

# Steering Committee Minutes

Steering Committee

Meeting # 13

Date: December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Minutes prepared by Christer Bergman – December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## Participants

University	Contact name	Present/Not present
Chalmers University of Technology	Mikael Enelund	Present
University of Gothenburg	Karolina Catoni	Present
Jönköping University	Nerrolyn Ramstrand	Present
Karolinska Institute	Richard Cowburn	Present
KTH Royal Institute of Technology	Christina Murray	Not present
Linköping University	Maria Engelmark	Not present
	Margareta Alfredsson	Present
Linnaeus University	Annett Wolf	Present
	Ann-Charlotte Larsson	Present
Luleå University of Technology	Jennie Hägg Wilhelmson	Present
Lund University	Richard Stenelo	Present
Mid Sweden University	Anna Lindahl	Present
Mälardalen University	Damir Isovich	Not present
Stockholm University	Tina Larsson	Not present
	Åsa Petri	Present
Uppsala University	Johan Tysk	Present
<b>Partners</b>		
Swedish Embassy	Maria Brogren	Present
Swedish Institute	Douglas Washburn	Not present
KK Stiftelsen	Joakim Appelquist	Present
Chapman University	Niklas Myhr	Not present
SACC USA	Christer Bergman	Present

## Agenda

1. Welcome
  - Minutes from last meeting
2. Progress Report
  - Events & Activities
  - Thematic Areas and Research
  - SIREUS Affiliation of American Universities
  - SIREUS Affiliation of Companies
3. Decision / Discussion / Information
  - Financial Report
  - Proposed budget 2024
  - SIREUS "2nd half"
4. AOB & Next meeting

## Presentation material

During the meeting a ppt presentation was used containing information that was sent out prior to the meeting.

## Minutes

1. Christer opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 13<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting. He especially welcomed Annett Wolf, LNU and Joakim Appelquist, KK to their first steering committee meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting were then briefly reviewed and action items will be covered during the meeting. He emphasized that he and Margareta Alfredsson, LIU, has been working on an evaluation document and process – which will be covered during the meeting.

### 2. Progress Report

#### Events & Activities

- **The Study in Sweden Road Show** was held at **SACC NY**, (New York City, NY) on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, **Washington State University**, (Pullman, WA) on November 4<sup>th</sup> and **Chapman University**, (Orange, CA), on November 6<sup>th</sup>. The participants all thought it was well organized and gave insight on different regions and cities when it comes to student recruitment. The group is doing an evaluation of the trip in order to optimize the next Study-in-Sweden arrangement for the fall of 2024.
- **SIREUS VIRTUAL forum** is now being named **SIREUS RESEARCH forum** and the first event will be on December 11<sup>th</sup> @ 16.00 CET. As of the day of the meeting there were 61 participants registered. Christer is planning to form a "Program Board" and asked the meeting members for interest.

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- An **Innovation (scouting) Tour to Texas** is planned for February 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The plan is to visit the universities in San Antonio, Austin, College Station, and Houston. Currently UU, LU, SU, LTU, MDU and MIUN are planning to participate on the trip. Maybe LIU and Chalmers will also be joining.
- The **SIREUS ENTREPREURS forum** is being planned for the week of March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, in Colorado. A planning group including Nicole Forsberg from CU Boulder & SACC CO is working on the focus and the agenda for the forum. Currently UU, LU, SU, LTU, and LIU is planning to participate at the forum and currently there are 10-12 companies that have shown interest to participate.
- The **SIREUS CHANCELLORS forum** is preliminary being planned for the week of May13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, in Stockholm. During the meeting Christer explained the purpose and that the forum is planned to be extended with different Academic Delegations and activities so the American participants will have a fuller schedule. Christer asked about feedback for the CHANCELLORS forum since it will be a heavy workload to plan and a substantial cost to arrange. **After a conversation, the majority of the meeting did not think that the CHANCELLORS forum would be optimal for the SIREUS MEMBERS and asked Christer to cancel the planning for the event.** Maybe arrange some specific visits for American Affiliated Universities that already have shown interest to travel to Sweden. Christer will review the interest level from the Affiliated universities and plan accordingly.

### Thematic Areas and Research

Christer informed the group about the status for links provided by the universities for thematic areas on the web site and thanked all the universities for providing the links as planned. Christer has reached out to the Affiliated University Members and offered them the possibility to add links as well.

### Strategic Platform items

Christer mentioned that the topics that were raised some time ago will be included in different events we are planning, e.g. RESEARCH forum, Workshops etc.

### SIREUS Affiliation of American Universities

Christer presented the status of the MOU process – same as last meeting.

Signed MOU: Michigan Technology University, Dakota State University, University of Texas at San Antonio, Gustavus Adolphus College, Chapman University, Tufts University, Washington State University, Purdue University, Virginia Tech, Penn State University and University of Colorado Boulder.

Verbal acceptance (not yet signed):

MOU proposed: Kennesaw State, Rutgers University, George Washington University and George Mason University.

Ongoing conversations: Georgia Tech, University of Washington, Penn State, Georgetown University, University of Hawaii, North Park University, American University and Catholic University.

### SIREUS Affiliation of Companies

Christer updated the group about the progress with introducing the program SIREUS Affiliation of Companies. Meetings and feedback of the program has been very positive, and the program is now updated. The next step is to propose an MOU to the participating companies prior to making an official launch during early 2024. The group of companies that is part of the initial “soft launch” is Ericsson, AstraZeneca, SAAB, Volvo and Einride.

### 3. SIREUS Decision / Discussion / Information

#### Financial Report

Christer presented the financial report and emphasized that there are no surprises and that the cash situation is dire. He ensured again that we are monitoring the situation carefully on a weekly basis and will alert the group to any changes.

**Christer asked the group if the 2024 invoices could be sent out prior to February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. The group answered that it should not be a problem if the invoice says 2024 and the due date is in 2024.**

#### Proposed budget 2024

Christer informed the group that the budget proposal for 2024 (as per the presentation) is preliminary and will be refined during the next month. He intends to have the budget proposal for 2024 ready before the Steering Committee meeting on January 16<sup>th</sup>, for the Steering Committee to be able to approve the budget at this meeting.

Christer informed again that KTH has decided to not continue with SIREUS for 2024 (as per previous communication). He also was very sad to inform that KI has taken the same decision (in a letter received on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024). Hence there are only 11 members fees from 11 universities in the budget proposal.

#### SIREUS "2<sup>nd</sup> half"

Christer referred to the evaluation document and process that Margareta and he had been working on. The plan is to have a document that describes the achievements and resources so far ready by early January. As per the presentation, the recommendation is that a "cross members" team will work in the process to evaluate the results so far, give genuine feedback and to propose the way forward. Christer presented a proposal of team members from different WG and different universities that he thought was a good selection of individuals, with high energy, high participation rate and not afraid of voicing their ideas and opinions. The members should be prepared to speak on behalf of their university, not only from their own WG experience. The team will meet virtually in January, have an in-person meeting in Stockholm late February / early March and be ready with a recommendation to the steering committee for the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The proposed members for this team are.

WG1 - Lena Pedersen (GU), Anna Lindahl (MIUN) & Mikael Hjorth (MDU)

WG2 - Jens Hansson (Chalmers), Carolina Sturesson (LIU) & Mudar Hill (JU)

WG3 - Malin Graffner Nordberg (UU), Maryam Hansson Edalat (SU) & Marita Holst (LTU)

WG4 - Maria Lindblad (LU), Stefan Haglund (LNU) & Tina Larsson (SU)

Margareta Alfredsson & Christer Bergman

Christer asked to have 2-3 members from the steering committee and is looking forward to receiving volunteers from the steering committee.

The steering committee approved the process and member selection. Christer will send out an email early next week to the proposed members, explaining the background, referring to the steering committee's decision and propose dates for the meetings.

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### 4. AOB & Next meeting

Since there were no Other Business for the meeting, Christer thanked the participants for the support during 2023 and for the meeting. He also wished everyone a happy holidays season.

**The next steering committee meeting will be held via Teams on January 16<sup>th</sup> @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST).**

Christer presented the dates for the steering committee meetings for the whole of 2024. Calendar invites will be sent out.

- a. January 16<sup>th</sup> @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)
- b. March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)
- c. April 16<sup>th</sup> @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)
- d. May 28<sup>th</sup> @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)
- e. August 20<sup>th</sup> @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)
- f. September 24<sup>th</sup> @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)
- g. November 5<sup>th</sup> @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)
- h. December 10<sup>th</sup> @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)

The meeting calendar will also be published on the website (private area).

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