



# BALTIC SEA REGION UNIVERSITY NETWORK

## STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

### Minutes

Date: Wednesday, 11 April 2012 at 12-14  
Place: University of Latvia, Riga (main building), room 240

#### Members

Kari Hyppönen President, Chairman  
Janis Stonis Vice-President, Vice-Chairman  
Eliisa Särkilahti University of Turku  
Aleksas Pikturna Vilnius University  
Aniela Tejchman Gdansk University of Technology  
Elzbieta Fonberg-Stokluska Warsaw School of Economics  
Mart Susi University of Tartu  
Regina Karvelienė Šiauliai University  
Irina Ledchenkova Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno  
Stanislav Tkachenko St. Petersburg State University

#### Substitutes

Uldis Sukovskis Riga Technical University  
Markku Sutinen University of Turku  
Arūnas Komka Vilnius Gediminas Technical University  
Szczepan Figiel University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn  
Anna Sadecka University of Warsaw  
Aira Lepik Tallinn University  
~~Zinaida Baltrėnienė Vytautas Magnus University~~  
Zoya Scheglova Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno  
Dmitry Vasilenko St. Petersburg State University of Economics and Finance  
Elvira Kaminskaya Yaroslav the Wise Novgorod State University

#### Secretariat

Alina Grzhibovska  
Ieva Stendere-Shteinberga

#### Invited

Maria Doerffer

#### 1. Opening of the meeting

Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. The SC members introduced themselves.

#### 2. Adoption of the agenda

Agenda circulated to SC on 29 March 2012 was adopted.

#### 3. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

Draft minutes of the SC meeting held in Riga on 27 January 2012 and circulated on 16 March 2012 were approved – **Annex 1**

#### 4. Announcements

- Chairman's information (meetings and visits):

- Warsaw, Poland 10 February (meeting at the University of Warsaw) – Erasmus Mundus Action 2 applications

- St.-Petersburg, Russia 28 February (meeting with the representatives from St.-Petersburg State University of Economics and Finance (FINEC), discussions about membership fee payments and membership of BSRUN at three other universities - St. Petersburg State University of Culture and Arts, St. Petersburg State University of Information Technology, Mechanics and Optics (ITMO) and St. Petersburg State Mining Institut) and 20 March (BSRUN seminar “Strategy towards double degrees: development, realization and evolution” at FINEC” and the 8th Seminar on Cooperation between Russian and Finnish Institutions of Higher Education)
- Minsk, Belarus 5-6 March (meeting with the representatives from Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno and Brest State University, meetings at Belarusian State University (BSU) and Belarusian State Pedagogical University (BSPU), which is interested in joining the network and possible membership)
- Kaunas (with Janis Stonis) and Klaipeda, Lithuania 6-7 March (meetings with local contacts - Rector Prof. Petras Baršauskas (KTU))
- Kaliningrad 12 March (meetings with the CBSS/Nordic Council of Ministers Secretariat on the university cooperation project in the South East Baltic Region (SEBA) project)
- Vilnius 4 April (BSRUN and BMU-MID Joint seminar “University-Business Partnerships in Europe” at Vilnius University)

## 5. Membership situation

Alina Grzhibovska (BSRUN Secretariat) informed about current membership situation.

Deadline of payments for 2012 is 30 April 2012.

Invoice also should be sent to Vytautas Magnus University and Tallinn University of Technology (TUT promised to pay the membership for 2012 and then leave the network).

Chairman informed about new members:

- Pskov State University has applied for BSRUN membership on 12 December 2011. SC recommended the application for the approval on 27 January 2012. Membership application of Pskov State University was formally approved and is effective as of 31 March 2012.
- A BSRUN member North West State Technical University (NWSTU) merged with St. Petersburg State Mining Institute (SPMI) and, therefore, suspended its membership. St. Petersburg State Mining Institute (SPMI) has applied for the membership on 9 April 2012. SC recommended the approval of the application to the current members with a deadline by 18 April. Membership application of St. Petersburg State Mining Institute (SPMI) will be formally approved and will be effective as of 19 April 2012.

## 6. BSRUN budget 2012

- BSRUN agreement para. 3.3.6. stipulates that SC decides annually on the use of the collected fees on the basis of the proposal and the report of expenditures by the coordinating institution (now the University of Latvia).

BSRUN budget for 2012 – **Annex 2**

- BSRUN President’s workload compensation

BSRUN President left the room for this topic.

Vice-President as vice-chairman informed about BSRUN President’s workload compensation.

BSRUN President asked about the further workload compensation for the budget 2012 and further payment procedures.

Vice-Chairman reminded about the previous discussions on BSRUN President's workload compensation for the first 18 months (from July 1, 2010). SC approved the workload compensation (incl. taxes – 6 500 EUR) for the BSRUN budget 2011 on 4 November 2011. Workload compensation has been paid in two parts in accordance with the Legal regulations of the Republic of Latvia.

SC members first discussed their rights to decide the compensation items, as the Plenary Meeting (PM) appoints the President from amongst the representatives of the member institutions. Thus, the PM has the rights to decide about the compensation.

For the first 18 months 6500 EUR (including taxes) has been paid after the evaluation by SC. The same compensation for the next 18 months should be paid also after evaluation. But then it must be paid by the next coordinating institution. After the discussions SC members proposed that President could receive the same compensation (incl. taxes – 6 500 EUR) during the next 18 months.

SC members from Lithuania acknowledged that legal procedures on paying salaries to foreign specialists are similar in the Republic of Lithuania to those in the Republic of Latvia.

SC agreed that the University of Latvia should find the best possible payment procedures following the legal regulations of the Republic of Latvia.

## 7. BSRUN events

- BSRUN seminar "Strategy towards double degrees: development, realization and evolution" at St.-Petersburg State University of Economics and Finance (FINEC) on 20 March 2012

Presentations and list of participants are available on <http://www.bsrn.org/activities/archive/>

Chairman informed about the event.

- BSRUN workshop for finance directors "Full Cost Model and Integration of University Data System" at the University of Latvia on 23 March 2012

Presentations and list of participants are available on <http://www.bsrn.org/activities/archive/>

Chairman informed SC about the event.

- BSRUN and BMU-MID Joint seminar "University-Business Partnerships in Europe" at Vilnius University on 4 April 2012

Programme is available on <http://www.bsrn.org/activities/>

Chairman informed about the event.

List of participants will be available later.

Attendance: 25 participants

- BSRUN and Baltic Sea Region Rectors meeting and seminar „Legislation, Governance Structures and Economics of Education" on 11-12 April 2012

Programme is available on <http://www.bsrn.org/activities/>

List of participants were available at the meeting.

Vice-President informed about the event.

- BSRUN and BMU-MID Joint seminar "University-Business Partnerships in Europe" at Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno on 18 April 2012

Joint seminar will be organized during Belarusian, Finnish and Lithuanian Economic Development Forum.

Chairman informed about the current state of planning.

- Baltic Seminar of University Administrators (BSUA) "Knowledge Triangle: Education, Research, Innovation" at Gdansk University of Technology on 10-11 May 2012

Representative from Gdansk University of Technology (Ms. Maria Doerffer) informed about the current state of planning.

It is still possible to book the hotels (Orbis Posejdon Gdansk, Novotel Centrum Gdansk, Radisson Blu), hotel reservation forms are available at [www.bsrn.org](http://www.bsrn.org)

It would be important to know the titles of presentations to reach and attract the audience and to plan the travel.

It would be necessary to invite and attract other universities in Poland (at least those in Gdansk – Medical University of Gdansk, Gdansk University etc.)

## 8. Initiatives for BSRUN future activities

- Seminar on Human resources management  
BSRUN Secretariat will create a questionnaire based on the Joensuu proposed "Topics of Interest". Registration fee should cover coffee breaks, lunch etc. Travel expenses for speakers could be covered by BSRUN Secretariat
- Study Tour for Estate managers (could be organized in late September 2012)
- Seminar for Faculty managers

SC members were invited to make proposals for future activities.

## 9. BSRUN Scholarships

BSRUN in cooperation with OECD programme for Institutional management for Higher Education will provide support for BSRUN members to participate in top level forum on Higher Education management issues „Attaining and Sustaining Mass Higher Education” on 17-19 September 2012 in Paris, France

Rules and Regulations – **Annex 3**

Application form – **Annex 4**

Application deadline is 30 April 2012.

OECD IMHE GC programme was available in late March 2012.

Scholarship was announced to members and will be announced again in April (reminder will be sent out soon after SC meeting).

Vice-President informed about the current state of planning.

BSRUN will finance five scholarships for covering the registration fee for IMHE General Conference 2012 in amount as for all IMHE members 350.- EURO (instead of 900 EURO for non-member). Budget for scholarships is 3500.- EURO.

## 10. Cooperation with other organizations:

- ESMU  
EU-Drivers Annual Conference "Building Capacity for Collaborative Partnerships" will take place in Brussels on 20 September 2012  
More information: [www.eu-drivers.eu/index.php](http://www.eu-drivers.eu/index.php)

- IMHE  
General Conference „Attaining and Sustaining Mass Higher Education” will take place in Paris, France on 17-19 September 2012  
More information: [www.oecd.org/edu/imhe/generalconference](http://www.oecd.org/edu/imhe/generalconference)
- EAIR  
The 34th EAIR Forum 2012 will take place in Stavanger, Norway on 5-8 September 2012  
More information: <http://www.eair.nl/forum/stavanger/>

BSRUN scholarships for ESMU and EAIR events were discussed.

BSRUN could offer three scholarships for covering the registration fee for the 34th Annual EAIR Forum 2012. Scholarship will be available for administrators from BSRUN member institutions.

SC appointed a committee of three persons:  
Kari Hypponen, Janis Stonis, Regina Karveliēne

Applications will be evaluated by this committee and the proposal will be approved by BSRUN SC.

Application deadline is 15.06.2012, application forms should be sent to BSRUN Secretariat by the deadline.

#### 11. Date of the next meeting

At the previous SC meeting on 27 January 2012 in Riga it was decided that SC will meet, on an average, three times per year.

The next meeting will be organized in Riga in autumn 2012 (SC agreed to meet in the second part of October or in the first part of November, exact date will be agreed).

#### 12. Any other business

There was no other business.

#### 13. Closing of the meeting

Chairman closed the meeting at 14 and thanked SC for their contribution.