

Working Group Minutes

Working Group 1 Business

Meeting # 11

Date: November 28th, 2023

Minutes prepared by Oskar Svensson – November 28th, 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	Not present
Karolinska Institute	Richard Cowburn	Not present
KTH Royal Institute of Technology	Christina Murray	Not present
Linköping University	Therese Lindkvist	Not present
Linnaeus University	Torbjörn Håkansson	Present
Luleå University of Technology	Maria Vyatkina	Not present
Lund University	Lisa Thelin	Not present
Mid Sweden University	Anna Lindahl	Not present
Mälardalen University	Daniel Boqvist	Present
	Mikael Hjorth	Not Present
	Ibrahim Jabarkhel	Not Present
Stockholm University	Mats Berglund	Present
Uppsala University	Cecilia Nilsson	Not present
Partners		
Swedish Embassy	Charlotte Kramer	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
4. SIREUS Affiliation of Companies
 - a. Update status
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 Study in Sweden trip with WG4 started in New York (Nov 2nd), and continue to Washington State University, Pullman (Nov 4th), and Chapman University in California (Nov 6th). The trip was very successful, and all the participants thought it was well organized and productive. The group had a feedback session after the last stop and will solidify the feedback for next year's planning during the upcoming WG4 meeting.

Christer then mentioned the Innovation trip to Texas (WG3) that is scheduled for February 5th -9th 2024. The three stops in Texas will be Austin, Houston, and San Antonio. Another planning group is working on the upcoming SIREUS ENTREPRENEURS forum in Denver in conjunction with Destination Start-Up, now to be held March 21st-22nd, 2024. 5-6 SIREUS members will join the trips.

The SIREUS VIRTUAL forum is now called the SIREUS RESEARCH forum, and the first forum is scheduled for December 11th @ 16.00 CET (or 10 am EST). An invite has been sent out and as of today, there are 25 attendees registered.

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He also mentioned that we are in the early planning of a SIREUS CHANCELLORS forum in Stockholm during the week of May 13th, more information will be distributed as the planning becomes more detailed.

2. Christer presented the Thematic Areas and the links to various thematic areas that the universities have sent in. Christer mentioned that the University of Gothenburg is the only university that has not sent in a link connected to thematic areas. Lena responded that they had sent in links and Christer apologized and will ensure that the GU links will be implemented immediately. He showed a summary of which Swedish universities had provided these links so far (with a blue indicator on the presentation). Christer mentioned that he has started contacting American universities and asked for links but has not received any answers.

3. The next topic for the meeting was to reiterate the importance of individual university action plans. Christer referred to the previous meetings and presented how it will look on the website, once implemented. The example presented is for Gothenburg University. Christer mentioned that not many universities have sent in answers but reminded the universities to do so.

4. Christer continued to present the soft launch of the new concept, the SIREUS Affiliation of Companies. The idea is to create an MOU that will make it possible for companies to help Swedish universities with internships, postdoc possibilities, guest lectures, and workshops. Astra Zeneca, Ericsson, Volvo, SAAB, and Einride are the companies that are part of the soft launch. Christer shared that meetings with these companies have concluded, and the document has undergone updates. The final version is set to be reviewed by the companies.

A discussion followed regarding whether there has been any further conversation with Vinnova about funding and it was explained that there have been talks in the beginning of the year but haven't resulted in any contribution from Vinnova.

5. Christer continued to present the launch of SIREUS RESEARCH forum. It was explained that there has been a dialogue with Nicole Forsberg at Colorado Boulder to put forward a program schedule for possible coming forums. Christer mentioned that he is still looking for an advisory board for SIREUS RESEARCH forum to further develop the concept and encouraged all to contact him if they are interested.

6. Next scheduled meeting is on January 23rd @ 13.00 CET.

Christer then presented a proposition for preliminary dates for the working group meeting for 2024. Calendar invites will be sent out.

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

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- e. August 27th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
- f. October 8th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
- g. November 19th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)

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

Torbjörn from LNU mentioned that there most likely will be changes for the participation going forward from Linnaeus. Similarly, Mats from SU also mentioned that he will leave his position at the university and go back to be a politician and mentioned that SU will nominate another candidate for WG1 soon.

No other topics were discussed, and Christer thanked the members for the meeting and for being very supportive during the whole of 2023 and wished everyone a happy holidays season.

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