

Stakeholders Group Minutes

Stakeholders Group

Meeting # 2

Date: December 7th, 2022

Minutes prepared by Christer Bergman – December 13th, 2022

Participants

University	Contact name	Present/Not present
Chalmers University of Technology	Anders Palmqvist	Present
University of Gothenburg	Torbjörn Lundh	Present
Jönköping University	Agneta Marell	Not present
Karolinska Institute	Richard Cowburn	Not present
KTH Royal Institute of Technology	Stefan Östlund	Present
Linköping University	Matts Karlsson	Not present
	<i>Maria Engelmark</i>	<i>Present</i>
Linnaeus University	Ann-Charlotte Larsson	Not present
Luleå University of Technology	Pär Weiheid	Not present
Lund University	Erik Renström	Not present
	Kristina Eneroth	Not present
Mid Sweden University	Anders Fällström	Not present
	<i>Anna Lindahl</i>	<i>Present</i>
Mälardalen University	Helena Jerregård	Not present
Stockholm University	Astrid Söderbergh Widding	Not present
Uppsala University	Anders Hagfeldt	Not present
	<i>Eva Söderman</i>	<i>Present</i>
Partners		
Swedish Embassy	Karin Olofsdotter	Not present
	<i>Maria Brogren</i>	<i>Present</i>
Swedish Institute	Kurt Bratteby	Not present
KK-stiftelsen	Eva Schelin	Present
SACC USA	Signhild Hansen	Present
	<i>Christer Bergman</i>	<i>Present</i>

Agenda

1. Welcome
 - Welcome KK-stiftelsen & Stockholm University
 - Minutes from last meeting
2. SACC-USA Update & SIREUS overall progress
3. SIREUS - Progress Report
 - Project Update
 - New SIREUS members
 - SIREUS Affiliation of American Universities
 - Financial Report / Funding
4. Decision / Discussion / Information
 - Budget 2023
 - SIREUS CHANCELLORS forum Feb 21-22, 2023
5. AOB & Next meeting

Presentation material

During the meeting a ppt presentation and a preliminary agenda for the SIREUS CHANCELLORS forum was used containing information that was sent out prior to the meeting.

Minutes

1. Signhild opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 2nd Stakeholders Group meeting. She especially welcomed Eva Schelin (KK-stiftelsen) and Astrid Söderberg Widding (Stockholm University, who unfortunately could not attend the meeting) as part of the Steering Committee. KK-stiftelsen has decided to co-fund the SIREUS program and Stockholm University has joined the SIREUS program. Maria Brogren (The Embassy of Sweden) commented the importance of the SIREUS program on behalf of the Embassy and gave her regards from Ambassador Karin Olofsdotter, who could not attend the meeting due to high level diplomatic engagement.
After a roll call, the minutes from the previous meeting was briefly reviewed and any action items will be covered during the meeting.
2. Signhild briefly updated the meeting on progress and activities for SACC-USA. Especially two high level events; The Transatlantic Days in Stockholm on February 7th, 2023, and the Executive Forum in Washington DC on May 4th, 2023. Invitation will be sent out and she warmly welcomes the Stakeholders Group and colleagues to attend those events. She also encourages the members to reach out directly to her if there are any questions or recommendation for events and activities that SACC-USA be engaged in.
Signhild also expressed her appreciation to all the Stakeholders for supporting and being engaged in the SIREUS program. From an overall perspective, the SIREUS program under Christer's leadership has gained an encouraging traction, energy, and recognition on the Swedish and American market.

3. SIREUS - Progress Report

Christer was asked to make a presentation about progress of the project.

Project Update. Working Groups

The **working groups** have had four meetings and are busy with planning events, finetuning the focus and planning for 2023. Mapping of student exchange programs will be followed by similar mapping for research and business. The groups are also reviewing the project plan and activities going forward. One challenge that was discussed in the recent steering committee group is that, although the project is supposed to focus on Students AND Researchers, the working groups do not cover research as much as students and innovation. A special ad-hoc group within the steering committee had been formed to take appropriate actions.

Christer further presented that the **SACC Regional Chambers** are very involved in the project and recently helped with events in Silicon Valley, Colorado Boulder and with a Study in Sweden event in Washington DC. Other activities that are being planned include.

- SACC-USA Transatlantic Day February 7th (Stockholm)
- Innovation Denver February 14-16th
- SIREUS CHANCELLORS forum February 21-22nd
- Study in Sweden, spring & fall 2023
- Workshops & Academic delegations during 2023

As Signhild mentioned, Stockholm University has joined as a **new SIREUS member**. SU is now being introduced to all groups within SIREUS and are very interesting to learn how they can participate and contribute to the overall SIREUS success.

Christer reported on the program **“SIREUS Affiliation of American Universities”** and summarized the status as follows.

Signed MOU (as of Dec 12): Michigan Technology University, Dakota State University, and the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Verbal acceptance (not yet signed): Chapman University, University of Colorado Boulder, Gustavus Adolphus College, and University of Maryland.

Ongoing conversations: Washington State University, George Washington University, Purdue University and Virginia Tech Institute.

The SIREUS website is being prepared to include SIREUS Affiliation of American Universities and make the program more official and public. The plan is to send out a press release during January, once we have at least five MOU signed. It is also the plan to have 10 Affiliated Universities attending the SIREUS CHANCELLORS forum in February.

Financial Report. Christer referred to the presentation and emphasized that although the SIREUS project is a SACC-USA program, its resources and finances are separated from the regular SACC activities. The financial report is part of the Steering Committee meetings and is updated monthly. There are no surprises and the A/R that is shown on the balance sheet are being solved.

Funding Update. Christer referred to the presentation and commented on the current situation with respect to funding. KK-stiftelsen has co-funded with 200 KSEK, SI partly funded the Study in Sweden event with 40 KSEK and Vinnova has agreed to support the initiative with 200 KSEK for a planning project from November 2022 to February 2023. The project should support the creation of a sustainable, horizontal platform for the period 2023-2027 and be presented as a Strategic Report

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including indication of financial support to implement the Strategic Plan. Vinnova has indicated that they would consider supporting such an initiative if the right strategy and conditions are included.

4. SIREUS Decision / Discussion / Information

BUDGET 2023. Christer presented a preliminary budget and mentioned that it is very difficult to do an accurate projection of resources needed vs. activities and external funds being available. The preliminary budget is based on a similar resource allocation and plans of activities as 2022, **he proposed that the Steering Committee will get the authority to approve the budget. The members of the Stakeholders Group were all in favor on this approach.**

Christer referred to the preliminary agenda for the SIREUS CHANCELLORS forum in February. The plan is to have about 10 SIREUS Swedish University members and 10 Affiliated American universities attending. The event is planned to have an executive level attendance with at least 2-3 presidents from both Swedish as well as American universities, as well as other executives in the R&D and/or International Group field.

5. AOB & Next meeting

Since there were no Other Business for the meeting, Signhild thanked the participants for the meeting and asked for input of topics to be included in the next stakeholders group meeting. She also mentioned the SACC newsletter “eCurrent” and the members asked to be included in that distribution. She also wished everyone a wonderful Christmas and New Year’s Holiday and again thanked the members for their support of SIREUS during 2022.

The next stakeholders group meeting will be held via Teams on June 8th, 2023 @ 15.00 CT (9:00 am ET). Not on June 6th as the presentation indicated. Christer presented the meeting calendar for 2023 (see the presentation) and will send out invites for 2023 as follows,

- June 8th @ 15.00 (9am ET)
- December 14th @ 15.00 (9am ET)

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