September 2023 - Minutes
The Junior Researcher Association
Date: 6 September 2023
Time: 16.00-17.00
Venue: 1431-015 and online
Participants: Anne Birkeholm Jensen, Marcel Bühler, Maria Josefa Verdugo Avello, and Emma Valentin Bager.

Guest: Maya Pasgaard (NAT), Katrine Rasmussen (BSS) and Anne Lundahl Mauritsen (ARTS) (can’t participate - but would like to be invited to our next meeting)

Minutes:

1. Approval of minutes from the last meeting
   - Approved

2. AC Councils
   - Update on the different faculties
   - Tina Wang Vedelø is at Health (JRA’s closest contact to the AC.)
   - Maya Pasgaard is an observer at Natural Sciences. Representing JR
     - assistant professor (Biology)
   - Katrine Rasmussen is an observer at BSS
     - temporary position (Psychology)
   - Working on getting an observer at ARTS (Anne Lundahl Mauritsen)
   - TECH: We can have two observation positions.
     - TECH wants a formal procedure for the election. Maybe we can get a permanent position.
   - Inputs from our guests
- Katrine: she feels welcome at the AC meetings but at the same time there are a lot of administrative challenges (difficulties to access documents and being invited to gatherings). Maya experiences the same.

- The interaction with JRA representative on AC
  
  - Right now, Maya forwards the agenda to JRA and asks for our inputs. Otherwise, she uses her own and colleagues’ experiences as inputs to the meetings.
  
  - Katrine doesn’t feel like she is representing all junior researchers at BSS but mostly the researchers with a psychology background.

- Observer or permanent position on AC
  
  - At BSS junior researchers are allowed to be elected for a permanent position, but the duration is 4 years. It doesn’t make sense when junior researchers are in temporary positions.
  
  - Students can be elected for one year - so it should be possible for us as well.
  
  - the dean at ARTS is very open for junior researchers at AC
  
  - But, in general, it seems difficult to change our positions as observers to permanent spots on the councils. It can be a struggle.

- Do we need a voice on the academic councils?
  
  - Yes - we have a unique perspective due to our temporary positions. And we can also speak up for the ph.d. students
- Our voice is important: a neglect of the feeling of being in a temporary position → we need to talk about that. Many of the senior researchers don’t have the same experience being in a temporary position.

- It’s difficult being a junior researcher - there are a lot of different demands.

- How can JRA support the representatives?
  - Maya and Katrine would like inputs/feedback on the agenda.
  - Or JRA could give feedback on the minutes from AC meetings.
    - or specific topics they should push.
  - Our interactions could be written (email) or oral (meetings).
  - Two yearly meetings (JRA will organize them) - Representatives from each AC should introduce the situation at their faculty.
  - Anne will be the contact person.
  - Other than that the representatives are always welcome to join JRA’s meeting or forward something they need our feedback on.

- Newsletter/website
  - a small piece on AC in our next newsletter.
  - maybe we should include the contact information of the representatives of AC on our webpage.

3. Status on working groups

- Events / Courses / Seminars
  - We need to start planning the social media networking event.
4. **JRA-NAT event**
   - everyone should prioritize to participate in this event (at least 4 participants from JRA

5. **Survey: Early Career Researchers (collaboration with DM)**
   - Input from Cecilie: She can contact Niels Glæsner (from DM) with our decision. Minimum two members from the board should take responsibility for the task, but she doesn’t have time for it.
   - this point was postponed to next meeting

6. **Courses with RSO**
   - this point was postponed to next meeting

7. **Financial situation**
   - this point was postponed to next meeting

8. **General Assembly**
   - We need to set a date.
   - Anne will set a date and Emma will make a “save the date” post on FB and in the newsletter

9. **Other**
   a. Newsletter?
      i. Marcel will write something about AC
   b. Meetings next semester?
i. First Wednesday of the month? 16.00-17.00?

ii. Emma will create a calendar invites for the next semester

iii. Next meetings

1. 4 October 16.00-17.00

2. 1 November 16.00-17.00

3. 6 December 16.00-17.00