

Minutes
Board Meeting
The Nordic Society of Middle Eastern Studies
Lund, February 15, 2017

Participants: Leif Stenberg, Mark Sedgwick, Hannu Juusola, Þórir Jónsson Hraundal, Pekka Tuominen, Ulla Prien, Christina Rothman

1. Leif Stenberg open the board meeting
2. The board approved of agenda
3. Leif Stenberg was elected chair of the meeting
4. Christina Rothman was elected secretary of the board meeting

5. Brief report from individual countries:

Finland: Hannu Juusola and Pekka Tuominen informed that Helsinki University are doing an organization change from departments to area studies. All students choose one language, arabic, hebro persian and turkish. Its also possible to skip language teaching. They can see that it is an interest in Middle Eastern Studies with different background and that different disciplin are willing to colaborate more and more. Next NSM conference will be held in Finland in spring 2019

Midterrian research , great grant, four years project.
Modern Middle East. Language studies, cultur political.

Norway: No board member from Norway present

Sweden: Leif Stenberg
Several places there you can study Middle East but only one Master program.
All Centers at Lund University will move into the faculty structure

Denmark: Mark Sedgwick and Ulla Prien
Center for Radicalisation newly open up.
Odense, MA program, no language
Copenhagen, oldest one, special language
At Aarhus university have humanities been reduced. Its more difficult to recruit student for researching, less students apply and it is a lack of junior research.

Journal and workshop in Danish and English

Copenhagen University offer a BA program and MA program in Middle Eastern studies and language. Less students in hebro but many in Arabic.
Can only take the own student because they need to take the own BA student

No permanent professor in Turkey and Hebro
PhD student, media and Islam, Islamic philosophy
Africa Horn financed with EU
“Eyes on Syria” an exhibition and lectures.

Iceland: Þórir Jónsson Hraundal

A two years R&D process plan are now finalized in two years ???
Offer student two semesters in Iceland and then abroad for two year.
10-20 students per course.

6. The Nordic Societies need

PhD or/and workshop
Funding
More members
FB/Web

PhD/workshop/Conference

PhD in Denmark, March 2018

Workshop in Norway, summer 2018

Longer courses, some weeks for MA students for example in Beirut.

Conference in Finland, spring 2019

Workshop with MA students and begin with a board meeting, early March 2018
in Denmark. Students arrive in the afternoon, lecture, dinner, and ending with
lunch the day after, Friday to Saturday.

PhD Workshop in Bergen, summer 2018. Knut S. Vikør are responsible, see
attached document, 1. Leif will contact Knut to continue the planning.

Conference

In Finland, spring 2019. Last conference in Denmark/Odense went very well and
increase the financial status for NSM.

Funding

Leif Stenberg and Susanne Ohlsson apply for future PhD courses

Hannu Juusola and Pekka Tuominen are applying for the Conference

Mark Sedgwick and Ulla Prien are applying for the MA course

FB and Web page

Today is Christina the web editor and the webpage need to be updated. Everyone
send a presentation to Christina.

Pekka Tuominen will do a FB page and will help Christina with the webpage.

FB will communicate when its time to apply for workshop, PhD and Conference
and all other important things.

Would be great if the board share travel reports

Membership

Try to find a responsible PhD student and offer him/her free admission of next conference, dinner at board meeting.

At the next conference it will be a significant difference between conference fee for members and no members.

7. Mideastwire

The board decided not to continue paying for Mideastwire. Few members are using it and then its too expensive for the Society.

1500 Euro

30 Euro per member

8. Babylon

The board decided to continue working with Babylon but also open up for other journals, Nidaba and Tifoislam. Dk, <http://tifoislam.dk/>

The Society don't have the economy for supporting Babylon.

9. Election of two vice-chairs

Leif Stenberg is leaving Lund for a new position in London and therefore need to be replaced. The board decided that Leif need to continue until next annual meeting and decided that Mark Sedgwick and Hannu Juusola become vice chairs. The board selected Christina Rothman as secretary and NSM administration continue in Lund.

Lund February 15, 2017

Christina Rothman

Leif Stenberg
Chairman