

# Minutes of the Jurforsk board meeting 14 November 2013

University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Law

## Participants:

Clement Salung Petersen (CSP); Palle Bo Madsen (PBM), Helle T. Anker (HTA), Peter Nick Stausholm-Møller (PNSM), Ole Hammerslev (OH), Michael Herborn (MH), Troels Michael Lilja (TML), Helene Maria Jensen (HMJ), Karsten Naundrup Olesen (KNO) and Julia Ballaschk (JB).

## Agenda:

- 1) Approval of the agenda
- 2) Information from the JurForsk management
- 3) The Nordic IT platform for announcing PhD courses, [www.jurforsknordic.org](http://www.jurforsknordic.org)
  - a. Current status: Participating institutions and the technical development
  - b. Preliminary discussion about how we can market the platform to all Nordic institutions
- 4) Status on a FIDE event
- 5) Status on PhD courses currently offered
- 6) JurForsk conference on the Danish legal research education programme
- 7) Miscellaneous

### 1.

The agenda was approved.

### 2.

PBM had no news to report.

### 3.

KNO made a presentation of a beta version of the new Nordic platform for announcing PhD courses, seminars, conferences etc. to PhD students in the Nordic countries ([www.jurforsknordic.org](http://www.jurforsknordic.org)). All participating institutions can announce courses etc. on this website.

The website will be fully operational and ready for testing by the end of November so delivery can take place, as agreed, no later than 1 December. KNO and CSP will make a complete test of the platform, and Arcanic A/S will send an invoice to JurForsk according to previous instructions.

KNO reported that 16 Nordic institutions currently support the platform: One from Iceland, two Norwegian, 6-7 from Sweden, one from Finland and the Danish institutions. The costs for each institution will thus amount to approx. 9,000 DKK.

PBM will send out invoices to these Nordic institutions when the platform is approved.

The board had an initial discussion about the relationship between the [www.jurforsk.dk](http://www.jurforsk.dk) website and the new [www.jurforsk.nordic.org](http://www.jurforsk.nordic.org) website. It was agreed that, as a point of departure, all courses should be announced on both websites, and that it will then be up to the course organizer to decide on eligibility for the course (terms for participation should be mentioned in the course description). However, a course organizer should have the opportunity to choose to have a course announced on [www.jurforsk.dk](http://www.jurforsk.dk) only.

Since all PhD courses must be announced also on [www.phdcourses.dk](http://www.phdcourses.dk), there is a need to consider how we can make a simple procedure for future announcement of PhD courses from the Danish Jurforsk institutions on all relevant platforms.

It was decided that CSP and KNO will prepare draft guidelines for future announcement of PhD courses from the Danish JurForsk institutions. These will be discussed at the next board meeting.

The board also discussed how we can support an optimal use of [www.jurforsk.nordic.org](http://www.jurforsk.nordic.org) by all the Nordic institutions. It was decided that CSP and KNO will prepare draft guidelines for using [www.jurforsk.nordic.org](http://www.jurforsk.nordic.org), including principles for eligibility to courses etc. These guidelines will be discussed at the next board meeting.

The board decided to invite all the participating Nordic institutions to a kick-off seminar in Copenhagen in the beginning of 2014 to present [www.jurforsk.nordic.org](http://www.jurforsk.nordic.org) and to discuss future use of the platform (based on our proposed guidelines) and future Nordic cooperation on the legal research (PhD) programme.

#### 4.

CSP reported that he has had talks with the representatives from FIDE regarding the possibility to make a special event for young researchers (in particular PhD students) in connection with the FIDE congress 2014. It has turned out to be difficult to ensure that PhD students from the Jurforsk institutions will get the opportunity to present papers at such an event (since privileges based on nationality cannot be accepted), even if Jurforsk supports the event financially.

Instead, CSP has had talks with the Centre for European Studies in Economic Law (CESEL) at UCPH about arranging such event in connection with – but not directly a part of – the FIDE Congress. CESEL is currently working on arranging such an event on 28 May 2014 (the day before the official opening of the FIDE Congress). CESEL will send out a call for papers to this event, and selected students will be able to present papers and discussions will be chaired by senior researchers from different international universities within the field of EU law. PhD students will also be able to participate in the FIDE conference (on the terms mentioned on [www.fide2014.eu](http://www.fide2014.eu)).

The board took note of this.

#### 5.

The board members presented plans for courses in 2014 from each institution. PBM and CSP expect that AU and KU, respectively, will offer a significant number of courses in 2014. Furthermore, the following courses were mentioned:

- SDU will offer
  - a course on "Law and Protestantism" (2 days),
  - a course on "Using aspects of EU criminal law in a doctoral thesis" with the University of Bergen, on March 19, 2014
  - a course on "Methodological questions and dilemmas in the capital market" (in Danish), August 27, 2014
  - a course on law and economics,
  - a course on social sciences methodology for legal researchers
- AAU plans to organize a course on general EU constitutional law

- CBS will offer a course on company law and methods

The board took note of this.

## 6.

HMJ confirmed that we have a preliminary reservation at Christiansborg Slot from 12 November to 14 November 2014. It was discussed whether to make the conference a two-nights event. It was decided to make the conference a two-nights event, starting and ending at noon.

The conference should include a visit to the Danish Supreme Court and a tour of the parliament. PBM undertook to ask Justice Jens Peter Christensen about a visit to the Supreme Court (and, if possible, a reception). HMJ undertook to ask her contacts about possibilities for a tour in the Parliament.

The content of the draft conference programme was discussed, and it was decided

### (a) for the networking part

- That PhD students should be grouped according to their subjects in their discussion so that they can already start networking
- That there should also be a female researcher and a researcher with a foreign background on the panel to discuss whether there are specific challenges for these groups

### (b) that the programme should include a talk on project management

- This should include an item on how to best plan a PhD, how to plan conflicting obligations or teaching obligations, what timeframe one needs to keep in mind for corrections and language review
- It was discussed whether this should be mainly aimed at PhDs that have just recently started and whether there should be a parallel event on how to best apply for PostDoc positions and how to present one's research at institutions such as the research council
- It may be considered to make this a "two-track" part of the programme – to attract interest from both new and older PhD students

### (c) Research dissemination should be a significant topic

- It was decided that due to different policies at the institutions the part on how to present research in the media should be smaller than it was last conference
- It was discussed whether this panel should also include something about how to write an article, questions on how important it is to publish, whether co-authorship is a possibility for law students
- Given the surroundings (Christiansborg Slot), it would be natural to also have a panel with politician(s) to discuss the role of experts in politics etc.

### (d) That there should still be a panel about what to do after a PhD

- This time the panel should also include a lawyer

### (e) The discussion about the quality of PhD courses should be based on the students' comments from last year so there is a follow-up

The board decided to establish a working group which will prepare the conference programme and present their work at the next board meeting. This group consists of CSP, HMJ, MH and HMJ.

## 7.

Coming board meetings

- Wednesday 15 January 2014
- Monday 28 April 2014

/Julia Ballaschk and Clement Salung Petersen