

Akademisk Råd (Akademisk Råd)

18-06-2026 12:00 - 14:00

Kollokvierum Vest, Victor Albeck bygningen

Indhold

Referat	1
---------------	---

Referat

Punkt 2: Welcome to the new council member, by Chair Søren Dinesen Østergaard (12.00-12.05)

The council welcomed PhD student Ditte Rasmussen, Department of Biomedicine.

Punkt 3: For orientation and discussion: Research evaluation and local action plans, visit from Department of Biomedicine by Head of Department Thomas G. Jensen (12.05-12.35)

Thomas provided an update on the Department of Biomedicine's work on implementing the research evaluation action plans and presented the main conclusions. He outlined the process, the panel's key recommendations, and the five initiatives included in the action plan, together with broader reflections arising from the evaluation process.

Key priorities moving forward include:

- Advancing strategic development at the department level, including the phrasing of a core narrative describing the department's identity and long-term vision.
- Establishing annual, structured meetings for postdoctoral researchers and PhD students to discuss teaching, career development, and other relevant topics.
- Increasing engagement with PIs through more frequent meetings to strengthen collaboration and strategic alignment across research themes and groups.
- Supporting each research theme in defining and refining its strategic direction in alignment with the department's overall goals.
- Developing a comprehensive communication strategy in collaboration with Health Communication to ensure clear and effective dissemination of research achievements, strategic priorities, and institutional goals.

The Council subsequently discussed the communication strategy in the context of a research-diverse department and possible formats for an annual Department Day. In this context, Søren mentioned the Department of Clinical Medicine's annual research meeting, which is organised in a conference format with flash talks and presentations, and extended an open invitation to attend for inspiration.

The Council also discussed core facilities. A faculty-level initiative has been launched, and a working group led by Søren Riis Paludan is currently developing a model proposal. Anne-Mette will place this item on the agenda for a future Council meeting once the model has been finalised.

The Council thanked Thomas for his presentation.

Punkt 4: For orientation and discussion: A strategic initiative at Health: establishment of Rwanda-hub, by Advisor Andreas Kambskard (12.35-12.50)

Advisor Andreas Kambskard informed the Academic Council of The Faculty of Health Sciences' newly established partnership with three universities in Rwanda as part of a strategic initiative within global health. The Council discussed which opportunities the partnership entails for researchers, students, and the faculty.

The three partner universities in Rwanda are (the universities' own information):

University of Rwanda consists of seven colleges, one of which is the College of Medicine and Health Sciences, which includes five schools: the School of Dentistry, School of Health Sciences, School of Medicine and Pharmacy, School of Nursing and Midwifery, and School of Public Health. The college of Medicine and Health Sciences through its schools runs 21 undergraduates, over 60 graduates, 25 clinical fellowship and eight PhD programs. The PhD programs include PhD in Biomedical Science, PhD in Anatomy, PhD in Clinical Psychology, PhD in Medical Science, PhD in Pharmaceutical Science, PhD in Health Translation Science, PhD in Nursing and PhD in Public Health.

Further info to be found here: [University of Rwanda](#)

University of Global Health Equity is a private, accredited higher education institution established by *Partners In Health* and based in Rwanda. UGHE is committed to advancing equity in health through education, research, and service, with a strong focus on addressing the most pressing health challenges in Africa. The University offers a range of academic programs including the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS), the Master of Science in Global Health Delivery (MGHD) with specialized tracks, the Master of Science in Health Professions Education, the Master of Science in Global Nursing Leadership, and a planned doctoral training through the PhD in Global Health. UGHE also provides executive education, residency training, and professional development programs to strengthen health systems and build the next generation of health leaders across the continent.

Further info to be found here: [University of Global Health Equity](#)

Institut d'Enseignement Supérieur de Ruhengeri (INES-Ruhengeri). INES-Ruhengeri is a private Higher Learning Institution officially started in 2003, under the initiative of Ruhengeri Catholic Diocese. Its creation was triggered by a triple motivation: (1) building signs of hope, (2) contributing to unity and reconciliation and (3) contributing to the country's sustainable development. INES-Ruhengeri offers its academic programs through the concept of a University of Applied Sciences. Its academic programs at both Undergraduate and Postgraduate (MSc) levels include focusing Engineering, Biotechnology, Social Sciences and Health Sciences including Pharmacy, Biomedical Sciences, Nursing, Midwifery and Non-Physician Anesthesia.

Further info to be found here: [INES Ruhengeri - Institute of Applied Sciences](#)

The members of the Academic Council are encouraged to reach out to either Professor Per Kallestrup or Advisor Andreas Kambskard for further information on the partnership, the partner universities, possible areas of collaboration, and any other questions.

Contact Information:

Professor Per Kallestrup

T. +45 22428484

M. per.kallestrup@ph.au.dk

Advisor Andreas Kambskard

T. +45 92522088

M. andreaskambskard@au.dk

The members of the Academic Council welcomed the initiative and noted that internal seed funding is likely required to get collaborations going and to allow for attraction of external funding.

Punkt 5: News from the Chair Søren Dinesen Østergaard (12.50-13.00)

Søren informed the Council that council member Jesper Willer has stepped down due to taking up a new position. The Council thanked Jesper for his valuable contributions and dedicated service.

Søren also encouraged members to prioritise attendance at Council meetings, whenever possible, noting that the April meeting had to be cancelled due to insufficient participation.

Providing an update on CRediT, Søren reported that his research group has now implemented authorship declarations using the CRediT format and that the experience has been positive, with no issues encountered. Søren and Anne-Mette strongly encouraged all research groups to use CRediT for authorship declarations to gain practical experience with the approach. It was also noted that Elsevier has now made CRediT mandatory for its journals.

Søren further informed the Council of the appointment of Clinical Professor Charlotte Ulrikka Rask (Department of Clinical Medicine) as the new special advisor for

Responsible Research and Academic Freedom and of the appointment of Professor Asger Granfeldt (Department of Clinical Medicine) as the new alternate member of the Practice Committee.

Finally, Søren encouraged council members to register for this year's Sandbjerg Seminar, taking place on 27–28 August. The registration deadline is 1 July.

Punkt 7: For discussion: Dedicated research time, input for meeting with Rector, by Chair Søren Dinesen Østergaard (13.10-13.20)

Søren invited Council members to provide input and ideas on how to create more uninterrupted research time across Aarhus University. The Council discussed the challenges of changing the existing framework, noting in particular that teaching activities are highly structured and inherently inflexible.

Suggestions discussed included the model at the Faculty of Arts, where staff can accrue teaching time towards a sabbatical semester. Other suggestions included introducing mini-sabbaticals in the form of protected research weeks and allowing staff to accrue points for various tasks and responsibilities (with the risk of introducing time-consuming bureaucracy).

There was broad agreement that it is difficult to identify a single model that would work well across all disciplines and departments, and that a standardised approach is unlikely to be feasible. One suggestion was to hold department-level workshops to develop locally tailored solutions.

Finally, it was noted that much can also be done at the level of the individual researcher to reduce the number of alerts and interruptions during workdays.

Søren thanked members for their input, which will be brought forward to the upcoming meeting with Rector.

Punkt 8: For discussion: Code of Conduct for Medical students – follow up from August meeting, by Dean Anne-Mette Hvas (13.20-13.40)

Anne-Mette informed the Council about the current initiatives that have been launched, including a structured information programme throughout the medical degree curriculum. As part of this initiative, Anne-Mette meets with new students at the beginning of their first semester in connection with a lecture, focusing particularly on trust, the physician's oath, and discussions on confidentiality.

Anne-Mette also noted that an Advisory Board consisting of medical students has been established and may be involved in further discussions on these matters.

Punkt 9: For orientation: Innovation-VIP by Dean Anne-Mette Hvas (13.40-13.55)

Anne-Mette informed the Council about the forthcoming Innovation VIP-positions. Four positions will be allocated to the Department of Clinical Medicine/Forensic Medicine, Public Health, Biomedicine, and Odontology and Oral Health, respectively.

The departments will define the profiles of the positions themselves, and it is envisaged that all innovation VIPs will participate in a faculty-wide innovation forum. A key challenge is that the merit criteria for these positions have not yet been fully clarified.

The Council asked whether it would be possible to appoint candidates to fixed term positions rather than permanent positions. Anne-Mette will seek clarification on this matter.

It was noted that placing innovation on an equal footing with research and education represents a significant change to the University Act and, consequently, to the merit criteria applied within academia.

Punkt 10: AOB (13.55-14.00)

Marie informed the Council that she will step down after the summer. A fellow medical student will join the Council as an observer during the autumn semester. The Council thanked Marie for her engagement and valuable contributions to its work.