

Working Group Minutes

Working Group 1 Business

Meeting # 10

Date: October 3rd, 2023

Minutes prepared by Oskar Svensson – October 3rd, 2023

Participants

University	Contact name	Present/Not present
Chalmers University of Technology	Mikael Enelund	Not present
University of Gothenburg	Lena Pedersen	Present
Jönköping University	Roy Andersson	Present
Karolinska Institute	Richard Cowburn	Not Present
KTH Royal Institute of Technology	Christina Murray	Not present
Linköping University	Therese Lindkvist	Present
Linnaeus University	Torbjörn Håkansson	Not present
Luleå University of Technology	Maria Vyatkina	Present
Lund University	Lisa Thelin	Not present
Mid Sweden University	Anna Lindahl	Present
Mälardalen University	Daniel Boqvist	Not present
	Mikael Hjorth	Not Present
	Ibrahim Jabarkhel	Present
Stockholm University	Mats Berglund	Present
Uppsala University	Cecilia Nilsson	Not present
Partners		
Swedish Embassy	Charlotte Kramer	Not Present
SIRUES Trainee	Oskar Svensson	Present
SACC USA - SIREUS	Christer Bergman	Present & Group Leader

Agenda

1. Welcome
 - a. Update on WG participants
 - b. Review of minutes from last meeting
 - c. Update on SIREUS progress
2. Thematic Areas
 - a. Implemented on the website – updated status.
3. Mapping of target companies/areas
 - a. Individual plan
 - b. Thematic areas, regions
4. SIREUS Affiliation of Companies
 - a. Soft Launch
 - b. 5 Companies
5. Next meetings

Presentation material

During the meeting a ppt presentation was used following the agenda that was sent out prior to the meeting. This ppt presentation will be archived on the SIREUS website alongside the minutes.

Minutes

1. a) Christer opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.
- b) The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed.
- c) Christer updated the group about what's been going on with SIREUS since the last meeting. The **SIREUS VIRTUAL forum** is starting to take shape and we need to have a Program Borad of 3-4 members that can help with topics. Christer then mentioned about the possible **Innovation trip to Texas** that is now scheduled to be during February 5th -9th 2024 – a planning group is formed, but we need more members to the group. They are also working on planning for the **SIREUS ENTREPRENEURS forum** in Denver in conjunction with Destination Start-Up, now to be held March 21st -22nd, 2024. Christer further mentioned that SIREUS is in the final planning stage for a larger **Study in Sweden** trip within working Group 4 that will start in New York, and continue to Washington State University, Pullman, and Chapman University in California. Last meeting, we mentioned that SIREUS is planning a soft launch **SIREUS Affiliation of Companies**. This is now in full swing and Ericsson, AstraZeneca, SAAB, Volvo and Einride are engaged in the dialogue.

Christer further informed the group that he had had an intensive visit to Stockholm a couple of weeks ago. He “promoted” SIREUS and met KK, STINT, VR, IVA, UHR, SI, UD, KMH, AmCham and Einride. They all articulated that they are very impressed with our achievement so far and is willing to support the program in any way they can. He also mentioned that he is researching the possibility of having the SIREUS CHANCELLORS forum in Stockholm during the spring. The original plan for March 20th – 21st, 2024 @ MDU will not work for different reasons.

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There was also a conversation about the importance of the Global Ranking that was released from THE. The conclusion was that universities have different views on THE and the alternatives QS World and the Shanghai ranking.

2. Christer presented the Thematic Areas and the links to various thematic areas that the universities have sent in. Maria indicated that they also sent in a link to green transition (Christer found out after the meeting that the picture had some error in it and will be corrected). He showed a summary of which universities had provided these links so far (with a blue indicator on the presentation).

3. The next topic for the meeting was to reiterate the importance of Individual university action plans. Christer referred to the previous meeting and presented a template with simple questions for the individual university that will be sent out to the university. This is to optimize the individual plans for each university, and for SIREUS to make it possible to help with the specific areas and regions each university wants to focus on. Lena filled in that GU focused primarily on internship opportunities and had an ongoing discussion on their university. Maria then added that LTU wanted to focus on internships and research collaborations within green transition in the California area. Ibrahim mentioned to the group that MDU will open an Electrification Lab in CA during the fall. Anna also mentioned that she would like to discuss their view on the individual action plan separately. **[Christer will reach out to Anna]**. The questions/template will be sent out to the universities during next week. A discussion continued of the structure of the working groups and their respective focus area and how they are distinguished by each other.

4. Christer continued to present the soft launch of the new concept, the SIREUS Affiliation of Companies. The idea is to create a MOU that will make it possible for companies to help Swedish universities with internships, post doc possibilities, guest lectures, and workshops. Astra Zeneca, Ericsson, Volvo, SAAB, and Einride are the companies that are part of the soft launch. Christer presented that a program will be announced when the soft launch is completed. Christer reminded the group about the request for an advisory group for the planning. Richard has already volunteered, and Maria had volunteered Marita Holst to participate. Christer will reach out to Mikael. Roy mentioned that JU is working with 6-7 universities on the East Coast (FL, SC, NC) and companies to provide a combination of studies and internships. The challenge they are facing is to keep balance in the exchange of number of students.

5. Next scheduled meeting is on November 28th @ 13.00 CET. Christer presented the meeting calendar for rest of 2023 - invites have been sent out for 2023 as follows,

- a. November 28th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
The meeting calendar is also published on the website (private area).

Christer then presented a proposition for preliminary dates for the working group meeting for 2024.

- a. January 23rd @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
- b. March 19th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
- c. ~~April 30th~~ April 29th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
- d. June 4th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
- e. July 16th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)

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- f. August 27th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
- g. October 8th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
- h. November 19th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
- i. **December 17th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)**

The proposal in red for July and December indicates that the recommendation is not to hold those meetings. Also, the meeting on April 30th should be moved to April 29th to fit the Swedish work schedule. Everyone agreed that the preliminary schedule with the above-mentioned changes will work.

No other topics were discussed, and Christer thanked the members for the meeting.

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