



BALTIC SEA REGION UNIVERSITY NETWORK

Plenary Meeting

Minutes

Time 25 February 2010 at 15.00 - 16.40
Place City Hall, Aurakatu 2, Turku, Finland

1. Opening session

List of participants enclosed (encl. 1)

- Election of Chairman

SC proposed that Professor Keijo Virtanen, Rector of the University of Turku, be elected Chairman of the meeting.

- Proposed was approved.

- Approval of agenda

- Agenda was approved.

2. Evaluation of BSRUN since 2000

The BSRUN Plenary Meeting of 2008 in Kaliningrad mandated the SC with the evaluation of BSRUN since 2000 to be presented with recommendations to the 2010 PM.

The SC has been assisted in the evaluation by Juris Puce and Kristine Zaksa of the University of Latvia who have drafted the evaluation report which was circulated by the Chairman of the SC together with BSRUN event participation statistics to member institutions on 27 January 2010.

The SC has discussed and approved the report. The SC proposals on the future organisation of BSRUN are based on the report.

Juris Puce, currently State Secretary of the Latvian Ministry of Economics, will present the evaluation report.

Proposal

PM is invited to take note and discuss the report

- Juris Puce presented the evaluation report. The meeting took note of the report.

3. The Future organisation of BSRUN

Chairman of the SC circulated the SC proposal about the future of BSRUN and the decisions to be taken at the PM to the contacts on 28 January 2010.

The document had two parts: a list of decisions to be taken and longer version with comments to clarify some of the issues. The current BSRUN agreement was attached, too.

A new version of the document was circulated on 17 February 2010. In this version items are in a slightly different order to facilitate decision-making with comments listed at the end.

Chairman of the SC will present the proposal.

The SC looked forward to receiving comments from member institutions by 5 February 2010. Some institutions are still being contacted in order to receive a response from as many member institutions as possible.

So far, feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and, therefore, no changes have been made to the SC proposal. A discussion on the introduction of an annual membership fee and the reasons behind it will be necessary, although almost all of those who have commented on the fee have also agreed to the size of the proposed fee. There have been no reported cancellations of membership so far either.

The SC will meet on 25 February 2010 at 12 to have a final discussion on possible changes to be made to the SC proposal. The amended proposal will be circulated at the PM, if applicable.

The Chairman of the SC looks forward to receiving further comments before the PM either by e-mail (kari.hypponen@utu.fi) or by phone (+358 2 3336102 or +358 40 5569019).

Proposal

PM is invited to discuss and decide item by item about the future organisation of BSRUN.

Chairman of SC informed PM that there were no amendments to SC proposal.

- PM discussed and decided item by item about the future organisation. Separate minutes (enclosure 2).

4. Appointment of the President

Proposal

PM appoints the President for three years from 1st July 2010.

- Kari Hyppönen was appointed President for three years from 1st July 2010.

5. Appointment of the Coordinating Institution

The University of Turku has coordinated the organisation since its foundation in 2000. Chairman of SC in his message to member institutions on 28 January 2010 looked forward to receiving opinions and proposals about the coordinating institution from 1st July 2010 onwards.

The University of Latvia has expressed its preliminary interest to coordinate the organisation from 1st July 2010, if needed.

Proposal

PM appoints the coordinating institution for three years from 1st July 2010.

- The University of Latvia was appointed coordinating institution for three years from 1st July 2010.

6. Membership fee for 2010-2012

Proposal

An annual membership fee of 1000 € is charged for 2010-12.

The coordinating institution is given the right to increase the fee for 2011 and 2012 up to the annual rate of inflation in the country where it is located.

- PM decided that the annual membership fee is 1000 € for 2010-12. The University of Latvia was given the right to increase the fee for 2011 and 2012 up to the annual rate of inflation weighed with the exchange rate in Latvia.

7. The Plenary Meeting of 2013

The next PM shall be organised in 2013 so that the decisions concerning the next three year period can be effective as of 1st July 2013.

Proposal

The next PM is organised where the coordinating institution is located.

- The next PM will be organised in Riga.

8. Future activities

A list of planned activities will be circulated at the PM for information.

Proposal

PM is invited to take note and discuss the planned activities.

- PM took note and discussed the planned activities.

9. Closing

- Chairman thanked the City of Turku and the participants and closed the meeting at 16.40.

Chairman



Keijo Virtanen

Secretary



Aila Grönholm