

Working Group Minutes

Working Group 4 Sweden

Meeting # 11

Date: November 30th, 2023

Minutes prepared by Edith Malmberg – November 30th, 2023

Participants

University	Contact name	Present/Not present
Chalmers University of Technology	Linda Millsvik	Present
University of Gothenburg	John Molander	Present
Jönköping University	Eric Freid	Present
Karolinska Institute	Johanna Gasslander	Not present
KTH Royal Institute of Technology	Åsa Andersson	Not present
	Hans Lundin	Not present
Linköping University	Therese Winder	Not present
Linnaeus University	Stefan Haglund	Present
Luleå University of Technology	Robert Omberg	Not present
Lund University	Maria Lindblad	Present
Mid Sweden University	Ellen Horbach	Not present
Mälardalen University	Johanna Forsström	Not present
	Niclas Johansson	Present
Stockholm University	Tina Larsson	Not present
Uppsala University	Lina Solander	Not present
	Matt Greig	Present
Partners		
Swedish Embassy	Jenny Majidyar	Not Present
SACC Trainees	Edith Malmberg	Present
SACC USA	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. Review of activities
 - a. Study in Sweden events, feedback.
 - b. Student fairs ?
4. Potential IRES funds, NSF 24-506
 - a. International Research Experiences for Students (IRES)
5. SIREUS RESEARCH forum
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.
 - 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

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today, there are 32 attendees registered.

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

2. Christer thanked the group for sending in their links for the thematic areas. He explained that the aim of the thematic areas is to link each area to a project or institute at each university. He urged the group to review the image of the compiled thematic areas and send in any links that are missing to Edith. Christer explained that the next step with the thematic areas is to let the American affiliated universities send in their links.
3. Next the Study in Sweden tour in November was discussed. Christer thanked everyone for a good time during the trip and expressed that he was very pleased with the events. He mentioned that a survey has been sent out where the participants on the tour can leave their thoughts about the events. The answers will be used to improve next year's Study in Sweden event. He thanked those who sent in their responses and kindly asked the others to fill in the survey.

Christer then asked the group about "student fairs". SIREUS could help the universities by representing them at student fairs around the country. He asked the group how they want to proceed with this since SIREUS previously mapped different student and career fairs. John and Maria asked to review the list of the different fairs one more time before deciding on anything, and Christer said that it will be published on the SIREUS website under the member area. Stefan asked if it would be possible to create a working group where a few universities could discuss which fairs they would be interested in. Linda said that Chalmers can only represent themselves at these sorts of fairs which would make it difficult for SIREUS to represent Chalmers if it wasn't under a Study in Sweden event. The group decided that it would be beneficial to discuss this matter further as it could be valuable to learn more about these types of fairs.

Peter from Gustavus Adolphus has traveled to some of the Swedish universities to explore the possibilities of a collaboration. Matt explained that it would be difficult to enable a three plus two model that Gustavus Adolphus are interested in but that it could be a good idea to visit that university for a Study in Sweden event more targeted toward master's studies in Sweden. Christer mentioned that North Park university in Chicago is another university with a lot of connections to Sweden that could be interested in hosting a similar event. Matt mentioned that he has a few ideas of how SIREUS and the universities can continue their work with student recruitment in the U.S. and that these will be published in the working group.

Stefan asked the group if there would be any events in connection to NAFSA next year. Christer mentioned that last event was very appreciated as it provided many good networking opportunities with U.S. universities. The group discussed the possibility of hosting some sort of event and decided that perhaps a working group could be created to explore this next year. **[Christer to invite a WG2 and WG4 planning group to explore the possibility of a new SIREUS MEMBERS forum – in conjunction with the NAFSA event 2024 in New Orleans].**

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4. Next the IRES funds from NSF were discussed. NSF wants to facilitate talent mobility for American STEM students to travel to other countries for their research by granting Non-Profit Organizations the right to distribute scholarships to these students. Christer asked the group if this could be relevant for SIREUS and if it would be beneficial for the student recruitment process. The group discussed the matter but said that from a recruitment perspective it could be difficult since the students would be in research groups where they would not attend courses at the universities. The group said that the proposition seemed to be more aligned with internships rather than studies. Christer urged those who were interested in learning more to read more about the IRES funds online and that Märta from SIREUS is currently looking into the matter.
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. The first SIREUS RESEARCH forum will be held on Monday December 11th @ 16.00 CET.
6. The next scheduled meeting is on January 25th @ 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 25th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
- b. March 21st @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
- c. May 2nd @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
- d. June 5th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
- e. August 29th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
- f. October 10th @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
- g. November 21st @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)

The meeting calendar can be found on the website (private area).

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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