

Working Group Minutes

Working Group 1 Business

Meeting # 6

Date: March 21st, 2023

Minutes prepared by Christer Bergman – March 31st, 2023

Participants

University	Contact name	Present/Not present
Chalmers University of Technology	Jörgen Sjöberg	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	Present
Mid Sweden University	Anna Lindahl	Present
Mälardalen University	Daniel Boqvist	Not present
	Mikael Hjorth	Present
Stockholm University	Mats Berglund	Present
Uppsala University	Cecilia Nilsson	Present
Partners		
Swedish Embassy	Charlotte Kramer	Not present
Consulate General of Sweden, NYC	Maja Lodding	Present (Guest)
Swedish Institute	Lisa Truedsson	Not 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. Review of project plan
3. Thematic Areas
4. Start Mapping of Target Companies

5. Update of project plan
6. 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. Particularly he welcomed Therese Lindkvist from LiU, who is new to WG1, he also welcomed Roy Andersson, JU (who has not been able to join the last couple of meetings) and then he welcomed Maja Lodding, the General Consulate of Sweden, NYC, The General Consulate of Sweden is a complementary organization to the Swedish Embassy in the NYC and New England area and has shown interest to support SIREUS in their area.
b) The minutes from previous meeting was reviewed.
c) Christer then informed the group about the overall progress of SIREUS and the other working groups. He mentioned the successful SIREUS ENTREPREURS forum in Denver & Boulder, Colorado that was held mid-February. 8 Swedish Start-Ups from UU, LU and SU. In total 20 attendees from Sweden participated in the event from UU, LU, SU and LiU. Furthermore, he mentioned about the SIREUS CHANCELLORS forum that was held in Washington, DC and House of Sweden with in total 65 attendees. Representatives from 11 Swedish and 14 American universities participated in this inaugural bilateral Leadership forum. Anna, MiU was there and agreed that it was very well attended, highly appreciated and a great forum to get new contacts. She recommended more time for networking next year. **Anna also requested a general presentation about SACC and the SACC network, for their use talking about SIREUS and SACC.**
2. Christer presented a first attempt for a review of the Project Plan and encouraged the group members to review in detail the revised Project Plan (can be found on the SIREUS website – Published Documents) and send in feedback. Comments from the group included “try to connect with STINT for potential funding for certain exchanges”, “try to involve the affiliated universities in the plan” and “focus on the GAP analysis - not what we already are doing”. **Roy had some overall questions and Christer will try to reach out to Roy for a conversation.** Another comment was to work together with the “Vinnova initiatives” e.g. GTI. Christer mentioned that this is already on its way with GTI, Future Mobility and Life Science.
3. The next topic for the meeting was to review the project around Thematic Areas. We have defined the areas and sub areas and is working on definition of the focused areas. Christer also presented how this will be implemented on the SIREUS website (see the presentation). He mentioned that Material Science needs to be added to the areas. Roy asked about manufacturing and production technology, which seems to be missing. Christer was asking for help with definitions and **Maria (LTU) and Mikael (MDU) volunteered to help in the Green Transition and Space.** The conversation about what thematic areas we should focus on, and how do we decide, was another great conversation. Conclusion was that start with a couple of areas that we know there is an interest in and then expand as new areas as demands / requests arise. The plan is also to create a “map” with university vs thematic areas. Roy asked about

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manufacturing and production technology, which seems to be missing. The implementation on the website could be complemented with news in that area and “what is happening in the US in the areas”.

4. Mapping of companies in thematic areas were not covered during the meeting. However, Christer asked if there were specific companies that the respective university would like SIREUS to try to target, it would be great if we get that information. Roy (JU) mentioned that JU is working very close with a number of companies and would be more than happy to have a communication about JU experience. Lisa (LU) mentioned that some companies have difficulties with VISA for internships for US talents. Christer mentioned that SACC USA can help with that matter, since the process is in place and SACC USA had been doing it for the last 5 years. **Christer encourage the group to send him information about the VISA needs and he will forward this to SACC USA.** Therese mentioned about the UHR “Platform for Internationalization” led by SI (Monika Wirkkala). Christer replied that he has met Anders Ahlstrand and recently spoke with Monika.
5. The project plan was not discussed at this meeting; however, Christer again emphasized that we as a group need to revise the project plan according to our desired direction and activities.
6. Next scheduled meeting is on May 9th @ 13.00 CET. Christer presented the meeting calendar for rest of 2023 - invites have been sent out for 2023 as follows,
 - a. May 9th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
 - b. June 13th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
 - c. August 22nd @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
 - d. October 3rd @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
 - e. November 28th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)The meeting calendar is also published on the website (private area).

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

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