



Tromsø Doctoral Students (TODOS)

Post: University of Tromsø, Administration Building, N-9037, Tromsø

E-mail (Board Chair): todos@uit.no

E-mail (Board): todos@list.uit.no

Web: <http://todos.uit.no>

FaceBook: <http://www.facebook.com/TodosUiT>

Tromsø Doctoral Students (TODOS) Activity Report 2016

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1. About TODOS

Tromsø Doctoral Students (TODOS) is an interest organization for PhD Candidates at the University of Tromsø – the Arctic University of Norway. We focus on two important aspects of being a successful PhD candidate: a good academic working environment and a thriving social life. We accomplish this by organizing academic seminars and social gatherings throughout the year.

2. Note from the Board Chair

Dear PhD candidates,

Thank you all for a fantastic year as the Board Chair of TODOS. We have had a great year with several breakfast seminars and social gatherings, and on behalf of the Board, I want to thank you all for making them a success.

This year we put special focus on getting more people engaged into TODOS activities through better promotion, advertising and outreach. We feel this year was a success because we saw a great increase in the participation by our members in TODOS activities. We also tried to make all the seminars and events relevant for all our PhDs while at the same time listening and responding to the special request that were brought to us from our members.

We hope that TODOS will strive even further next year and get PhDs from the other UiT campuses involved, possibly through TODOS travel funds, live streamings and local TODOS representatives. I am therefore looking forward to seeing the new Board take over in great spirit and continue with ambitious goals in mind!

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Teresa Weber

TODOS Board Chair 2016



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3. The TODOS Board

Board-Chair: Charlotte Weber, The Norwegian College of Fishery Science (BFE)

Vice Board Chair: Anna Wirsing, Department of Medical Biology (MH)

Chair of Social Affairs: Bilal Babar, Department of Physics and Technology (NT)

Chair of Academic Affairs: Jonathan Hira, The Norwegian College of Fishery Science (BFE)

Accountant: Javier Sánchez Romano, Department of Arctic Marine Biology (BFE)

Board Member: Theodora Sam, The Norwegian College of Fishery Science (BFE)

Board Member: Runa Borgund Barnung, Department of Community Medicine (MH)

4. The Activities 2016

February:

- Bowling Night - This social event was the first social event organized by the 2016 Board. The event had the purpose to get many PhD candidates together and give them the opportunity to mix and mingle and to get to know each other in a relaxed environment. The event was a great success and around 50 people attended.

April:

- Quiz Night - This social event was planned so that PhD students could simply meet after work for a fun time together right on campus in Bazinga.

May:

- Breakfast seminar with Trade Unions - This breakfast seminar was aimed to support PhDs in their choice of trade union and what the benefits and advantages are of a membership, particularly for PhDs employed by the university. Three different trade unions presented during the breakfast seminar, namely Tekna, NTL and Forskerforbundet.

September:

- Breakfast seminar on Parenting through a PhD - This event covered both practical issues regarding parental leave, and sharing in experiences from current as well as former researchers about balancing family life and career. A large number of PhD students attended this event, and TODOS got very positive feedback.
- Coffee & Waffle Seminar on Open Access Publishing and Open Research Data - this event has been organized in collaboration with the university library. The hows and



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whys of going open access, as well as ethical issues regarding this topic were discussed. There were fruitful discussions among PhD students and experts.

November:

- Movie night - TODOS screened the 2nd PhD movie at the movie theater on campus and provided food and snacks for the attendees.
- Julebord (planned) - TODOS will organize and invite all PhDs to the annual Christmas Party (julebord). The party will be limited to 100 attendees.

December:

- Annual General Meeting (AGM) (planned) - The AGM will be held to inform all TODOS members about TODOS' activities in 2016, to ask questions to the sitting Board and to elect a new board.

Other:

- Two members of the Board, Javier Sánchez Romano and Anna Wirsing, were elected into the Board of the National Organization for PhD Students in Norway (SiN).
- TODOS had a PhD representative in the UiT Research Strategic Committee (Anna Wirsing, substitute: Runa Borgund Barnung).
- TODOS presented itself as a welfare organization to the new PhD students at the introductory meeting, to promote TODOS and get people engaged in TODOS activities. TODOS participated in both introductory meetings in 2016, in May and in September.
- Booklet distribution: TODOS tried to promote the distribution of the TODOS information booklets for new PhDs. All faculties were contacted and asked to provide new PhDs with the booklet, in either printed or electronic version.
- TODOS has been actively using social media and email, as well as the info screens at UiT to promote all TODOS events and seminars.

5. – The Budget

Budget as it is in November 2016:

Budget 2016	250 000.00
Transfer from 2015	15 251.39
Total income	265 251.39
Compensation for Board members	154 000.00
Running costs	11 315.60
Activity costs	47 759.00
Total cost	213 074.60



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TODOS receives NOK 250 000 from UiT to host activities for PhD Candidates at the University. The amount of money for the Board compensation is set to NOK 154 000, since the number of board members increased from 5 to 7, the increase of NOK 4 000 for board compensation was decided in order to get a round number when divided between 7, but every member of the board will receive less compensation than in previous years. This goes toward work contract extension to compensate for time spent on TODOS activities. Each of the seven board members gets NOK 22 000 this year, NOK 8 000 less than previous boards. Running costs include meeting costs, representation at relevant conferences, poster printing and giveaways. Activity costs are money spent on academic events and social activities.

One of the main purposes of TODOS is the integration of all PhD candidates at the UiT and that includes the people from the other 5 campuses. In order to accomplish this full integration, we decided to cut costs in this year budget and save as much money as possible for the next year's board, so they can afford travelling and include the other campuses in more TODOS activities.