

<b>Meeting of the UFI Board of Directors</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	September 1 <sup>st</sup> 2023
<b>Time:</b>	1 hour (10:15 – 11:15)
<b>Place:</b>	Gjáargarður, við Gjógv
<b>Participants:</b>	<p>Board members:  Ólavur Ellefsen (Chair)  Marita Rasmussen (Deputy Chair)  Elaine Munthe (External Member)  Jónrit Halling (Staff Representative)  Anita Hansen (Student Representative)</p> <p>Deputy board members:  Anna Kirstin Sigurðardóttir (Deputy External Representative)  Heidi Poulsen (Deputy External Representative)  Elena D’Amelio (Deputy External Representative)  Anna Sofía Lava (Deputy Staff Representative)  Firouz Gaïni (Deputy Staff Representative)  Paul Kjartan Matras (Deputy Student Representative)</p> <p>University administration attendees:  Martin T. Zachariassen (Rector)  Johan Hansen (University Director)</p> <p>Could not attend:  Anders Bjarklev (External Member)  Marin Strøm (Staff Representative)  Magnus Gaard (Deputy External Representative)</p>
<b>Minutes by:</b>	Louisa A. Fjallsbak



## Agenda for Board Meeting: Friday 1st September 2023, 10:15 – 11:15

Venue: The meeting will be 'in person' at the guesthouse 'Gjáargarður' in Gjógv village.

Main purpose of the meeting: For Board Members to receive the usual updates. Prior to the meeting the board met for a strategic seminar. The findings will be incorporated into a future strategic plan from 2024 and onwards.

### Proposed Agenda:

10:30 – 11:30	
Item	Recommendation to the Board
1. Chair's welcome and approval of Agenda (Paper 1)	To approve agenda subject to any amendments.
2. Approval of minutes from meeting of February 6 2023 (Paper 2)	To approve subject to any additions/changes.
3. Finance Report, January-July 2022 (Paper 3)	To note, subject to discussion.
4. Report on consultations since last meeting (University Director)	To note, subject to discussion.
5. Rector's report on the period since last board meeting (Paper 5)	To note, subject to discussion.

#### 1. Chair's welcome and approval of Agenda (Paper 1)

The Chair of the Board, Ólavur Ellefsen, opened the meeting and was enthusiastic about the strategy seminar that the board had focused on prior to the board meeting.

Due to the strategy seminar running over two days, the board meeting was kept short and consisted of the usual updates to the board.

Apologies for not being able to attend were received from Marin Strøm, Anders Bjarklev and Magnus Gaard.

There were no comments to the agenda for the meeting and it was then approved.

#### 2. Approval of minutes from meeting of February 2023 (Paper 2)

The minutes from the last board meeting were reviewed. Highlighted points were read out. There were no further comments, and the minutes were approved.

#### 3. Finance Report 2023 (Paper 3)

Johan Hansen presented the financial accounts for the period of January – July 2023.

The expected surplus is DKK 289k, and an updated projection will be provided in September.

Two budget adjustments highlighted are:

- It is necessary to fund the refurbishing of Wing 1 (Lon 1) at Frælsið. The cost will be DKK 1M. The Study Administration will move into Wing 1 in November 2023. Wing 1 will, like the remaining



buildings, undergo a complete overhaul in the future. Thus, the cost of refurbishing should be kept as low as possible. This is an unexpected but necessary cost.

- The “Lindbergs Hús” building was originally given as a private donation to the university. Necessary refurbishment/repairs are now in process and the work is expected to complete by Summer 2024. The house will consist of 6 rooms with shared facilities (3 rooms on each floor) and can be used to accommodate visiting scholars or students. This cost is expected to be about DKK 1M this year with the rest to be paid from next year’s funding.

Johan emphasised the importance to earmark funds intended for research projects. A future priority is to establish a pool of funds to enable funding or partly funding approved projects.

Ólavur Ellefsen asked about any red flags to which Johan replied that there are none at the moment.

The financial report is for the university as a whole and not specific for each faculty/department. The board decided that this is sufficient but needs to be informed about any pertinent developments.

#### **4. Report on consultations since last meeting (University Director) (Paper 4)**

There has been a hearing about the proposal of new legislation on collection and registering of genetic data (Ílegulógjin II - Vevnaðarskrá, genomskrá, diagnosuskrá og ættarbandsskrá til gransking í mannaílegum og persónlagað medisín).

The university is required by law to nominate two members, a male and a female, for “Miðlastuðulsnevndina”. Runa Preeti Ísfeld and Martin Nolsøe Simonsen have been nominated.

#### **5. Rector’s report on the period since last board meeting (Paper 5)**

Rector Martin T. Zachariassen gave an update since the last board meeting in June 2023 (see also the presentation that was sent out before the meeting).

##### *Applicant numbers*

Following the first admission deadline on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023 (Quota 2), the relatively low number of applicants was a matter of concern. The 2<sup>nd</sup> admission deadline (Quota 1) on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 was better but still lower than previous years. However, after the advertising campaign regarding open programme places, the overall number is satisfactory and on par with previous years. One of the challenges was the political request to have a double intake for the Pedagogue programme but we managed to fill two decently sized classes.

##### *Research applications and courses*

So far this year 67 research project applications have been approved and then submitted. This compared to 57 applications last year. Seventeen of these applications have since been approved for funding. The university is leading one horizon Europe project proposal and participating in three.

##### *Ph.D.*

A three-day Ph.D. course in oceanographic is planned for the fall.

It is anticipated that the large scale 'National Childrens Project' (Barnaverkætlanin) might lead to 2-3 Ph.D. project opportunities.



The University is a member of a steering group working to build the basis for a university hospital.

#### *Management & administration*

12 of the 17 staff in the new student administration will be re-located in Wing 1 (Lon 1). Two of the original student administration staff will be moved to HR, including the archiving function.

A ceremonial event will take place on the 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023 to mark the inauguration of Kervi+. The actual implementation will in fact happen later in the autumn and will initially run simultaneously with the old system “Próvbókin”. The new system, Kervi+ is a considerable step forward.

#### *University Campus*

The current governance structure for campus building and renovation of the building at Frælsið:

- The Steering committee for the university building projects: Monthly meetings. Rector is a member.
- Building committee for the refurbishment of Frælsið: meetings every fortnight.
- Building committee for the new main campus building. Not yet set up.

The process of allocating finances for the project planning for the new main campus building is ongoing. The cost is normally 10 % of the total cost. A potential hurdle is that the Parliament Finance Council has been vocal about recent overspending on large projects.

Some challenges are anticipated with the cuts in available parking spaces due to the building activities. The plan is to build an underground parking garage, but this is some years into the future.

Elaine Munthe asked if the main campus building might be too small after some years. Ólavur Ellefsen replied that the new main campus building is built in modules which makes it possible to add to the building.

The renovation of Wing 5 is ongoing. The delayed start is putting pressure on the timeline for completion. This delay is due to lack of funding and mandate for Landsverk.

Landsverk is hosting a local community meeting for the community and neighbours around Frælsið on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 to inform about the project and to hear what the neighbours et al have to say. Ólavur Ellefsen will present the campus plan at the meeting.

Marita Rasmussen emphasised that for these large projects to be successful, the university must allocate sufficient time and resources.

#### **6. Chair's summation and concluding remarks.**

The chair of the board thanked members for attending the meeting. One item for the next board meeting is an update on the strategy work. Upcoming meeting invites will be sent out in Outlook.

**The meeting ended at 11:25**