

Summary from the PhD programme council meeting at the Department of Archaeology, Conservation and History (IAKH), 7.6.2021

Place: Zoom, 13:15-14:30

Present: Ulrike Spring (leader and secretary), Jan Cutajar (helped with the secretarial tasks), Ingar Stene, Christopher Prescott

Absent: Julianne Rustad, Ragnar Holst Larsen, Hanne Hagtvedt Vik

Items:

1. DialPast – Updates on activities, courses and other relevant items

- DialPast had their first digital activities this year, two workshop (3 ECTS) and a regular course (7 ECTS). This worked fine, but all are looking forward to having physical meetings again. The plan is to have a digital workshop in August and then move to physical courses from October.
- Funding is secured until 2022 and the school now works with securing new funding. DialPast might apply for a new extension of the current project. DialPast will also look at the structure of the research school in collaboration with the board and international partners.
- Administrative support: From autumn 2021 a research coordinator at IAKH will have a 50% position at DialPast (funded by DialPast) as a course coordinator.

2. The Norwegian Research School in History – Updates activities, courses and other relevant items

Because of Hanne's and Ragnar's absence, there was no update during the meeting.

A question discussed in the meeting was to what extent one could acquire funding to make the Research School more international in the future.

Added after the meeting: Update from The Norwegian Research School (NRS):

- NRS have continued with digital courses in 2021, and apart from one dissertation writing course (1 ECTS) and a roundtable discussion (both connected to norske historiedager 2021) all activities in 2021 will be digital. Moving forward NRS will be more flexible in regards to the format of our activities, and two of our three dissertation writing courses will remain digital. The methodological and theoretical problems course (5 ECTS) will be kept as a physical course. For the 3 ECTS courses, it will most likely be a mix of physical and digital.
- There have been some challenges with the funding model for NRS, and we have now sent out new agreements to our partners that makes the process of allocating funds from NFR less resource-heavy for IAKH and more flexible for our partners. In this process, NRS has also re-budget based on our first year experiences and changes in expenses due to the pandemic.

- NRSH's course activity - past and present - can be found on their website: [Courses - NRSH](#)

3. Supervisor seminar IAKH 2021 – Discussion on possible topics for the next supervisor seminar

- For the past years, a half-day seminar aimed at supervisors at IAKH has taken place once a year. These seminars are important meeting places for exchanging experience and for informing about rules and regulations at UiO.
- The topic chosen for 2021 is: “The role of a supervisor at IAKH/UiO” Suggested sub-topics are 1) research ethics (e.g. reminder of Vancouver convention), 2) differences between Norwegian and other PhD-supervision traditions and 3) how to supervise within specific research projects.
- The supervisors will be asked beforehand whether they have any ideas or suggestions for the seminar.

A challenge, which we need to address is how to increase awareness among co-supervisors at other institutions than IAKH about the specific supervision traditions and expectations at UiO.

4. Career seminar at IAKH? – Discussion on possible formats and guests

There was unanimous agreement on the relevance of such a seminar. The following points were mentioned:

- The seminar will address both PhD-candidates and those on a completion grant.
- It should address practical issues: What skills and tools does one need to get an interesting job?
- Invite specialists from different fields: 1) someone with knowledge of the academic labour market, 2) someone from the private industry (freelancer, starting one own's company), 3) someone from relevant non-academic institutions
- Many will find academic job opportunities outside of Norway, it is therefore important to invite academics from outside Norway as well

5. Items from the doctoral candidates

No items were sent in.

- The representatives are asked to communicate information about how to use this meeting to the PhD-candidates.
- The next official meeting will be in December, but if necessary, another meeting will be scheduled before that.

6. Meeting schedule autumn semester 2021

The next meeting will be in December 2021; the date will be fixed after the summer.

7. Open Items

- Completion grant: What can be done to ease the transition between PhD and post-Phd? One suggestion is to introduce informal weekly breakfast meetings, where everyone at IAKH will be invited to discuss questions and share tips. However, there are doubts about the feasibility of such meetings, as they will add to the many other

meetings that already exist. Another suggestion was to introduce a Slack channel to improve communication.

Ulrike will follow up on this.

- Suggestion to arrange a physical, social meeting in Ivar Aasen hage (Blindern) at the end of June 2021. There were divided opinions about this because of the infection risk. It might be a better idea to arrange it in August 2021.

Follow-up on 11 June 2021: It was decided to wait until August.