

May 24, 2016

Present: Norman Sharp (NS), Tove Bull (TB), Barbara Brittingham (BB), Rita McAllister (RM), Frank Quinault (FQ), Magnús Diðrik Baldursson (MDB), Sigurður Óli Sigurðsson (SÓS).

1. Agenda introduced.
2. Minutes from Jan 31 and Feb 1 QB meetings accepted.
3. Discussion about QB members rotating across institutions for annual meetings in QEF2. Agreement that there will be continuity in QB member connected to individual institutions. Practical considerations allowing, two QB members will attend, and second will rotate.
4. Discussions about Board budget. Possibility discussed to get increased help from somebody at Rannís at a lower rate than Board Manager.
5. Update on information sharing with MESC. Board will be updated by email about who is now the main contact for QB at MESC.
6. EIIS letter of offer to attend their conference discussed.
7. Letter from LIS on student appointment to QB discussed, which is in line with prior discussion. All members to be appointed by LIS, and LIS has option to appoint one full member and one observer. Initially, member is to be chosen from a list of international students with experience in QA suggested by ESU and observer to be an Icelandic student. Later, LIS will consider having both member and observer being Icelandic. David Molberg from RU is the new LIS president.
8. Update about possible collaboration between SPARQS and LIS. Eve Lewis from SPARQS visited Iceland and said the meeting with LIS went well.
9. Updates on annual meetings with HEIs.
10. Discussion of draft of QEF2. The next step (Stage 2 draft) involves completing annexes and making it a user-friendly document with QC input after drafting committee finishes its work. Output of drafting work will be fed to QB over time, but would ideally come to QB in advance of September meeting. Discussion about function and audience of handbook. Board agrees that there should be a chapter or annex on changes since QEF1, and that care must be taken to not confuse the philosophy behind QEF2 with the history leading up to it, or with the instructions for conducting IWRs and SLRs.
11. MDB leaves meeting. Discussion about UNAK's application for accreditation of doctoral programs. Proposed budget has been sent to MESC.

12. Quality Council joins meeting with QC: MDB, Brita Berglund, Einar Hreinsson, Ólafur Ísleifsson, and Ólöf Gerður Sigfúsdóttir present. Bjarni Kristófer Kristjánsson and Sigríður Magnúsdóttir present by phone. The QB view is that discussions about QEF2 are moving along at a good pace, and that Iceland is well placed among European nations in terms of its HEI QA, especially as external feedback suggests that the universities are doing it for themselves and their students, and not for anybody else. QC expresses three concerns. The first is that QC was excited to publish a second handbook in September, but fear that this is not happening quickly enough and not with enough QC input. Secondly, there is a concern about criteria about judgment, and some members of the QC worry that it will become a box-ticking exercise. However, all QC members agree that some criteria need to be explicitly codified in the QEF2 handbook. Thirdly, QC had hoped to have resources to engage in more discussion and sharing of best practices. Discussion about the pace of changes ensues, and both parties agree to share in a timely fashion any materials developed for the QEF2 handbook.

13. Meeting adjourned.