



# BALTIC SEA REGION UNIVERSITY NETWORK

## STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

### Minutes

Date: Friday, 27 January 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~~

~~Igor Zhoukovski Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal 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:

Teresa Barczynska Gdansk University of Technology  
~~Aila Grönholm University of Turku~~

### 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 17 January 2012 was adopted.

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

Draft minutes of the SC meeting held in Riga on 4 November 2011 and circulated on 13 December were approved – **Annex 1**

<http://www.bsr.un.org/organisation/committee-meetings/>

### 4. Announcements

- Chairman's information (meetings and visits)

Minsk, Belarus (9-10 December 2011):

Belarusian State University (BSU) intends to join the network, but has not sent any official letter so far.

Vilnius, Lithuania (26 January 2012):

Meeting with representatives from Vilnius University

## 5. Membership situation

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

List of universities that have not paid yet the membership fee for 2011:

- St. Petersburg State University of Culture and Art:  
BSRUN administrator Ms. Ludmila Prohorova has informed that St. Petersburg State University of Culture and Art is intensively looking for possibilities to transfer money. They have no account for currency.
- Yaroslav-the-Wise Novgorod State University:  
Ms. Anna Zaychenko, who is in charge with BSRUN membership fee payments, has informed that membership fee for 2011 could be transferred only in January, because the transfer account has no currency.

Chairman informed about possible visit to Novgorod in March, in case the membership fee will not be paid by January 2012

- North-West State Technical University:  
The structure of North-West State Technical University has been changed, since September 2011 it has been merged with St. Petersburg Mining University

Chairman proposed to contact St. Petersburg Mining University and ask if they could join the network.

Still open question about Vytautas Magnus University (suspended membership fee payment for 2011).  
Chairman proposed to visit Kaunas to ask whether VDU is paying the membership fee for 2012.

In accordance with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education and Research of the Republic of Lithuania and the Resolution of the Parliament of the Lithuanian Republic the name of Vilnius Pedagogical University was changed in to the Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences.

Deadline of payments for 2012 should be put at the end of April 2012.

Pskov State University has been established and will start to work after a one year transition period in April 2012. Pskov State University has applied for BSRUN membership on 12 December 2011 – **Annex 2**

SC recommended the application for the approval.

## 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 was introduced to SC – **Annex 3**

SC agreed to come back to budget at the next meeting for possible adjustments and further discussions.

Regina Karveliėne proposed to make more brochures about BSRUN and to draft a poster.

## 7. BSRUN events

- BSRUN seminar on Marketing and Networking for Internationalization in Vilnius 25 November 2011

Chairman informed SC about the event.

All information is available on BSRUN web page:

<http://www.bsrunch.org/activities/archive/>

- BSRUN/Triple I EMA2 consortium workshop "Current Issues and New Trends in Quality Assurance in Russian HE" at the University of Latvia on 27 February 2012

Chairman informed SC about the current state of planning.

Programme is available on BSRUN web page and the information was circulated to BSRUN contact persons.

- BSRUN workshop for Finance directors on Full Cost Model and Integration of University Data System at the University of Latvia 23 March 2012 ( electronic version was circulated to BSRUN Rectors, administrators, finance directors and human resources directors on 22 December 2011)

Chairman informed SC about the current state of planning.

Prospective speakers should be asked for their presentation's topic and the preliminary programme should be finalized within one week.

- BSRUN seminar on Double degrees at St.-Petersburg State University of Economics and Finance (FINEC) on 20 March 2012  
Possible topic for the seminar could be "Strategy towards double degrees"

Chairman informed about the current state of planning.

This event will be organized back to back with the 8th Seminar on Cooperation between Russian and Finnish Institutions of Higher Education.

Seminar's topic will be specified in the nearest future and the information will be circulated to BSRUN contact persons. Preliminary programme and registration form will be available on BSRUN web page.

- BSRUN Rectors Meeting on Legislation and Government Structures 11-12 April 2012 (invitation letter for rectors meeting was sent out to all BSRUN Rectors on 7 October 2011; sent out to non-BSRUN member Rectors on 18 January)

Vice-President informed SC about the current state of planning.

Leadership from 11 member universities has confirmed their participation.

Programme will be finalized in mid-February and this will be a full day event in three parts.

All information (programme, registration forms for BSRUN and non-BSRUN participants etc.) will be available on BSRUN web page.

BSRUN will cover two nights' accommodation expenses for BSRUN Rectors.

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

Aniela Tejchman informed SC about the current state of planning.

SC decided to extend the deadline for proposals till 29 February 2012.

Participation fee for BSUA (80 EUR) will cover costs of meals and conference materials. Payments should be transferred to Gdansk University of Technology bank account; details will be available on BSRUN web page.

Due to EURO 2012, which is going to take place also in Gdansk, it is advisable to book the hotel as soon as possible (Novotel Centrum Gdansk, Orbis Posejdon Gdansk).

BSRUN rules and regulations para 6.5.3. stipulates that Institutional contacts meet annually linked up with BSUA (Baltic Seminar of University Administrators):

Contact persons meeting should be organized on 10 May 2012 (10-11.30)

#### 8. Initiatives for BSRUN future activities

- Seminar on Human resources management
- Study Tour for Estate managers (could be organized in late September 2012)
- Seminar for Faculty managers

SC decided to discuss initiatives for BSRUN future activities during the next meeting on 11 April 2012.

#### 9. BSRUN and Erasmus Mundus Action 2 and other similar application rounds in 2012

BSRUN should encourage its members to be more active in applying for grants and also to assist in putting together consortia for applications. The University of Turku coordinates now two and Mykolas Romeris University one EMA 2 consortia. Several BSRUN members are partners in different consortia. There are now additional grants available e.g. for mobilities with Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

#### 10. 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 General Conference on Higher Education management issues „Attaining and Sustaining Mass Higher Education” on 17-19 September 2012 in Paris, France.

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-members)

Rules and Regulations – **Annex 4**

Application form – **Annex 5**

Vice-President informed about the current state of planning.

OECD IMHE GC programme will be available in the late March 2012.

SC decided to put the application deadline till 30 April 2012.

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.

#### 11. Cooperation with other organizations:

- ESMU
- IMHE

General Conference „Attaining and Sustaining Mass Higher Education” will take place in Paris, France on 17-19 September 2012

- EAIR

The 34th EAIR Forum 2012 will take place in Stavanger, Norway on 5-8 September 2012

Chairman and Vice-President informed SC about current joint endeavours.

SC discussed possible BSRUN scholarships for ESMU and EAIR events.

12. Date of the next meeting

At the previous SC meeting on 4 November 2011 in Riga it was decided that SC will meet, on an average, three times per year.

The next meeting will be organized in Riga on 11 April 2012, 12-14 (back to back with BSRUN Rectors meeting)

13. Any other business

There was no other business.

14. Closing of the meeting

Chairman closed the meeting at 14.