

Steering Committee Minutes

Steering Committee

Meeting # 2

Date: June 21st, 2022

Minutes prepared by Christer Bergman – July 12th, 2022

Participants

| University | Contact name | Present/Not present |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Chalmers University of Technology | Mikael Enelund | Present |
| University of Gothenburg | Hans Abelius | Present |
| Jönköping University | Nerrolyn Ramstrand | Present |
| Karolinska Institute | Richard Cowburn | Present |
| KTH Royal Institute of Technology | Christina Murray | Not present |
| Linköping University | Maria Engelmark | Present |
| | <i>Margareta Alfredson</i> | <i>Present</i> |
| Linnaeus University | Ingela Åberg | Present |
| | <i>Ann-Charlotte Larsson</i> | <i>Present</i> |
| Luleå University of Technology | Jennie Hägg Wilhelmson | Present |
| Lund University | Richard Stenelo | Present |
| Mid Sweden University | Anna Lindahl | Present |
| Mälardalen University | Damir Iovic | Present |
| Uppsala University | Johan Tysk | Present |
| | <i>Phillip Baur</i> | <i>Present</i> |
| Partners | | |
| Swedish Embassy | Maria Brogren | Present |
| Swedish Institute | Malin Wilson | Present |
| | <i>Lisa Truedsson</i> | <i>Present</i> |
| SACC USA | Christer Bergman | Present |
| | <i>Johan Marcus</i> | <i>Present</i> |
| | <i>Karin Hammar</i> | <i>Present</i> |
| | <i>Cecilia Kullman</i> | <i>Present</i> |

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Progress Report
 - Project Update
 - Funding Update
 - Financial Report
3. Decision / Discussion
 - New SIREUS members
 - SIREUS Events
 - “Affiliated American University Members”
4. AOB & Next meeting

Presentation material

During the meeting a ppt presentation was used containing information that was sent out prior to the meeting. The ppt presentation was slightly updated and will be sent out alongside the minutes.

Minutes

1. Christer opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 2nd Steering Committee meeting. He mentioned that a couple of colleagues from SACC-USA also joined the meeting. He also acknowledged that in a couple of cases, more than one representative from the university was present.
2. The website was launched on May 27th and has received a lot of visitors. Christer encourage the participants for feedback and mentioned that some universities had not yet provided the “short text about their university”.

The SIREUS dedicated 3 trainees will start within the next couple of weeks.

One of the first activities, the mapping of universities in the US, has already started. As this is one of the fundamental activities, it will be refined during the project and status will be reported ongoing. Christer mentioned that the parallel mapping from the universities in Sweden are very important for setting the priorities where SIREUS should focus and having coordinated activities.

As everyone knows, the ongoing activities from individual universities are under way and Christer mentioned SIREUS participation at the KTH event at House of Sweden, Washington DC, the visit by Linköping University and the SACC-USA Executive Forum at House of Sweden.

The SACC-USA Regional Chambers are engaged, and a monthly webinar is being held. The interests from American as well as Swedish universities are very strong and will be covered later during the meeting. The four working groups have started, and their first meetings were held last week. It is very encouraging and impressive to have such accomplished and experienced participants from all the universities.

Christer provided an update on the funding situation. Both Vinnova and KK-foundation is positive to participate with a smaller amount for 2022 and open to discuss co-financing with the government for 2023 and 2024. A meeting with government (“UD”) is scheduled during the first week of July.

The financial report as well as the clarification of the different cost centers for May was provided in the presentation. Worth to note is that there are no surprises from a cost point of view. We are still making

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some correction to the balance sheet presentation of the financial report. Christer also mentioned that there are still a couple of the universities that have not paid the invoice yet.

3. Christer presented the logic behind the recommendation for allowing more Swedish universities to join the SIREUS program. All the members agreed that we should open for more Swedish universities to join on the same conditions as the original members have joined. The challenge would be to integrate new members into the different groups and to maintain the overall goal for the SIREUS program. Christer will keep the steering committee informed about the progress.

One of the activities within the SIREUS project plans is to hold and/or participate in events. One upcoming event at House of Sweden is a Life Science event on November 1st and 2nd. The agenda is not finalized, but the planned topics are Cancer & Healthcare Innovations. Maria Brogren from the embassy informed about the event and she would be more than happy to receive proposals for speakers and/or participants from the universities. Christer & Maria is working on how to connect the event to SIREUS in the best way. SIREUS is planning to create and hold our own events. The first event is being planned in conjunction with the AIEA event in Washington DC in February 2023. The meeting agreed that it would be a great idea to have a SIREUS event on February 22nd – 23rd 2023 at the House of Sweden. Christer will start to plan for such an event and will update the members accordingly.

As mentioned earlier during the meeting, Christer mentioned that there is a very strong interest from American universities to be involved in the SIREUS initiative. After careful consideration, Christer recommended to create a program called “American Affiliated Universities”. The concept being that SIREUS will sign a MOU with qualified American Universities as per the presentation. The MOU need to be focused with goals, objective and metrics that coincide with the SIREUS mission. The purpose of the MOU is to be used as one qualifier during the process of finding the optimal partnering American universities to the SIREUS members. Christer was tasked with starting to create the program but need to have the steering committee to approve the MOU and other binding agreements.

4. Since there were no Other Business for the meeting, Christer thanked the participants for the meeting and asked for input of topics to be included in the next steering committee meeting. **The next steering committee meeting will be held via Teams on August 23rd @ 15.00 CT (9:00 am ET).**

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