



MINUTES

Forum: Asian Dynamics Initiative – Academic Panel

Meeting held: 22 March 2011, 9:00-10:30

Place: NIAS, Leifsgade 33, 2300 Cph. S

23 MARCH 2011

Present: Michael Ulfstjerne, Dayabati Roy, Ildiko Beller-Hann, Jakob Roland Munch, Lars Højer, Katja Rangsvæk, Martin Petersen, Denise Gimpel, Susanne Bregnbæk, Lau Blaxekjær, Jørgen Delman, Ravinder Kaur, Ayo Wahlberg, Marie Roesgaard and Marie Yoshida (minutes)

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REF: ADI

- 1) **Approval of minutes from last meeting**
- 2) **Approval of agenda**
- 3) **EastAsiaNet and COST application (Jørgen Delman)**
- 4) **Research**
Initial brainstorm on topics, and formation of initial research group
- 5) **Teaching**
Exchange of ideas on cross-faculty teaching/courses, and formation of initial 'teaching' group
- 6) **ADI's international conference this autumn**
- 7) **ADI lunch lectures**
- 8) **Other**
- 9) **Next meeting**

Ad 1)

Approved

Ad 2)

Ayo Wahlberg and Denise Gimpel had points under “Other”
Hereafter approved.

Ad 3)

Jørgen Delman gave a brief description of EastAsiaNet – including information about member universities, current research, biannual business meetings and workshops. JD and MR have participated in earlier workshops and encouraged others to do so in the future. Extensive info on EAN can be found here: <http://www.eastasianet.eu/>

EAN is currently working on a joint COST Action on “Transregional Flows”. Jørgen Delman and Denise Gimpel have chipped in with a project on “Ideas in Transit”. Researchers at CU will be able to join in on this or other projects within the Action if the application is successful. JD will keep the ADI panel informed.

Marie Roesgaard will attend the next EAN business meeting and workshop (April 2011).

Ad 4)

MR and MY will approach the newly established network on Security and China at CMS, Political Science, to discuss how we can benefit from each other.

The importance of overcoming regional and disciplinary borders and creating true interdisciplinarity instead of parallel research projects was stressed. Some kind of global theoretical approach would be useful. It would be interesting to look at the friction that arises when trying to find a common platform for different disciplines and regions.

JD stressed the importance of someone taking responsibility in building up, coordinating and structuring research themes/projects. He argued that the academic staff hired under the ADI should have a special obligation (and privilege) to take the lead.

Others found that ADI should rather be seen as a research umbrella, where anyone can take the lead.

IBH found that there were 2 issues that had to be discussed separately:

1. structure and organization of research projects
2. research topics

A number of concrete research ideas were then discussed.

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AW envisioned a 1½-2 year process starting with an initial brainstorm on research topics, then finding out which ones – maybe 2 or 3 – have support to be realized. The process should result in 2 or 3 applications for funding.

A research group was established: Ayo Wahlberg, Jørgen Delman, Susanne Bregnbæk, Jakob Roland Munch, Denise Gimpel, Ildiko Beller-Hann, Ravinder Kaur.

The research group will work with MY on planning the initial research project meeting in May. There will be a call for proposals prior to the meeting. Research topic proposals (1 page) should be submitted at least one week before the meeting and be distributed to the academic panel

The research group will also be involved in working with strategies (for events, media, publications).

Ad 5)

MR gave a brief update on the current efforts to create cross-faculty elements in new study programmes for South Asia and Central Asia/ Afghanistan. Head of studies at Economics and Political Science are also involved and very positive. Dept of Economics is keen on collaborating on South Asia. Political Science is interested in both but especially Central Asia.

The programmes will have exams on BA and MA level.

LB asked if it is possible as a PhD fellow to do something actively to arrange relevant PhD courses. He was informed that this is something PhD students regularly do, and LB was encouraged to contact the research school at Political Science for guidelines.

A group on cross-faculty teaching was formed: Oscar Saleminck, Marie Roesgaard, Ravinder Kaur, Ildiko Beller-Hann.

Ad 6)

After some discussion it was decided to postpone the big international conference to spring 2012. This gives us time to plan thoroughly and invite speakers.

Instead there were some different suggestions for an autumn event:

- an event with talks by KU researches, for example professors hired under ADI

- internal workshop to stabilize our foundation and to find links between the disciplines – invite a keynote speaker who could provoke thoughts on interdisciplinary research
- a PhD course

RK suggested that we develop a long term events' strategy.

Ad 7)

The next ADI lunch lectures will be by Ravinder Kaur, Peter Andersen, Lau Blaxekjær and Cecilia Milwertz. More soon.

Ad 8)

AW has been in contact with a researcher from Sociology, who is involved in a network trying to provide aid for Japanese university students who now find themselves without a university. For now we await further info from the network. When we know more ADI can get in contact with the two faculties and the international office.

DG informed of 2 possible Taiwan related events:

1. EATS (European Association of Taiwan studies) annual conference in Cph in 2012. MR, GH and DG will meet with EATS and discuss further.
2. In September 15 professors from Taiwanese universities will come to DK to visit Danish universities.
ADI/NIAS could arrange a meeting, panel etc.

AD 9)

Next meeting will be the May meeting on research projects. More soon.