

Minutes of meeting, Council of Research Fellows (Stipendiatrådet), 13 March 2014

Present: Sofie Høgestøl, Stian Øby Johansen, Marte Rua, Caroline Bang Stordrange, Carola Lingaas (ref.)

1. Accreditation of seminars for mandatory PhD programme part

Feedback from the administration regarding acceptance of seminars/ courses/ congresses for the mandatory part of the PhD programme is not satisfactory. Many PhD fellows do not know whether their participation at seminars has been accredited – or not, thus making planning for future participation difficult. The Council of Research Fellows wishes to address this issue with the administration and proposes a maximum deadline of four weeks for replies to PhD's requests. A formal proposal will be submitted to the next PFF meeting, mid-April.

2. Salary discussions

The Institute for Public and International Law has discussed the structure of PhD fellow's salaries. There seems to be little coherence in the salary-steps ("lønnstrinn") amongst the different PhD fellows. Possibly this is an issue that the Council could address in an open meeting or follow up with the labor union(s). The Council's task could be to make information more accessible to PhD fellows in order to raise their awareness about the issue. A link to the handbook for employees as well as the "tariffavtale" (collective wage agreement) will be put on the Council's webpage, so that PhD fellows have easier access to relevant information.

3. Event

The Council will invite all the PhD fellows to an event on **Wednesday, 14. May 2014**. We hope to book the "professorbolig" (Professor House), which has been newly renovated and has garden access. We will order tapas and drinks and organize a speaker (English, motivational input, inspiration for all). All Council members will submit a suggestion for a speaker within next week (20. March). Stian will send out a mail re the date.

4. Briefing from PFF meeting and Board of the Faculty

Carola briefed on the last PFF meeting (see minutes of meeting of PFF on the respective webpage) and Marte on the Board of Faculty meeting.

5. Agenda

As of the next meeting, the Council will work with an agenda in order to be a bit more structured at the monthly meetings ☺

6. Next meeting

3. April 2014, 12.00, at Café Barrat