

Steering Committee Minutes

Steering Committee

Meeting # 3

Date: August 23rd, 2022

Minutes prepared by Christer Bergman – August 31st, 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	Present
Linköping University	Maria Engelmark <i>Margareta Alfredson</i>	Not present <i>Present</i>
Linnaeus University	Ingela Åberg <i>Ann-Charlotte Larsson</i>	Present <i>Present</i>
Luleå University of Technology	Jennie Hägg Wilhelmson	Not present
Lund University	Richard Stenelo	Present
Mid Sweden University	Anna Lindahl	Present
Mälardalen University	Damir Isovich	Present
Uppsala University	Johan Tysk	Present
Partners		
Swedish Embassy	Maria Brogren	Present
Swedish Institute	Malin Wilson <i>Lisa Truedsson</i>	Present <i>Not present</i>
Chapman University	Niklas Myhr	Present
SACC USA	Christer Bergman <i>Karin Hammar</i>	Present <i>Present</i>

Agenda

1. Welcome
 - Minutes from last meeting
2. Progress Report
 - Project Update
 - Funding Update
 - CB Sweden Trip
 - Financial Report
3. Decision / Discussion / Information
 - New SIREUS members
 - SIREUS Events
 - SIREUS Affiliation of American Universities
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 3rd Steering Committee meeting. He mentioned that Niklas Myhr, Chapman University also joined the meeting. He also acknowledged that in a couple of cases, more than one representative from the university was present.

2. Project Update

The working groups started the work during mid-June and held the second set of meetings mid-August. The groups are working very well with a lot of energy and concrete actions are being planned. Christer announced that Ingela Åberg, LNU has volunteered to be group leader for WG 2 (“University”). The plan is to have group members to be group leaders and Christer will be a participant in the groups. All the working groups have been giving feedback on the Goals & Activities (part of the Project Plan). After the next set of meetings, the intention is to formally update the Project Plan (must be approved by the Steering Committee).

Christer presented with enthusiasm that SACC USA Regional Chambers are very much involved in the activities with mapping the regional markets in the US. The purpose is to do a relevant analysis of universities, business, exchange programs and opportunities in each region, so activities and introductions can be presented to the SIREUS members. This requires that each SIREUS member can be more specific of what that members interests are, e.g. a specific geographic area, a specific knowledge area or even a specific university.

The website is continuously being improved and Christer appreciated the feedback that was received from a couple of members. Christer demonstrated the “closed” part of the website, where information about the project, members contact information and all minutes / presentations from all groups are being stored. The structure allows for easier information sharing, transparency, and sustainability for the project. Christer explained that the access to the closed part of the website will simply be to invite

SIREUS Steering Committee Minutes

all members of any SIREUS group via an email link. The plan is to send out the invite after the Stakeholders Group meeting to inform them as well. The Steering Committee liked the structure and approved to send out the invite soon after the Stakeholders Group meeting.

He also showed examples of our Social Media posts and encourage all members and their colleagues to join in our social media activities. He also showed examples of collaboration with universities and asked for permission to reach out to all social media contacts at SIREUS members to encourage such collaboration. The Steering Committee approved this and will help facilitate contacts to the social media responsible staff at their university.

Funding Update

Christer continued the progress report with an update on the funding situation. Vinnova and KK-stiftelsen have verbally agreed to some funds and Christer is working on the formalities. He also informed that he continues to have dialogue with the government (UD) and will have a in-person meeting when he is Stockholm early September.

CB Sweden Trip

Christer also mentioned that he was very appreciative for the support in arranging meetings when he is in Sweden during September. He informed that he will have in-person meetings with (nearly) all the universities and other relevant companies/organizations during his extensive visit to Sweden.

Financial Report

The financial report ending on July 31st was presented with an updated forecast for the year. No surprises and the A/R that is shown on the balance sheet are being solved.

3. SIREUS Decision / Discussion / Information

New SIREUS members

Christer informed that he has been working on both Högskolan Halmstad as well as Högskolan Skövde. They have now both said that they like the project and would like to stay informed, but the executive management have not approved joining at this stage. Conversations with SLU is being productive, and a meeting is planned for end of August. Christer intention is to explore a couple of more opportunities, then he will not focus actively on getting more new members at this stage.

SIREUS Events

Maria (from OSI) mentioned about the Life Science event being planned for early November is now being planned for early December. More information will be sent out once confirmed. She also mentioned that a high-level meeting with the State of Washington and Swedish government is being planned for mid-September in Stockholm. Universities from Washington State will be part of the delegation and Maria has introduced SIREUS to the delegation and Christer is prepared to be part of the meetings if he is invited.

Christer introduced the idea of creating SIREUS digital seminars for focused audience. This idea come from conversations with WG 3 and the interest of different topics related to innovation companies in Sweden exploring a potential move to the US.

He also mentioned that a SACC-USA Transatlantic Day is being planned for February 7th in Stockholm. More information will be distributed.

Christer and the team are start the planning for the SIREUS event in Washington DC on February 22nd - 23rd. He requested information from the members whether they are planning to be in DC for the AIEA and therefor will be at the SIREUS event.

SIREUS Steering Committee Minutes

SIREUS Affiliation of American Universities

Christer opened the conversation about the [SIREUS Affiliation of American Universities](#) and the document that was sent out prior to the meeting. Everyone appreciated the initiative and encouraged Christer to start the process with having a couple of universities introduced to the concept and the MOU. Christer asked the participants for feedback on the document within the next week and then he would start the process. If the initial few universities have any major issues with the MOU, he will reach out and potentially call for another ad-hoc Steering Committee meeting and certainly will keep the members informed about the progress.

4. AOB & Next meeting

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 October 18th @ 15.00 CT (9:00 am ET).**

The Swedish American Chambers of Commerce of the USA, Inc.,
House of Sweden, 2900 K Street NW, Suite 401, Washington DC, 20007
info@sireus.org, www.sireus.org

