

Akademisk Råd (Akademisk Råd)

24-10-2024 14:00 - 16:00

Kollokvierum Vest, Victor Albeck bygningen

Indhold

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Punkt 2: For orientation and discussion: GDPR challenges - follow up from Spring 2024, by deputy director at AU Research Support Jakob Rathlev, and Head of Research Data Office Søren Broberg Nielsen (14.00-14.25)

Jakob Rathlev thanked for the invitation and the opportunity to engage in a dialogue with the Academic Council. He acknowledged that GDPR is complicated, but that the regulation must be complied with. AU has received criticism and serious criticism from the Danish Data Protection Agency regarding data handling in some cases. Thus, if we are to continue to be able to work with the rich data, Denmark has to offer, we must step up in this regard. For this reason, the Research Data Office offers to help with the following:

- At AU-level they offer different services and tools to help researchers, to make it easier to handle GDPR
- At national level they are closely involved with the Special Committee on the processing of personal data in research
- At EU-level they support an increased focus on solving several challenges with data protection in research through Universities Denmark.

Jakob Rathlev also referred to web-based tools already available at AU, such as the [Support for your Research Practice website](#), [Fast Track agreement website](#) and the [joint website for GDPR and research ethics](#).

Afterwards followed a discussion in the council, where members mentioned:

- the complex corporation with other Danish universities. It was not the experience that the fast-track agreement with other Danish universities is working well. Jakob Rathlev took note of this experience.

- the challenge when other countries use laws for consent (samtykke-hjemmel) and Denmark is using scientific research purposes (forskningshjemmel) with regard to lawfulness.

To be able to help researchers best in these matters, the Research Data Office would prefer to get involved as early as possible in the planning process.

To increase knowledge of GDPR among researchers, it was suggested to hold workshops at the departments. The focus could be on how to ensure GDPR compliance of future projects, by learning from past cases.

The Research Data Office is also going to make an awareness campaign at the end of 2024.

The council thanked for the visit and the relevant discussion.

Punkt 3: To decide: New members of AU Research Ethics Committee, by Søren Dinesen Østergaard (14.25-14.30)

It was decided to re-nominate the two current members: Verner Møller from Department of Public Health and Sebastian Frische from Department of Biomedicine.

Punkt 4: For discussion: Health Student Research Prize 2025 by Søren Dinesen Østergaard (14.30-14.40)

It was decided to investigate why the calls seem to be unnoticed at some departments, leaving senior researchers unaware of the price and nomination process.

Punkt 5: For discussion: Does Health need a maternity/paternity leave fund for PhD Students? By Andreas Breenfeldt Andersen (14.40-15.55)

Andreas Breenfeldt raised awareness of the challenge of running longitudinal clinical trials/studies when PhD students are on maternity/paternity leave. The issue was raised based on a concrete case.

Subsequently, the topic was discussed. In the larger research units (under the Dept. of Clinical Medicine in particular), this does not seem to be a major issue. Also, it was stressed that the PhD main supervisor has the responsibility to plan studies/trials such that a PhD student going on maternity/paternity leave does not lead to a study/trial failing.

It was decided that Anne-Mette Hvas will discuss the topic with the leader of the PhD school to find a relevant place to raise the topic.

Punkt 7: News from the Dean Anne-Mette Hvas (15.00-15.15)

Anne-Mette Hvas informed the council that The National Center for Register-based Research, which does epidemiological research, especially within mental illness, will move to Health after 24 years at BSS. It will be placed at the Department of Public Health. The physical move will take place in the late summer of 2025, but the administrative change will happen in January 2025.

The move is going to be cost-neutral for both BSS and Health and they will be moved as a center on their current contracts.

The further integration into the department of Public Health will be discussed in the spring.

Anne-Mette Hvas also informed the council on the current story in the news media regarding the study environment at the Department of Odontology and Oral Health. It has been decided to conduct an external investigation, even though there are no signs on general problems in the most recent well-being surveys.

The council took note of the orientation.

Punkt 8: News from chairperson Søren Dinesen Østergaard (15.15-15.20)

Søren Dinesen Østergaard informed the council that after every meeting there will be a short column in Inside Health called "Two sides of the same coin." The first one is already published. The purpose of this initiative is to make it clearer for staff and students what the Academic Council is working on and give an insight into the topics covered by the council.

The council was very supportive of the initiative.

Punkt 9: For discussion: How to implement a communication path from Academic Council members to departments, by Søren Dinesen Østergaard (15.20-15.30)

It was decided to move this item to the meeting in December.

Punkt 10: For discussion: Nomination of 1 TAP and 2 students for Omnibus Editorial Committee, by Søren Dinesen Østergaard (15.30-15.35)

Inger Merethe Paulsen told about her positive experience on being on the Omnibus Editorial Committee as she is not able to be reelected.

It was decided that if any council members can think of a candidate (student or TAP) who is willing to be nominated, they can contact Søren Dinesen Østergaard.

After the meeting it was decided to nominate medical student Jens Vase Poulsen, Health, as a student representative. He was later appointed for a 2 year period until December 2026.

Punkt 12: AOB (15.40-15.45)

Nothing to report

Punkt 13: For discussion: Responsible conduct of research and freedom of research, by Vice dean for Research Per Höllsberg (15.45-16.00)

Advisor Grethe Andersen presented the annual report for 2023.

The advisor's role was explained and it was stressed that all guidance is completely anonymous. Grethe Andersen is happy to offer guidance to those considering bringing a case forward.

The council took note of the orientation and thanked for the presentation.