



CENTRE OF AFRICAN STUDIES STUDY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE STUDY BOARD MEETING

Time: Tuesday 19 January 2016, 13-15

Venue: Centre of African Studies, Købmagergade 46, 4th floor, room 455

Notetaker: Julie Oxenvad

Participants: Stig Jensen (Chairman, Associate Professor) (SJ), Niels Kastfelt (Associate Professor) (NK), Lasse Poulsen (Student Representative) (LP), Carsten Selch Jensen (Head of Studies) (CSJ), Maj-Britt Johannsen (Director of Studies) (MBJ) and Julie Oxenvad (Secretary of the Study Board) (JOX)

Absent: Liv Kira Seitzberg (vice-chairman and Student Representative) and Anja Mee Foldberg (Head of Study and Career Counselling)

1. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of the minutes from the last Study Board Meeting

The minutes from 2 December were approved.

SJ informed about a change in a dispensation granted on last meeting decided by the chairman and vice-chairman based on new information.

3. Applications for dispensations, credit transfer and approval of Professional Master Final Project

- a) One application for exemption from participating in person in the *Thesis Seminar* in the spring semester 2016 due to special circumstances. The application was approved on the condition that the student participates in the seminar on long-distance.
- b) One application for exemption from participating in person in the first opponent session in the *Thesis Seminar* in the spring semester 2016 due to an internship that ends late. The application was approved on the condition that the student participates in the opponent session on long-distance.
- c) One application for dispensation to postpone the deadline for handing in the thesis due to illness. The application was approved.
- d) One application to for dispensation to cancel the registrations for *Kiswahili I* in autumn 2015 and the compulsory courses in spring 2016 and take an internship (30 ECTS) in spring 2016 instead. The application was not approved due to that the SB did not find that there were exceptional circumstances in the application that gave reason to deviate from the rules in the Study Curriculum 3.1.
- e) One application for Professional Master Final Project was approved.

The SB considered an appeal of a decision that was remitted by the Dean. Due to new documentation send after the decision, the SB granted an exemption from the requirement to enrol for courses for 30 ECTS in the spring semester 2016

4. Evaluation: update from the working group in relation to the procedure for course evaluation

SJ updated on the work in the group.

5. CAS study programme evaluation

CSJ informed about the study programme evaluation for CAS in 2015. CSJ drew attention to the unemployment rate (30.5 percent for 2014) and the dropout rate (18.9 percent for 2014). The Study Board discussed the evaluation and especially the unemployment rate and dropout rate. The SB found it interesting to look into what the number and statistic refers to in order to approach it and improve the numbers. CSJ also suggested including the Employers Panel in the discussion about the unemployment rate.

The SB also discussed action plans in relation to dropouts and unemployment and other initiatives.

6. Information on minor cases

a.) Courses spring 2016

SJ informed that there are no changes in relation to the courses offered in spring 2016 and all courses will be carried out as planned. The optional courses offered in the spring semester 2016 are: *African Mobilities*, *Modern Conflict*, *War and Mass Violence in Africa* and *Kiswahili II*.

b.) Courses autumn 2016 and spring 2017

SJ informed that the research group is discussing the courses for autumn 2016 and spring 2017.

7. Points of discussion raised on behalf of MA students

LP raised the following two points for discussion:

1. Question about the order of the exams in relation to the two compulsory courses in the 1st semester. LP does not find it appropriate that the students hand in the paper for the exam in *Economic Development in Africa* in December, and then do the one-week exam in *Nature, Population and Society in Africa* in January and afterwards the oral exam in *Economic Development in Africa*.

The SB agreed that the current order is not desirable and that it is a good idea to adjust the order of the exams so that the students hand in the written paper for *Economic Development in Africa* in December and afterwards take the oral exam in *Economic Development in Africa* in the beginning of January. The exam in *Nature, Population and Society in Africa* will be conducted later in January.
2. The group formation for *Economic Development in Africa* is not working well and is not efficient. LP suggested including the lecturer (since the groups are now made administratively by the Student Counsellors) in the formation and that the groups should be established based on topics.

The SB agreed to discuss this on a meeting in the spring semester.

8. Other business

No other business.