

Minutes of the NIC Annual Meeting in Helsinki 2 December 2011

1. Opening

Jens Allwood opened the meeting.

2. Election of secretary

Iben Jensen was elected secretary.

3. Minutes of last meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting were read.

It was noticed that the information claiming that intercultural communication at Copenhagen University was closed is not correct. However, language educations such as Spanish and French have been closed.

4. Other information: National Networks

In Finland:

- Good news from Nancy Alto at Tampere University, who have had the opportunity to create new courses in intercultural communication.
- In Jyväskylä University they are in the employment process and have preselected three candidates for a professor in intercultural communication.
- At University of Helsinki Fred Dervin has got a professorship in intercultural pedagogics. Fred also works with intercultural communication ... Congratulations.
- In Sweden SNICC is doing well and had a very fruitful one-day seminar in September.
- In Norway there is no professor in Missionshøgskolan Stavanger after Øyvind Dahl has retired, but intercultural communication is still an important part of Missionshøgskolan.
- In Denmark the number of students in the field of intercultural communication at Aarhus University seems to be growing, however the number of teachers and researchers in the field are not following.

5. NIC website

Please send information on Grants, Scholarships (ph.d), events or relevant publication to the website.

Positive comments on the website was that the descriptions of earlier conferences and the history of NIC has been useful in the planning process of this year's conference.

6. Journal of Intercultural Communication

Journal of Intercultural Communication is doing well, with about 3.000 visitors a month. The journal has many submitted papers as well, and about 50% of the papers are rejected.

It was suggested that all articles should be presented in a certain NIC standard form (a kind of template).

All participants in the NIC 2011 conference were invited to send their contributions to the Journal of Intercultural Communication, for possible publication after peer review.

7. Proposal

Iben Jensen told the meeting that she had taken the initiative to gather a group of Nordic researchers, who could make an application for a Nordic research network, funded by NordForsk. The aim of the network is to create new research activities (seminars, ph.d.courses, master, collective Nordic research projects) during the year.

In relation to the application NIC board will be asked to give a (supporting) opinion on the research activities. The proposal was supported by the participants.

LOGO-discussion

Nancy Alto suggested that we invite all NIC members to participate in creating a new (modern) LOGO for NIC. A possible artist from the University of Oulu was suggested and has agreed to make a proposal.

8. NIC Board members

Discussion about new members.

No changes to the existing board.

9. Next NIC

“Internationalisation at Home” is the title of 2012 NIC Conference, which will be organized in Denmark in Aarhus, with Hanne Tange as primarily responsible.

Hanne Tange already had produced a flyer for the conference and informed us that Helen Spencer-Oatey had accepted to be one of the keynote speakers.

It was discussed whether it was a possibility to use technology online and e.g. transmit the plenary sessions from the conference. Alternatively some of the sections can chose to broadcast their sessions, so that the organizers do not have to deal with the technology.

2013 probably in Tartu, Estonia arranged by Krista Vogelberg and in 2014 Iceland (Audur Hauksdottir). This conferece could possibly be related to the opening of the World Language and Culture Centre at University of Iceland, Reykjavik.

9. Closing

By Chair person Jens Allwood

Secretary:
Iben Jensen

Chair person
Jens Allwood