

Agenda of meeting in the  
**Research Committee (Forskningsutvalget)**

Date: 22 February 2024  
 Time: 13.00 – 15.00  
 Place: AHO Board Room  
 Summoned: Lise Amy Hansen, Tim Anstey, Josina Vink, Nick Walkley, Peter Hemmersam, Ute Groba

Notice of absent:  
 Head of meeting: Lise Amy Hansen  
 Secretary: Jan Morten Øien  
 Copy: Randi Stene, Ulrika Herlofsen

NR            AGENDA

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06/24            **Approval of agenda**

**Resolution:**  
*Agenda 22.02.2024 approved*

07/24            **Approval of minutes**

**Resolution:**  
*Minutes from meeting 25.01.2024 approved*

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08/24            **PhD positions 2024 – expert committees**

***Institute of Urbanism and Landscape has advised for the following committee:***

Rikke Munck Petersen, PhD, lektor, Københavns Universitet  
 Sverre Bjerkeset, PhD, uavhengig forsker (CV vedlagt)  
 Tim Anstey (coordinator)

***Institute of Design has advised for the following committee:***

Dr Claire Dennington, PhD, UX Manager, Schibsted Nordic Marketplaces  
 Professor Cheryl Akner-Koler, visiting lecturer AHO  
 Sigrun Lurås, PhD, Designer and design researcher  
 Førsteamanuensis, Jonathan Romm, AHO (coordinator)

***Attachments and links:***

Sak 08-24 CV – Sverre Bjerkeset  
 Sak 08-24 CV – Rikke Munck Petersen – see: <http://tinyurl.com/2kcxmcmj8>  
 Sak 08-24 CV – Claire Dennington – see: <http://tinyurl.com/3rszfvdw>  
 Sak 08-24 CV – Cheryl Akner-Koler – see: <https://www.cherylaknerkoler.com>  
 Sak 08-24 CV – Sigrun Lurås – see: <https://designresearch.no/people/sigrun-luras>  
 Sak 08-24 CV – Jonathan Romm – see: <https://aho.no/no/ansatt/jonathanr>

***Resolution:***

*The case was sent on circulation in order to give FU better time to review CVs and backgrounds that came close to FUs meeting, and the committees were approved.*

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09/24

**Internal PhD calls - Criteria**

The previous process of evaluating internal PhD call applications revealed a need to clarify the evaluation criteria.

**Attachment:**

Sak 09/24 Current criteria, PhD award process

**Resolution:**

*New criteria for evaluating internal PhD call applications (not in prioritized order)*

- *Quality (format and argumentation)*
  - *Kvalitet (form og argumentasjon)*
- *Feasibility*
  - *Gjennomførbarhet*
- *Connection to AHO's research environments*
  - *Forankring til AHOs forskningsmiljøer*
- *Relevance to strategies per institute, AHO and nationally*
  - *Relevanse til strategier for institutt, AHO og nasjonalt*
- *Attractive and clear call for excellent candidates*
  - *Attraktiv og tydelig utlysning for fremragende kandidater*
- *Supervisory quality (experience and relevance)*
  - *Veiledningskvalitet (erfaring og relevanse)*

10/24

**Discussion - PhD Supervisor Course at AHO (Strategic Funds)**

AHO needs to enhance the supervision competence within the school. Vice Rector for Research proposed allocating strategic funds to create a supervisor course in the 2024 budget, which was approved in the board meeting on December 13th.

The management group determined the scope of the funds in their meeting on January 12th. The Vice Rector for Research has tasked the head of the PhD program with proposing a process for how these strategic funds of 100,000 NOK can be utilized to establish a course at AHO and involve the PhD program board in this endeavor.

The funds are solely for the development and work involved; the course itself will be conducted within existing frameworks and budgets. The course development must align with the report 'PhD evaluations review' (attached) and should address:

- What does it mean to pursue a PhD at AHO in our disciplines? (Frameworks and conditions, quality and scope)
- What constitutes a thesis? (See attached PhD committee evaluation report)
- Effective supervision, ethics & well-being
- Best practices in practice-based research

**Attachments:**

Sak 10-24 Agenda for academic management meeting 14.02.2024

Sak 06-23 Case note PhD evaluations review

**Discussion:**

*The case was discussed in the meeting and FU sees the need for a supervisor course at AHO, and support the use of strategic funding. FU also welcomes the future discussion whether to make the course compulsory for supervisors at AHO.*

11/24

**Discussion - Role of supervisors – Tim Anstey**

Outline for notes on coordinating the examination process for PhDs at AHO.

**Attachment:**

*Sak 11-24 Outline – coordinating the examination process for PhD's.*

**Discussion:**

*The outline for the coordination of the examination for PhD's is good, however the last part of the document needs some clarifications. The external committee members must be duly informed on the committee's responsibility and the criteria for evaluating a thesis.*

12/24

**Sak 12/24 - Research application support (strategic funding)**

Prorektor for forskning har arbeidet med å øremerke strategiske midler for å kunne hente inn eksterne til arbeidet med forskningsprosjektsøknader i budsjettet i 2024 og det ble vedtatt i styremøte 13 desember 2023. Ledergruppen avstemte omfang av midler i ledermøtet 12 januar. Som strategiske midler er det satt av 200.000,- for 2024, og gjennom EU/AHOPES arbeidet har vi samlet på erfaringer med flere selskaper som kan engasjeres i dette arbeidet.

FU diskuterte hvordan midlene bør håndteres for å sikre at de blir brukt på best mulig måte, med et mål at slik støtte videreføres. Midlene må brukes i 2024, men vil også omfatte NFRs 2025 utlysninger i feb/mars – NB dette betyr at søknadsarbeidet må starte i 2024.

Kriterier:

- *Quality (format and argumentation)*  
– *Kvalitet (form og argumentasjon)*
- *Feasibility and cost of running the project*  
– *Gjennomførbarhet og kostnader ved gjennomføring av prosjektet*
- *Connection to AHO's research environments*  
– *Forankring til AHOs forskningsmiljøer*
- *Relevance to strategies per institute, AHO and nationally*  
– *Relevanse til strategier for institutt, AHO og nasjonalt*
- *Research leadership - experience and relevance*  
– *Forskningsledelse - erfaring og relevanse*

Proessen vil være at prorektor med insituttleder gjør fortløpende evalueringer og godkjenner at deres ansatte søker på eksterne midler og dermed forplikter sitt institutts ressurser. Prorektor sørger for at insituttledere informerer forskere om muligheten på sine institutter.

13/24

**Discussion – Researcher's lunch topic**

Please see guidelines (in Norwegian) via the following link - <http://tinyurl.com/5n75xuh3>

**Discussion**

*FU agreed that the next research lunch will be on research-based teaching and teaching-based research and Josina Vink will contribute insights from a Design Research Seminar on the topic.*

14/24

**Discussion: NVA Guide**

FU will discuss a new NVA guide.

**Resolution:**

*Postponed for the next FU-meeting.*

15/24

**Discussion: Research Strategy – in progress**

What is AHO uniquely able to research and contribute through research?

**Attachment:**

Draft strategy and a brief selection of research strategies.

For context on strategies forming in the sector see: <https://www.khrono.no/forskningsradets-nye-strategi-her-er-fem-rad/849434>

**Discussion:**

*All members of FU are invited to include or exclude or alter working in the draft strategy. The strategy was briefly discussed and will be discussed further in an extraordinary FU meeting 20.03.*

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**Prorector informs**

AHOs innspill til Publiseringutvalget

OCULS årsrapport

Forskningsledelseskurs ved UiO – Karin Helms fikk innvilget søknad

Lise Amy Hansen  
Head of FU

Jan Morten Øien  
Secretary