes. During this discussion it was also pointed out that the Confucius Institute provides necessary recourses, and that it also hosts many events which are interesting for the students to attend.

4/19 Orientation: Status on the work with new program censor.

We will start the process of finding a new program censor.

5/19 KIN103 course description: Suggestion of clarification.

The board decided to change the text under the headline Forms of assessment to "Oral exam. The focus will be on pronunciation, oral communication, description and character recognition." / "Munnleg eksamen. Fokus blir på



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uttale, munnleg kommunikasjon, skildring og identifisering av kinesiske skrifteikn.

6/19 **KIN104 course description: suggestion to add in the course description that the use of dictionaries is not permitted during the exam.**

The board decided to add this information to the course description of all KIN-courses with written exams.

7/19 **Proposed change for KIN251/ EAS251**

The board discussed the idea of splitting this course into two individual courses: EAS251 of 10 credits, and a separate subject-knowledge course of 5 credits. During the discussion it was mentioned that the Japanese EAS250 course is a 10 credit-course, so if the Chinese course is split into two parts, then the two joint EAS courses will both be on 10 credits. The faculty will develop this idea further.

8/19 **Proposed change for KIN201: Change from 3 lectures to 2 lectures each week?**

The faculty believes that today's workload in KIN201 is a bit too high for the students. The board decided to change from three to two lectures each week. That means there will be two lectures and two seminars each week for Kin 201 course. The teaching contents and the obligatory tasks for students remain unchanged.

9/19 **Other**

1. The board discussed the UIB 中国通 (China Expert) competition, which the faculty will continue to organize.
2. Spring exchange program / China immersion program.
Today this program is briefly mentioned in the course description of KIN201. Since we also hope to recruit students from KIN102, the board decided to include this sentence also in the course description of KIN102. The sentence in both courses will read "For those participating in the short-term study trip in China, the teaching weeks at UiB will be reduced accordingly. ~~China will also be the place of instruction for a few weeks of the semester.~~"