

## TODOS Board Meeting

Date: 24. 01. 2014

Time: 12:00 – 14:00

Place: NFH A 124

Attending: Lindis Merete Bjoland, Ekaterina Korshunova, Erlend Dancke Sandorf, Rajesh Shigdel, Sandra Ronai (referent).

Notice of absence: Thibaud Freyd.

### Agenda:

#### 1. New TODOS Board

The members of the 2014 TODOS Board reunite, for the first time in their new positions. There is a short socialization/team-building moment.

#### 2. Budget

Erlend presents the 2014 budget spread-sheet (to be decided on and sent to AFU):

- There are some funds leftover from last year.
- Erlend explains the system of compensation for Board members. The final decision regarding the compensation will be decided this summer.
- The Board votes whether or not TODOS should remain a member of the national organization, SiN (*Stipendiatororganisasjonene i Norge*). It is decided, with unanimity of votes, to continue the membership, and pay the respective fee.
- The board decides on a smaller budget for profiling next year.
- Conferences and travel costs, for the Board members and sponsoring other PhD candidates to participate in relevant events: the Board decides to keep this in the budget, because participation at a national level ensures visibility and a greater impact, as well as numerous networking opportunities. The allocated funds will be adjusted halfway through the year.

The Board votes on the budget, and it is unanimously accepted.

### **3. SiN Member**

The board has decided not to find a replacement for Melania Borit in the SiN board. Erlend Dancke Sandorf will be the only member of the SiN board from TODOS until the SiN AGM. Furthermore, the board decided to advertise the SiN Board Position to all PhD candidates, and will reimburse travel cost for the new representative in the SiN board. The responsibility of the SiN representative is to keep the TODOS board informed about SiN activities.

### **4. Activities**

The Board discusses the events planned for the spring semester 2014. The following was decided on:

#### **a. Bowling night**

Date: Feb 11 (deadline for registration: Feb 7)

Time: 18:00 > 20:00

Venue: ByBowling A.S., Storgata

TODOS will pay for renting the venue (and for the participants to play), while the participants will buy their own drinks or snacks if they want to.

#### **b. Seminar on academic writing, co-organized with HSL-fak**

Date: March 13

Time: 8:30 > 9:00 breakfast, 9:00 > 10:00 seminar

Registration: start February 21, deadline March 5

When they register, participants will be asked to submit a piece of academic writing (abstract, short paper, chapter draft...), which the lecturer will look through to identify writing issues. All submissions will be anonymous and used for exemplification purposes only.

#### **c. Board games night**

Date: March 27

Time: 18:00 > 20:00

Venue: Bazinga

TODOS will provide some snacks for the participants (finger food that each team can share), and people can buy their own drinks if they want.

**d. Seminar on procrastination, co-organized by TODOS & Naturviterne**

Date: Scheduled for April

**e. Summer barbecue**

Date: May 22

The details will be decided on closer to the event. The Volunteer Committee will be involved in the organization of the event.

**f. Seminar on open access, co-organized with the University Library**

Person in charge: Erlend

Date: fall semester 2014

The details will be decided on closer to the event.

**g. Arbeidslivsdagen**

TODOS will organize a breakfast seminar similar to what we did last year. We will also collaborate with AFU, Karrieresenteret and the rector team.

**h. Christmas Party**

Date: December

The details will be decided on closer to the event. The event was very popular in 2013.

**i. Representatives Course**

Date: December

Last year's course was a success, and the feedback from the participants was very positive, so TODOS will aim to create a similar course this year.

The details will be decided on closer to the event.

## **5. Others**

Lindis raises the issue of the (in)efficiency of the current system for welcoming new PhD candidates. Currently, AFU organizes meetings twice a year, but candidates are only invited to these meetings after they are included in the Paga informational system, which may take a few months. In this way, many PhD candidates are invited to the meeting even one year after they started working at UiT, so they lack the vital information at the beginning.

Rajesh suggests leaving the PhD Candidate Guide and some TODOS giveaways at each department, so that the new PhD candidates can receive them directly, immediately when they join.

For the next Board meeting, this problem will be a priority, and the Board will try to find solutions to improve the situation.