

Executive Management
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For the Members of the IT University Board

Comments on the minutes are kindly asked to be given in writing to the Journal (journalen@itu.dk) on April 11, 2023, at the latest.

If no objections have been received within the deadline, the minutes will be regarded as approved. Subsequently, decisions and initiatives will be effectuated, and the Publicly Available Information made public. The minutes are formally approved as the first item on the next Board meeting.

If objections of essential character are received within the deadline, the revised minutes will be sent out to the Members of the Board with a **further 8 days of deadline for objections**. If no further objections have been received within this deadline, the minutes will be made public. **In the case further objections are received within this deadline, the minutes will await approval at the next Board meeting before they are made public.**

Confidential Items are marked in grey and are only for the Board's own use. This applies to enclosures marked in grey as well.

The rest of the document and enclosures are Available Public Information.

CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

Board meeting, March 29, 2023, at 14:00 – 17:00
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Present:

From the Board: Carsten Gomard, Lars Mathiesen, David Basin, Kristine Stenhuus, Christina Hvid (item 1-10), Mircea Lungu, Mohammad El Baker Ammar Rehda, and Stefan Roy Friis Frederiksen.

From the Executive Management: Per Bruun Brockhoff, Jens Chr. Godskesen and Georg Dam Steffensen.

From ITU: Jannik Møller Søndergaard (item 1-3) and Henrik Ejby Bidstrup (item 8).

From Ernst & Young: Morten W. Larsen (item 1-3).

Regrets: Lou Nørgaard Rudd.

The minutes taker:
Gitte Gramstrup

Public items:

1. Welcome to New Board Members (briefing)

The Chairman of the Board gave a warm welcome to new elected board member, ITU student Mohammad El Baker Ammar Rehda, and to ITU student Stefan Roy Friis Frederiksen, who will continue as substitute board member for the rest of 2023, due to Dagmar Bondo Kristiansen leaving the board by the end of January. There was a short presentation round.

2. Approval of Minutes (decision)

No comments to the minutes from the meeting on November 24, 2022, had been received.

Recommendation:

The Executive Management recommended that the minutes were approved.

Conclusion:

The minutes were formally approved.

3. ITU Annual Report 2022 (decision)

The Chairman of the Board gave the word to Head of Finance, Jannik Møller Søndergaard, who -referring to enclosure 1a/1b - briefly presented the main results and highlights of the annual report.

Regarding finances, income and costs are almost on budget. The profit looks very different from previous years with DKK -18.8 M (- 10 M planned and -8 not planned). Equity is less than the desired 18%, but ITU is on the right track, and equity will rise again. Jannik Møller Søndergaard zoomed on inflation, which meant an unusual year, building utilities (electricity and heating) and negative return on securities portfolio of DKK - 7.8 M, which is less than the other Danish universities. Looking ahead, ITU is on a fair start in 2023.

Regarding research and education, research rewards reached a new high level in 2022, and regarding students, the number of full-time equivalents is above budget. In total ITU is doing good.

Jannik Møller Søndergaard answered a few clarifying questions from the board members regarding the Annual Report 2022 and there were no further comments.

The Chairman of the Board gave the word to Morten W. Larsen, Ernst & Young to present the Long-form audit. Morten W. Larsen went through the document - enclosure 2a/2b - and highlighted a few things. The process and cooperation with ITU have been good and in well line with the guidelines. The auditors have found no significant concerns, and in general things at ITU are working very fine and satisfactory. The risk assessment has shown no risks or serious problems or issues, and the auditors have found no registrations of fraud or "red flags". If the board signed the report, the auditors would see this as an agreement on no registrations of fraud or other serious issues. He and Georg Dam Steffensen answered questions from the board regarding ITU Business Development, and Jannik Møller Søndergaard thanked the auditors for the good cooperation.

The Board would like to see the mandate to Danske Kapital at a future board meeting.

Kristine Stenhuus asked about SIS (former Kopernikus) and future financial risks, and Georg Dam Steffensen gave a status and informed that a new system has not yet been decided on. Hopefully he will have more information at the board meeting in September.

The Chairman of the Board rounded the item by thanking all involved. He was very pleased to see a clean report and the good cooperation and found the work well done. Jannik Møller Søndergaard and Morten W. Larsen left the meeting.

Recommendation:

The Executive Management recommended that the Board approved and signed the ITU Annual Report 2022 and the Long-form Audit Report.

Conclusion:

The Board unanimously approved and signed the ITU Annual Report 2022 and the Long-form Audit Report.

4. Strategic Framework Contract 2022-2025 – Statusredegørelse 2022 (briefing)

The Chairman of the Board gave the word to Per Bruun Brockhoff, who referred to enclosure 3 (the status statement) and briefly went through the five targets which are all satisfactory. The status statement will be sent to the Ministry of Higher Education and Research.

On inquiry from David Basin regarding target 4 and the hiring of PhD students, Per Bruun Brockhoff, informed that it was mostly due to practical issues that a number of PhD students was hired in the beginning of 2023 and not by the end of 2022, as planned. There are no worries regarding the quality of the PhD students. The Board took note of the briefing without any further notice.

5. Fulfilment of Strategic Contract Targets for 2022 (discussion)

The Chairman of the Board gave the word to Per Bruun Brockhoff, who referred to enclosure 4 and briefly mentioned the role of this selection of targets. Overall, the fulfilment of the strategic framework contract targets in 2022 went very well with only one target – T3 (number of PhD Students admitted) - not fulfilled by the end of 2022. Mircea Lungu asked if more than the external funding is done to get more PhD Students, and Jens Chr. Godskesen replied no, these are closely related, and in his opinion ITU has a fair investment of PhDs. David Basin commented that getting PhDs is an important issue. On inquiry from Kristine Stenhuus regarding T7 (dropout rate of female BSc students after first year), Per Brockhoff and Jens Chr. Godskesen stated that the plan is carefully followed.

6. News from ITU (briefing)

The Chairman of the Board gave the word to the Executive Management to give a briefing:

- Political Status:

- Status on SIS (former Kopernikus): Georg Dam Steffensen referred to his comments on this in item 3.

- Process for New Appointed Board Members: Gitte Gramstrup informed that external board members David Basin's and Lars Mathiesen's second – and last – appointment periods run out by the end of September 2023. This means that two new external board members must be appointed before October 1, 2023. The necessary procedure and line of tasks, including open advertisement, a Recommendation Committee and an Appointment Committee, will be set to work sometime after Easter. The Chairman of the Board stated that he would like to see senior profiles like David's and Lars's on the board again.

The Chairman of the Board thanked for the briefing.

Confidential items:

7.

8.

9.**Public items:****10. Reflections After the First Half Year as New Vice Chancellor (briefing)**

The Chairman of the Board gave the word to Per Bruun Brockhoff, who presented slides and gave his brief reflections on the following:

- ITU 2022 yearly report: satisfying and with strong results.
- Outreach – stakeholders, political: has spent some time on reaching broadly out.
- Physical and SoMe: active on LinkedIn; Twitter; Folkemødet; etc.
- Inreach activity: presence; good contact to Management, staff plus students.
- The people of ITU Management – trust and alignment: important and progressing.
- Reflections on the organization and some steps: in general, developing well. Small needed adaptations (in Digital Design and IT Department) have been implemented. Has taken lead of the Committee for Diversity and Inclusion. State of ITU talks og hall staff meetings.
- Strategic approach towards growth: we appear to be heard and seen around. A new reform may lead to new instruments. Develop an ambitious life-long learning activities plan 2024-2030. External funding “gearing”.
- Global and local trends of roles of universities: gave examples of headlines in social media.
- Danish Rektorkollegium, March 2023: gave his “translation” of things.
- ITU town hall meeting, January 2023: informed of his talk at the meeting.
- Reform – “Prefared for the Future I”: sketched the draft.
- Political situation and the coming reform: sketched the reform ideas, the Conservatives suggestion and Danske Universiteters views.

11. Presentation of the Executive-level Employers’ Panel Report 2023 (briefing)

The Chairman of the Board briefly mentioned the highlights from the report which are pleasant reading and exactly what the board wants to hear. There were no further comments from the board to the report.

12. Questions Regarding Mail-delivered Briefings (briefing)

The Chairman of the Board noted that there were no comments to be sent out information.

13. Any Other Business

The Chairman of the Board noted that there were no further comments.

14. The Board´s 15 Minutes

The Board had a free discussion without the presence of the Executive Management and the minutes taker.

Respectfully submitted,

Gitte Gramstrup
Assistant to the Executive Management