



NUAS

**Nordic Association of
University Administrators**

**Biennial Report
2017–2018**

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NUAS Board of Directors

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Tove Kristin Karlsen, Deputy University Director, University of Oslo

Board Members

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- Markus Aarto, Director of Administration, University of Lapland
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- Wilbert van der Meer, Director of Dean's Office, Copenhagen Business School

Lasse Lønnum left the Board as he retired as University Director at UiT/ The Arctic university of Norway in 2017. Lønnum was replaced by Kjell Bernstrøm, University Director at The University of Bergen.

General Secretary

Bente Hennie Strandh, Senior Adviser, University of Oslo

NUAS in Numbers

As of March 2019, there are 67 member institutions representing seven countries:

- Denmark 8
- Finland 13
- Iceland 2
- Norway 15
- Sweden 27
- Faroe Islands 1
- Greenland 1

NUAS has got four new member institutions the last year:

- Oslo Metropolitan University
- Oslo National Academy of the Arts, Norway
- GIH Swedish School of Sport and Health Sciences, Sweden
- University of Akureyri, Iceland

NUAS Special Interest Groups

NUAS has 14 Special Interest Groups:

- Archives and Records Management
- Communication
- Economy
- Facilities and Environment
- Faculty Administration
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- International Admission and Recognition of Qualifications
- Internationalization
- Legal
- Library Service
- Research and Innovation
- Student Administration and Counselling
- Sustainability

During the reporting period, over 130 individuals from NUAS Member Institutions worked in the interest groups.

The group Verification of Certificates and Qualifications was reorganized as International Admission and Recognition of Qualifications following the group's recommendation to the NUAS Board of Directors.

The pace of group organized conferences slowed somewhat during this reporting period due to many of the groups prioritizing work towards NUAS Forum 2019 at UiT/The Arctic University of Norway.

Activity

NUAS Directors' Meeting

The Second NUAS Director Meeting - "The Nordic Universities – Perspectives and Possibilities" - was arranged 17–18 October 2018. The event was open to directors of NUAS member institutions and held at The Black Diamond in Copenhagen. Meeting attendance was good, with 43 participants—including presenters/lecturers.

The event evaluation indicates a high level of participant satisfaction. This gives an indication of the preferences for future meetings:

- On a scale of 1–5 (5 points are best), a majority of participants gave a 4 or 5 points rating of the lectures.
- The event venue and pre-event preparations received "very satisfactory" ratings.
- A clear majority would like NUAS to arrange this type of meeting in the future.

- Academic content should focus on both general and practical challenges at universities and colleges

See appendix 1: Meeting Program

Program for Leaders in Administration

The purpose of the program is to contribute to better administration and leadership in the Nordic Higher Education sector, provide opportunities for personal and professional network building, and to strengthen NUAS as a hub for knowledge exchange, education, and professional growth.

PLA 2017–2018 accepted 35 participants (12 men, 23 women)

- Denmark 5
- Sweden 8
- Finland 9
- Norway 10
- Iceland 3

The seminars were held at the following institutions:

University of Oslo

Seminar title: Administrative Leadership in a Nordic Higher Education Context

Roskilde University

Seminar title: Leadership and Communication in the Nordic HE Sector

Uppsala University

Seminar title: Challenges and Changes in the University

Åbo Akademi University

Seminar title: A Workplace That Works

University of Iceland

Seminar title: Responsibility of the Leadership Role in Higher Education

Participant evaluations were very positive. Responding to the question “How was your overall impression after the seminars”:

How is your overall impression after this seminar?		
	Rating	%
1	Poor	0,7
2	Fair	2,9
3	Acceptable	7,9
4	Good	55,0
5	Excellent	33,0

Web site

After its launch in 2016, www.nuas.org continues to be refined for ease of use and navigation. OneDrive has been adopted as a repository for group, meeting, and administrative documents, although the degree to which the groups use OneDrive varies from group to group with some groups preferring to manage their own documents locally.

Group Reports



Archives and Records Management

Members:

Group leader:

Nils Kjartan Guðmundsson Narby, Háskóli Íslands

Group members:

Anita Dahlberg, UiT The Arctic University of Norway

Charlotte Borgerud, Karolinska Institutet

Eva Vestergaard Kristensen, Aarhus University

Juha Hannikainen, University of Helsinki

Per Johan Rødland, University of Stavanger

Susanna Kokkinen, Aalto University

Sven Håkan Drufva, Uppsala University

Seminars and events

The group's last seminar was in Reykjavik, in 2016. The 2018 seminar was postponed, with the group choosing to focus on NUAS Forum 2019 in Tromsø.

Communication

Members:

Group leader:

Lars Uhlin, Head of Branding office, Lund University, Sweden (resigning spring 2019)

Group members:

Bo Kristiansen, Chief Consultant, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark (resigning spring 2019)

Karen Christensen, Head of Communications, The Norwegian School of Sport Sciences, Norway (resigning spring 2019)

Kristín Ása Einarsdóttir, Event Manager, University of Iceland, Iceland

Christina Dahlström, Senior advisor, Linnéuniversitetet, Sweden

Mathilde Holm, Assistant director, Communication Division, University of Bergen, Norway (resigning spring 2019)

Lykke Thostrup, Communication officer, Science faculty, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Karin Hannukainen, Communication and Press officer, University of Helsinki Finland

Sanna Kähkönen, Communication officer, Tampere University of Technology, Finland

Member changes:

There is somewhat of a generation shift in this group where four members in the group, including the group leader, will resign from the group (see above).

We are working to fill the new places during spring 2019.

Seminars and events

- Communication conference 2019, 24-26 January in Reykjavik.
- Target group: Communication professionals
- Short description of the seminars/events: Keynote speakers on research communication, social media, branding and more. More than 20 shorter sessions describing cases from different Nordic universities, presented by participants themselves. More information on: nuaskom.hi.is
- Participants:
 - How many: 330
 - Good representation from all countries.

Other statistics will be delivered after evaluation meeting at the end of March.

Other

Very well-functioning group with a lot of engagement from all group members. Typically, the group meets around six times a year (2-3 times in person).

Strong network among most of the Nordic universities, also enabling us to recruit new participants to the conference. Good return on network investment – individual networks are expanding after a conference, leading to new bilateral contacts, study visits etc. The Communications Conference is the core, which lead to multiple actions among communication professionals.

Economy

Members:

Group leader:

Dan Guttke, deputy university director, Karlstad University Sweden

Group members:

Ellen Johanne Caesar, University of Oslo

Henna Sucksdorff, University of Turku

Jenný Bára Jensdóttir, Háskóli Íslands

Lars Thorell, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Marika Häggman, University of Helsinki

Seminars and events

No seminars our events have been arranged during 2017-2018.

Other

The group was re-established in April 2018. Therefore, no events or seminars have been arranged. During this start time, the group has focused on recruiting team members, achieving the group's description and starting to plan how to contribute to NUAS Forum in Tromsø.

Facilities and Environment

Members:

Group leader:

Ari Nisonen, Property Manager, Architect SAFA, University of Helsinki, Finland (27th August 2014 →)

Group members:

Agnethe Erstad Larsen, Administrasjonssjef, Universitetet i Bergen, Norge

Jørn-Wiggo Bergquist, Driftssjef, Norges teknisk-naturvitenskapelige universitet NTNU Norge (20th November 2015 →)

Camilla Westerborn, Senior Facility Analyst, Sveriges lantbruksuniversitetet SLU Sverige (27th August 2014 →)

Karolina Ganhammar, Universitetsarkitekt, Linköpings universitet, Sverige

Henrik Kudal, Driftschef, Københavns Universitet, Danmark (→ September 2017)

Conor Leerhøy, Teknisk chef, Aarhus Universitet, Danmark (→ September 2017)

Ingólfur B. Aðalbjörnsson, Byggingastjóri, Háskóli Íslands, Island (12th August 2016 →)

Taina Vimpari, Lokalservicechef, Tammerfors universitet, Finland (→ September 2017)

Lars mitens, Teknisk chef, Aarhus Universitet, Danmark (28th November 2017 →)

Changes:

Three members have left the group (Taina Vimpari, Henrik Kudal and Connor Leerhøy), and one new member have joined the group (Lars Mitens). We are looking forward to have one more member from Denmark and one from Finland.

Seminars and events

2017 NUAS Conference Linköping

- When
 - September 10th–12th 2017

- Where
 - Linköping University, Norrköping Campus
- Title
 - Facility Management & Benchmarking
- Target group(s)
 - University administration, especially real estate property and facility premises personnel and technical staff and those whose duty or interest is to develop and maintain university infrastructure (campuses, buildings, technical infrastructure, etc.) or to arrange maintenance, cleaning and other supporting services, or otherwise handle environmental issues.
- Short description of the seminars/events
 - This conference started with a visit to Vallastaden, Linköping. Vallastaden was a housing and city structure (society) exhibition on university's neighborhood.
 - One focus of the conference was on different management challenges. Many universities are introducing and developing the concept of Facility Management (FM), and the Conference was planned to give an insight into the theory behind FM, and how it could be put into practical use.
 - The conference tried to give answers, for example, to these questions: Which services universities include in FM? Is the service price level right? Do universities use funds rationally for services that users consider most important?
 - The other focus was on benchmarking and its usefulness in developing improvements on universities real estate handling and making improvements on academic working and learning spaces.
- Participants:
 - How many
 - 123
 - Gender - how many men/women
 - 71/52
 - Institutions
 - Århus university (2)
 - University of Copenhagen (6)
 - Aalborg University, Aalborg (3)
 - University of Helsinki (8)
 - Norwegian University of Science and Technology NTNU, Trondheim (19)
 - Norges miljø- og biovetenskaplige universitet NMBU, Ås (2)
 - University of Bergen (4)
 - University of Oslo (5)
 - Luleå tekniska universitet (2)
 - University of Southern Denmark (12)
 - University of Stavanger (1)
 - Umeå University (7)
 - Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm (13)
 - Örebro University (1)
 - University of Agder, Kristiansand (2)

- Linköping University (7)
- Lund University (1)
- Stockholm University (7)
- Högskolan i Skövde (1)
- Högskolan i Borås (3)
- Högskolan i Gävle (2)
- Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences SLU, Uppsala (6)
- University of Gothenburg (1)
- Pro-FM Consulting, Norway (1)
- Jönköping University (1)
- EFLA Consulting Engineers, Iceland (1)
- Ernest & Young Consulting (5)
- Countries
 - Finland (8)
 - Iceland (2)
 - Norge (37)
 - Sverige (53)
 - Denmark (23)

2018 NUAS Conference Trondheim

- When
 - August 26th–28th 2018
- Where
 - Norwegian University of Science and Technology NTNU, Trondheim
- Title
 - Better Facilities – Better Universities?
- Target group(s)
 - University administration, especially real estate property and facility premises personnel and technical staff and all whose duty or interest is to develop and maintain university infrastructure (campuses, buildings, technical infrastructure etc.) or to arrange maintenance, cleaning and other supporting services or otherwise handle environmental issues.
- Short description of the seminars/events
 - The three main themes of this conference were campus development, digitalization, and workplace facilities.
 - When improving university premises, the critical topics are currently campus development, learning environment, working environment, and sustainability. Methods of teaching, study, and work change constantly, as for the technology related to this. All this affects expectations of facilities and campus.
 - In this conference, we tried to find some answers to the most relevant questions—for example: what are the most important factors in planning a new campus? How does the digitization of a number of tasks and constant technological innovation affect the operation of the buildings and the development and need for areas adapted to new

solutions? What does the future office space look like? We took a dive into the debate and trends in ongoing development of office space.

- Keynote presentation in this conference were:
 - Keynote 1: NTNU Campus planning; Merete Kvidal, campus director for the campus plan, NTNU
 - Keynote 2: Digitalization on Building Branch: The future of buildings is digital — What will it mean in practice?; Teemu Lehtinen, Chief Digital Officer, KIRA-digi project Finland
 - Keynote 3: Different Shapes of Offices — strengths and weaknesses; Mellomrom Arkitekturpsykologi AS v/ Oddvar Skjæveland, Dr. psychologist
- We also presented examples from different universities and had some interesting discussions.

- Participants:
 - How many
 - 155
 - Gender - how many men/women
 - 63 / 92
 - Institutions
 - Århus university
 - University of Copenhagen
 - University of Helsinki
 - University of Tampere
 - Aalto-university, Espoo
 - Aalto University Properties Ltd, Espoo
 - KIRA-digi project Finland
 - University of the Arts, Helsinki
 - University of Turku
 - University Properties of Finland Ltd, Tampere
 - Norwegian University of Science and Technology NTNU, Trondheim
 - Norges miljø- og biovetenskaplige universitet NMBU, Ås
 - Ministry of Education and Research, Norge (3)
 - University of Bergen
 - University of Tromsø
 - University of Oslo
 - Kunnskapsdepartementet, Norge
 - Mellomrom Arkitekturpsykologi AS, Norge
 - MazeMap, Norge
 - University of Southern Denmark
 - University of Stavanger
 - Halmstad University
 - Chalmers University of Technology
 - Umeå University
 - Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm

- Örebro University
- University of Agder, Kristiansand
- Linköping University
- Lund University
- Högskolan i Borås
- University of Gävle
- Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences SLU, Uppsala
- University of Gothenburg
- Countries
 - Finland
 - Iceland
 - Norge
 - Sverige
 - Denmark

Other

There have been some discussions about other possible activities than conferences — what kind, to whom, how to be organized, etc. Maybe smaller workshops around some specific themes. Also, different kinds of video meetings between smaller interest groups are possible (although we have not yet managed to organize this kind of activity).

In recent years, we have turned our campus issues more inside the university buildings — we have mainly handled learning environment issues but working environment evolution has also become a topic of large interest. In the near future, these topics will be present in everyone's daily doings but our members are also interested to hear about and discuss technical issues.

At the moment, there is a common understanding that annual conferences are the best way, in our branch, to exchange and share experiences and best practices, meet colleagues, get new ideas, and benchmark our doings.

Faculty Administration

Members:

Group leader:

Gudleik Grimstad, fakultetsdirektør, Universitetet i Oslo (group leader autumn 2016/spring 2017)

Åsa Gustafson, avdelningschef, Kungliga tekniska högskolan (group leader from autumn 2017)

Group members:

Elisabeth Lysebo, fakultetsdirektør, Universitetet i Bergen (from 2017)

Christian Hestbæk, sekretariatsleder, Roskilde Universitet

Torben Durck Johansen, sekretariatschef, Syddansk universitet (left 1 March 2018)

Leo Pyymäki, Head of development, Helsingin Yliopisto (from 2017)

Minna Domander, Service Manager, Turun yliopisto

Paula Pragert, avdelningschef, Malmö universitet

Óskar Einarsson, fakultetsdirektør, Háskóli Íslands

Seminars and events

28–29 May 2018: our group arranged a seminar in Roskilde. The title was “How to manage administration services in an academic context.” Target group was leaders and directors from the Nordic countries.

We arranged the seminar as a workshop which gave good opportunities for discussions, experience sharing, and networking with Nordic colleagues. Speakers were, among others, Göran Bexell (former Rector Lund University), Anne-Lise Fimreite (former Pro-vice-chancellor at the University of Bergen), Anders Lundgren (University Director at KTH and former chairperson of NUAS).

We had 40 participants, (28 women and 12 men). Thirteen from Sweden, eight from Finland, seven from Denmark, eight from Norway, three from Iceland, and one from Faroe Islands.

Meetings:

- KTH March 2017
- Malmö September 2017
- KTH November 2017
- Roskilde May 2018
- Malmö September 2018

The meetings were largely concerned with our seminar/workshop and, later, about NUAS Forum 2019 in Tromsø.

Other

Our group is not complete, we lack one member from Denmark. It seems to be difficult to recruit group members from Denmark. It would be nice if we can have one from August 2019.

Human Resources

Members:

Group leader:

Elina Stadigh, Director, Hanken School of Economics, Finland

Group members:

Annica Fröberg, Personnel manager, Kungliga Tekniska Högskolan, Sweden

Ingrid Ganrot, Personnel Manager, Karlstads Universitet, Sweden

Henrik H. Söndergaard, Head of HR, Aalborg University, Denmark

Irene Sandlie, Director of personnel, Oslo University, Norway

Odd Arne Paulsen, Personnel and Organization Director, the Arctic University of Norway

Mika Wulff, Personnel Director, Åbo Academy, Finland

Asta Möller, Director of Human Resources, University of Iceland

Guðrún Margrét Eysteinsdóttir participated in Asta Möller's place at meetings during the academic year 2018–2019.

Seminars and events

The group has not organized any seminars because of the turnover of many participants. Now the focus is on NUAS Forum 2019 in Tromsø.

Other

We have meetings regularly but the challenge is to have active participation from all members.

Information Technology

Members:

Group leader:

Ilkka Siissalo, CIO, University of Helsinki, Finland

Group members:

Kuno Öhrman, IT director, Hanken School of Economics, Helsinki, Finland

Joakim Nejdeby, IT director, Linköping University, Linköping, Sweden

Mia Lindegren, IT director, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden

Kurt Gammelgaard Nielsen, IT director, University of Southern Denmark, Odense, Denmark

Klaus Kristian Kilt, Business relationship manager, Aalborg University, Aalborg, Denmark

Lars Inge Oftedal, IT director, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway

Tord Tjeldnes, IT director, University of Agder, Kristiansand, Norway

Member changes:

Kuno Öhrman retired and was replaced by Christa Winqvist, IT director, Aalto University, Espoo, Finland.

Guðmundur H Kjærnested, IT Director, University of Iceland, joined the group.

Seminars and events

Normally the IT group organizes one event every second year. “The Nordic CIO forum” is technically organized by the group but the event is normally also open to IT directors of non-NUAS member universities and also open to IT directors from so called “universities of applied science” as long as they are from one of the Nordic countries. The last IT Director’s Forum was in 2017 at Hanken in Helsinki. There were 33 participants from Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Iceland. Main topics included IT security, university digitalization, and examples of innovative ways of using IT to support research. We had two sponsor companies who paid for all the costs and got a chance to meet and talk to the participants.

The next Nordic CIO Forum was supposed to be held in 2019 in Sweden but, at the advice of the NUAS Board of Directors, it has been postponed to avoid potentially competing with NUAS Forum 2019. A new date for the CIO forum has not yet been set.

Other

The most important activity — besides mutual sharing of information — was that now, for the first time, licence agreement negotiations between the Nordic universities and Microsoft were coordinated by the NUAS IT Group. The IT group organized two Nordic level licensing workshops with Microsoft as well as national level negotiations in all the countries except Iceland. The Nordic universities pay roughly 30 million euros to Microsoft during the three-year license agreement period. It was discovered that the pricing of Microsoft has been very uneven. For example, large Swedish universities have paid remarkably lower prices than most of the other universities. The NUAS IT group’s target was that we would get a uniform pan-Nordic agreement with Microsoft with the same pricing for all. This goal has not yet been attained, as Microsoft strongly sticks to its country-by-country agreements but we have made them aware that we are comparing the agreements “side by side” and we will continue coordination meetings in the future. We also suggested to Microsoft that the Nordic universities could have a concrete partnership agreement with Microsoft so that we would get information about future products even before they are launched and Microsoft could use the Nordic universities as a testbed for future products

in development. These discussions have been very valuable, although we do not yet have a concrete agreement with Microsoft in place.

Many of the Nordic universities now have digitalization strategies or action plans in place and some are actively driving multiple digitalization projects simultaneously. The NUAS IT Group has acted as a hub for sharing and comparing these digitalization strategies and we have been spending a lot of time teaching each other what is going on in the field of university digitalization. Another similar “hot topic” has been the new EU wide GDPR legislation, which came into effect in 2018. It will still take several years before the Nordic universities will be even somewhat GDPR compliant — because it is practically impossible to change all existing old applications to be compliant — but the NUAS IT Group has had an important role in disseminating best practices and support for member universities.

Some 60 European universities participate in the IT benchmarking called BencHEIT (Benchmarking Higher Education IT). The founder of BencHEIT and two other BencHEIT steering group members are members of the NUAS IT Group. Although BencHEIT is not officially a NUAS activity, the NUAS IT Group has acted as a Nordic-level coordination body and has organized support for universities that wish to participate. This has also been a very valuable form of cooperation.

International Admission and Recognition of Qualifications

Members:

Group leader:

Hilde Skeie, Senior Advisor, NTNU, Norway

Group members:

Anne Mette Hou, CBS, Danmark

Anette Larsen, Århus University, Denmark (withdraw autumn 2019)

Catarina Ståhle-Nieminen, University of Tempere, Finland

Kaja Schiøtz, University of Oslo, Norway

Stefan Haglund, Linea Universitetet, Sweden (Withdraw autumn 2018)

Johanna Lepola, Hanken, Finland (have not been present last years)

Member changes:

Changes of group members will be presented in 2019

Seminars and events

Because the group was closed down in 2017, the group did not plan for, or organize, any seminars during 2017 and 2018. In the two physical meetings held in November 2017 (Copenhagen) and in May 2018 (Uppsala), the group discussed and planned the new group concept and prepared the presentation given to the NUAS Board of Directors in the spring of 2018. After the rebirth of the group in this meeting, the focus has been on the future work of the group and on preparing sessions at the NUAS Forum 2019 in Tromsø.

In addition to the physical meetings, the group has had several skype meetings.

Internationalization

Members:

Group leader:

Niels Henrik Larsen, Director of International Programs, Copenhagen Business School

Group members:

Birgitte Schiørring Madsen, Head of Student Guidance & International Office, Aalborg University

Pär Svensson, International Coordinator; Regional Coordinator for Africa, Lund University

Karin Axelsson-Grafström, Official: Department of Professional Support, Luleå University of Technology

Bjørn Erik Andersen, Senior Adviser: Division of Research Administration, University of Bergen

Nina Moxnes, Adviser: Office of International Relations, Norwegian University of Science and Technology
NTNU

Anne-Riita Vanhala, International Coordinator of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University
of Jyväskylä

Irinja Paakkanen, Head of International Affairs, University of Turku

Fridrikka Hardardottir, Director: International Office, University of Iceland

Membership changes:

Irinja Paakkanen replaced Outi Savonlahti from University of Eastern Finland in March 2017.

Anne-Riita Vanhala replaced Margareta Granholm from Hanken School of Economics.

Seminars and events

Group Meetings:

- Aalborg, March 2017
- Reykjavik, November 2017
- Helsinki, April 2018
- Trondheim, November 2018

Niels Henrik Larsen (group leader) attended the following and Board of Directors Meetings:
Oslo (May 2017), Roskilde (November 2017), Reykjavik (May 2018), Copenhagen (October 2018).

As member of the Executive Planning Group for the NUAS Forum 2019, Niels Henrik Larsen has also
participated in several planning meetings in Tromsø, Oslo, and Copenhagen.

It was the plan to offer a seminar in December 2018 but the group decided to focus on the NUAS Forum
2019 instead.

Other

Five group members met for short meeting at the EAIE conference in Geneva in September 2018.

Legal

Members:

Group leader:

Vacant

Group members:

Conny Claesson, Data Protection Officer, Legal Adviser, Karlstad University, Sweden

Jannicke Persen, Senior Legal Adviser, UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Norway

Jesper Smedegaard Madsen, Senior legal adviser, Data Protection Officer, Copenhagen Business School,
Denmark

Kristin Flagstad, Senior Legal Adviser, University of Oslo, Norway

Laura Karppinen, Legal Counsel, University of Helsinki, Finland
Snædís Björt Agnarsdóttir, Lawyer, University of Iceland, Iceland
Tove Bæk Jensen, Legal Adviser, Aarhus University, Denmark

The following members left the group during the period:

Kaj Grönquist, Åbo Akademi University (group leader September 2018 – January 2019)
Ane Sandager, Technical University of Denmark
Alf Grafström, Luleå University of Technology
Elín Blöndal, University of Iceland
Märtha Felton, University of Oslo

Seminars and events

The Legal Group's Conference, "The Sweet Spot in Data Protection, Nordic universities' handling of personal data," scheduled for March 2018, was cancelled. Some of the planned topics will be addressed during the NUAS Forum 2019 in Tromsø.

Other

Group meetings:

26–27 September 2018, Åbo Akademi University
19–20 March 2018, Karlstad University
4–5 September 2017, Technical University of Denmark
3–4 April 2017, University of Tromsø

Library Service

Members:

Group leader:

Pia Södergård, Chief Librarian, Åbo Akademi University Library, Finland

Group members:

Denmark:

Thomas Kaarsted, University of Southern Denmark
Ellen Vibeke Knudsen, Aarhus University

Finland:

Susanna Parikka, Lapland University
Pia Södergård, Åbo Akademi University

Iceland:

Gunnhildur Björnsdóttir

Norway:

Bente R. Andreassen, Oslo University; succeeded by Hanne Graver Møvig, Oslo University in September 2017

Johanne Raade, UiT, the Arctic University of Norway

Sweden:

Lars Burman, Uppsala University; succeeded by Mikael Sjögren, Umeå University in December 2018
Margareta Hemmed, University of Gothenburg; succeeded by Eva Nordgren, Dalarna University in December 2018

Seminars and events

The Library Service Group has worked on finding partners for the planning of sessions for NUAS Forum 2019. Together with the Research and Innovations group and the Legal group, we have planned an entire track on open science and, together with the Student Administration and Counselling group, a session on the use of big data in administration.

Other

The Library Service Group was the developer of the NUAS Staff Exchange Program, which was prepared from the beginning so that all administrative groups could adopt it. The program was accepted by the NUAS Board of Directors in October 2016, and translated to English for the NUAS website in the beginning of 2017. After a slow start, reports have now started to come in showing that at least eight staff exchanges, inspired by the NUAS program, have taken place or are being planned: from Reykjavik to Malmö and Lund, from Rovaniemi to Luleå, and from Åbo to Stockholm and Uppsala.

University libraries have started to notice and draw upon the shared expertise of the group, which is a very welcome development.

Research and Innovation

Members:

Group leader:

Pål Vegar Storeheier, UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Norway

Group members:

Anja Sinding Morgen, University of Southern Denmark

Inge-Sofie Sørensen, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Gyða Einarsdóttir, Háskóli Íslands, Iceland

Jaana Backman, University of Eastern Finland, Finland

Johan Åkerman, Örebro University, Sweden

Laura Himanen, Tampere University of Technology, Finland

Sigríður Beck, University of Gothenburg, Sweden

Susan Johnsen, University of Bergen, Norway

Member changes:

Halldór Jónsson, Háskóli Íslands: left the group

Seminars and events

NUAS 2018 | Benchmarking the quality and performance of research and innovation services – towards a Nordic model

When: 16th of April 2018 at 13:00-16:00, prior to the EARMA conference

Where: Copenhagen EU Office, Rue de Luxembourg 3, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Participants: The seminar was fully booked (50), and almost 50 participants took part in the seminar.

Participants from all the Nordic countries were represented.

The NUAS planning group on Research and Innovation has, in the previous two years, explored various possibilities on how to measure the quality and performance of research and innovation services of Nordic universities. A workshop was arranged in Reykjavik in December 2016 and, resulting from this

workshop, a set of benchmarking indicators came up. These have subsequently been tested by some of the participating institutions and the preliminary findings of selected benchmarking pilots are ready for presentation. The focus of the seminar in Brussels in April 2018 was to put the insights to use and to take the final steps towards creating a Nordic model on benchmarking the quality and performance of research and innovation services.

Student Administration and Counselling

Members:

Group leader:

Stefan Kaasalainen, Study and Career Counsellor, Karlstad University, Sweden (group leader from October 2018)

Group members:

Per Edenharn, Study and Career Counsellor, PhD, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Asta Gunnlaug Briem, Career and Guidance Counsellor, University of Iceland

Pernille Kindtler, Head of Section, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Anne Christine Teglborg, Head of Section, Aarhus University (member until December 2018. A new member will be recruited by Danske Universiteter during spring semester 2019.)

Heidi Adolfsen, Director of Research, Education and Communication Division, UiT, The Arctic University of Norway, Norway (group leader until October 2018)

Marianne Brattland, Director of Academic affairs, OsloMet, Norway (new member from October 2018)

Christen Soleim, Deputy Director, University of Bergen, Norway (member until October 2018)

Gurli-Maria Gardberg, Head of Education Services, Åbo Akademi University, Finland

Linda Gerkman, Director of Study Affairs, Hanken School of Economics, Finland (new member from 2018)

Helena Strandell, Planning Manager, Hanken School of Economics (member until October 2018)

Seminars and events

2–4 May 2018 in Turku/Åbo: Supporting Student Success – Stöd till studentframgång

Study counselling and administration conference – Vägledar- och administrationskonferens

Focus on support services, in particular new digital solutions. New perspectives and hands on tools to develop new skills. From recruitment to employability. ICT for widening access to career counselling and guidance. Counselling and strategic university goals.

16 parallel sessions, five keynote speakers (1 student keynote speaker).

144 participants (29/115) from 5 countries and 35 institutions

Other

The group has met two times during 2017 (Reykjavik and Åbo) and two times in 2018 (Åbo, in connection with the conference, and Tromsø). Main topics have been conference planning. First the Åbo seminar 2018 and then NUAS Forum 2019. In addition to this, the group held at least one Skype meeting per semester.

Discussions about future conferences and developing NUAS-Webinars or other means of knowledge sharing.

Sustainability

Members:

Group leader:

Meri Löyttyniemi, Senior advisor for sustainability, Aalto University, Finland

Group members:

Saana Raatikainen, Environmental coordinator, University of Tampere, Finland

Tomas R. Poulsen, Team leader, Green campus, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Thomas Skou Grindsted, Researcher, Roskilde University, Denmark

Ullika Lundgren, Environmental controller, University of Gothenburg, Sweden

Kristina von Oelreich, Environmental coordinator, KTH Royal Inst. of Technology, Sweden

Sigurlaug I. Lövdahl, Office Manager, University of Iceland, Iceland

Christian Solli, Environmental advisor, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway

Lena Marie Kjøbli, Senior Advisor, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Norway (earlier Norwegian members: Jorulf Silde, UiO & Lars Aaro, UiB)

Also a coordinator funded part-time until 31.3.17, Meeri Karvinen, doctoral student, Aalto, FI

Seminars and events

- When: 11-13 June 2018

Where: Stockholm, KTH

Title: International Sustainable Campus Network conference 2018

Target group(s): Sustainability professionals of universities

Participants: more than 200, mostly from ISCN member institutions; Men 40% /women 60%

Institutions: international-sustainable-campus-network.org/about/members

Countries: Global, from all continents

Short description: ISCN 2018 networking lunch; NSCN presented its activities and promoted Nordic universities' sustainability expertise.

The ISCN 2018 conference 11–13 June in Stockholm, Sweden was hosted by KTH vice-president Göran Finnveden and his team. NSCN member institutions brought multiple contributions to the program. Here's a few examples — in addition to KTH's insightful presentations by numerous professors, researchers and sustainability experts like Kristina von Oelreich.

In the ISCN 2018 poster exhibition:

- "Sustainability transition as an integrated process at the University of Helsinki" presented by Janna Pietikäinen, Kaisa Korhonen-Kurki, Virpi Kuitto, Katriina Soini from the University of Helsinki, Helsinki Institute of Sustainability Science and Properties and Facilities at UHEL
- "Organizational carbon footprint of a university" presented by Christian Solli, NTNU
- "Combining energy use profiles and time dependent import-export corrected GWP-factors for deeper understanding of an organizations' energy use' contribution to the carbon footprint" presented by Christian Solli, John Clauss and Magnus Korpås from NTNU

In the ConverStations:

- “Environmental Management on a distance – experiences from a web-based action-learning project with universities from Europe and Latin America” presented by Ullika Lundgren from GU

In the conference program of ISCN 2018 @KTH:

- “Aalto Green Campus and new headquarters retrofitted in Dipoli-building” presented by Meri Löyttyniemi, Aalto University and the ISCN-award winning case “Sustainability in the Maersk Tower” presented by Tomas Refslund Poulsen, UCPH

Nordic City Challenge 2016-2018

The Nordic City Challenge was a three-year project in which an intensive course about sustainable urban planning was arranged every autumn during 2016–2018, each time in a different Nordic country. The students accepted to the course had diverse backgrounds, such as planning, design, architecture, landscape architecture, urban ecology, sociology, environmental-/ water engineering, and urban and human geography. The course was academically grounded and planned together with qualified teachers and researchers from the field.

The Nordic City Challenge in a nutshell:

- A 3-day intensive course arranged during Oct-Nov, every year in different Nordic country
- Corresponds to 3 ECTS
- Aims to find solutions for complex and wicked urban problems
- Focus on sustainable, multidisciplinary and practical urban planning and design with social-ecological approach
- Brings together master-level students, academic teachers, practitioners and other leading experts from the Nordic countries to share ideas and work together on a real-life planning case
- Enables the students to deepen and develop their knowledge with new perspectives from other disciplines and Nordic frameworks
- Free of charge for the students– the organizers will cover the travel, accommodation and meal expenses of the students.
- Funded by partners and NordPlus

Locations of Nordic City Challenge:

- 2018: Kulbanekvarteret, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2017: Pasila area, Helsinki, Finland
- (2016: Gothenburg, Sweden)

About the project and student outcomes:

<https://nordicsustainablecampusnetwork.wordpress.com/nordic-city-challenge/>

Nordic SuLiTest project (until 31.3.2017)

The international Sustainability Literacy Test, established after the UN Rio+20 conference in 2012, is in use in over 20 countries. It comprises 30 international questions that are common for all who take the test, and 20 local/regional questions. The existence of the local questions depends on the activity of the local experts — the questions are developed by volunteer sustainability experts forming a regional expert committee (RNEC). The questions created are validated by a senior advisory board of the SuLiTest before they can be used in the test. NSCN has been responsible for the Nordic SuLiTest. More information about the project: <https://nordicsustainablecampusnetwork.wordpress.com/the-sulitest-project-2016/>

Other

Participating in NUAS meetings and contributing to activities, especially NUAS Forum 2019 planning

- Monthly blog postings published, written mostly by members of NUAS Sustainability at <https://nordicsustainablecampusnetwork.wordpress.com>
- Erasmus+ project application open (SuLiTest, Sustainability Literacy Test, to be applied in European level)
- Collaborative discussions with SDSN Northern Europe
- Regular video meetings every 1-3 months and face-to-face meeting once a year at the conferences and project meetings
- Group leader Meri Löyttyniemi acting as a Nordic judge in Green Gown Awards competition by EAUC (sustainability competition for UK & Irish universities)
- NUAS Sustainability and NSCN is the endorsing partner of SDG Accord, a global initiative for all universities around the world, www.sdgaccord.org