



MINUTES OF MEETING

4 MARCH 2024

Forum Study Board for Global Development

Meeting date 7 February 2024, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Place Room 5.1.16

Attendees:

Members:

John Rand (Chair), Atreyee Sen, Erika Meilin Wu, Marta Dal Farra, Pippa Rose Watson.

Guests:

Jens Roesdahl Lange (Academic Officer), Mads Øbro (Student Counsellor), Mikkel Engelhardt Serritzlew (Academic Officer) and Sidse Gutfeld Overbeck Ærstrøm (Programme Coordinator)

Absentees:

Christian Lund

Agenda

1. Approval of agenda and of the draft minutes of the last study board meeting / John (5 minutes, 3:00PM – 3:05PM)

Decision: The board must decide whether to approve the meeting agenda. Furthermore, the board needs to decide whether to approve of the draft minutes of the last meeting (Appendix 1.1).

Decision: The board approved the agenda. The draft minutes from the last meeting will be sent out for approval by e-mail.

2. Constitution of the new Board / John (3:05PM – 3:20PM)

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

SECTION FOR COORDINATION AND
PLANNING

ØSTER FARIMAGSGADE 5, BUILDING

12, 1ST FLOOR, ROOM 12.1.01

POSTBOKS 2099

DIR 45 35 32 87 94

sae@samf.ku.dk

Welcome to new members of the Study Board. A quick round of introduction.

Decision: *The Study Board must elect a Vice Chairperson from among the student representatives. The Vice Chairperson helps the Chairperson in the organisation of the board's work.*

Furthermore, the Study Board must set up a sub-committee for credit transfer and exemptions. The sub-committee should consist of one student representative and one representative amongst the staff.

Decision: Everybody introduced themselves by name and function, and the new student representatives were welcomed to the board. The students had coordinated who should run for vice chair of the board, and Marta was unanimously elected vice chair of the board for the coming year.

The students had furthermore coordinated that Erika should form part of the sub-committee for credit transfer and exemptions on behalf of the students. There was however some uncertainty whether the committee is obliged to consist of chair and vice-chair, and Marta was, therefor, elected as student representative for the sub-committee.

After the meeting, it was examined whether the committee can be made up by other student representatives than the vice chair, and since this is the case the board has, in accordance with Marta, Erika and John, invalidate the original decision to then have the board elect Erika as the student representative of the sub-committee. This decision was made by a hearing by e-mail.

3. Processing of application for exemptions / Jens (10 minutes, 3:20PM – 3:35PM) CLOSED DOOR ITEM

Decision: *Jens will present potential applications for exemptions, and the board will have to decide whether to grant the exemptions.*

Decision: The board processed an application for exemption, and a decision was made.

The decision of the board, furthermore, led to a change to the exam registration requirements of the following courses:

- **Global Development; Theories, Facts and Current Issues**
- **Transnational Actors, People and Place Making**

The revised exam registration requirements regarding attendance have been changed from active participation/full attendance to attendance corresponding to no less than 80%. The revision will become effective from 1 September 2024 the.

4. Plan for the work of the study board in the coming semester / John (10 minutes, 3:30PM – 3:40PM)

Decision: the members of the board should plan when to meet during the spring semester (see suggestion, appendix 4.1). Furthermore, they should decide whether to approve the drafted plan of items for the spring Study Board meetings (see appendices 4.1 and 4.2)

Decision: The suggested plan for the coming semester (appendix 4.1) was approved, and the board agreed to meet April 10 from 3PM – 5PM and again May 23 from 10AM to 12AM. Furthermore, John informed that there will be a teacher’s meeting May 29.

5. Course evaluation of Applied Research Methods, Global Politics, Global Development: Theories, Facts and Current Issues and Transnational Actors, Networks and Place Making, John (30 minutes, 3:40PM – 4:10PM)

- a. *Discussion and decision: The board must review the results (Appendix 5.1 and 5.2) and implement action plans to correct any unsatisfactory conditions.*
- b. *Discussion and decision: The Study Board must discuss and decide on the suggested course rating as presented in the appendices 5.3 and 5.4.*

Orientation: Overall, teachers and courses have been evaluated satisfactory, and all courses have been suggested a B-rating. Response rates have been close to or above the targeted response rate (50%). Students provided Head of Studies with suggestions for further improvement of the courses, and John will pass on the information to the course responsables.

Decision: The board decided to stick to the suggested ratings, and all courses received a B-rating.

6. Curriculum (minor changes), John (15 minutes, 4:10PM – 4:25PM)

a. Minor changes to the curriculum

i. Revision of the course description, Academic Internship (appendix 6.1)

Decision: The board should decide whether to approve the drafted revision of the course, Academic Internship (appendix 7.1)

Orientation: Supervision has been handled differently, and the revision of the course description has been made to both ensure the supervision of the students but also to comply with the wish from students to receive 30 minutes feedback from the supervisor post examination.

Decision: The board approved the revision.

ii. **Possible change of exam forms**

***Orientation and discussion:** Head of Studies will present a possible change of exam forms for some courses at Global Development. The board of studies should discuss these possible changes, and a final processing and approval will be made in writing. The Discussion is partly a follow-up on the discussion from the latest Study Board meeting regarding active participation as an exam registrations requirement.*

Orientation: Generative AI complicates the learning outcome and the essay exams at GD. ARMS examination will stay the same, but Henrik has informed that he might have to add a small assignment to test student's statistical competences/tools. If relevant, it will be added either to the exam registration requirement or as part of the examination. Both abovementioned changes will have to be approved by the board in a hearing.

The exam format for TFC will remain the same (12 hour written take home exam), but John might need to change the content of the essay. The idea is to have students respond to very specific questions representing both the qualitative and the quantitative perspectives.

7. News from the Students, Vice-chair (10 minutes, 4:25PM-4:35PM)

- a. **Interdisciplinary Field Research:** The IFR-field trip could have been communicated clearer both regarding content and circumstances. John acknowledges the experience. In the defence of the teachers of the course, it is the first time that field work is being conducted in Bolivia, and confirmation

letters from the external partners in Bolivia have only just arrived. Next time will run more smoothly.

Students furthermore explained that there had been some uncertainty whether the IFR-field trip is mandatory. John emphasized that the field trip is mandatory – this is stipulated both in the Programme Curriculum and at the [programme specific webpage](#) at studies.ku.dk. Lastly, students informed that the exam plan didn't seem to be up to date, and Sidse promised to follow up in this regard.

b. Best teacher/best teaching 22/23.

***Orientation and decision:** Peter has had the students nominate best teacher/ best teaching, and he will present the result. The board must decide who should be given the prize for best teacher/teaching.*

Decision: Unfortunately, Peter was unable to attend the meeting, and Sidse presented the results of his survey. The board unanimously agreed to award Kasper Hoffman the prize.

8. News from the Head of Studies, John (15 minutes, 4:35PM – 4:50 PM)

***a. Orientation and Discussion:** Head of Studies will present the Key Study Data and the Exam Complaint Statistics (Appendix 8.1 and 8.2). Mikkel Engelhardt Serritzlew will assist John in the item concerning exam complaints. The board is invited to comment on and discuss the results of the abovementioned data.*

Orientation:

Key Study Data: John informed the board that the latest intake of 2023 had risen to 60 students. Furthermore, the average exceeding of the time of study is declining, and as of 2023 the average is 4,1 months – the third lowest amongst the master's programmes at SAMF.

Exam Complaint Statistics: Mikkel briefed the board on the exam complaint statistics from the last academic year. The exam complaint statistics does not show anything alarming, and the number of complaints is consistent to the forgoing academic year.

Students expressed that they were not aware of the exam complaint option and Mads offered to counsel the cohort in

this regard. As a result, Mads will inform the cohort by e-mail with a link to the description of the process at KUnet.

PAGE 6 OF 6

9. News from the Student Counsellors, Mads (5 minutes, 4:50PM – 4:55PM)

Orientation: Mads informed the board, that the student counsellor will be attending all Study Board meetings, and he invited students to contact him, if they have any questions in relation to their studies. John supported the proposal and encouraged the students to reach out to the student counsellors.

Students acknowledged the importance of the student counsellors, and they have been particularly happy about the *Holdets Time*-initiative. If possible, they would like a counselling session on Internships and electives in the third semester.

10. News from the Administration, Sidse (4:55PM – 5:00PM)

Orientation: Sidse informed that potential revisions to the programme curriculum will be handled either by a hearing prior to the April meeting or at the April meeting. She notified that hearings usually have a processing time of 5 working days, and she encouraged the student representatives to check their KU-email regularly.

Yours sincerely,

Sidse Gutfeld Overbeck Ærstrøm
Programme Coordinator