

## Working Group Minutes

Working Group 4 Sweden

Meeting # 8

Date: June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Minutes prepared by Christer Bergman – June 19<sup>th</sup>, 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	<b>Johanna Gasslander</b> Ulrica Kristhammar	Present Not present
KTH Royal Institute of Technology	<b>Åsa Andersson</b> Hans Lundin	Present Not present
Linköping University	Therese Winder	Present
Linnaeus University	Stefan Haglund	Present
Luleå University of Technology	Robert Omberg	Not present
Lund University	Maria Lindblad	Present
Mid Sweden University	Ellen Horbach	Present
Mälardalen University	<b>Johanna Forsström</b> Niclas Johansson	Not present Present
Stockholm University	Tina Larsson	Present
Uppsala University	Lina Solander	Not present & Group Leader
<b>Partners</b>		
Swedish Embassy	Jenny Majidyar	Present
Swedish Institute	Lisa Truedsson	Not present
SIREUS Trainees	Bianca Ström	Present
SACC USA	Christer Bergman	Present

## Agenda

1. Welcome
  - a. Update on WG participants
  - b. Review of minutes from last meeting
  - c. Update on SIREUS progress
2. Project plan
  - a. Updated Goals & Activities is approved and can be found on SIREUS Member area
  - b. Are we aligned with the project plan?
  - c. How do we include researchers?
  - d. How do we highlight internships in connection with studies
3. Review of activities
  - a. New Study in Sweden events, Plan for Q4 2023
  - b. Student fairs, plan
4. 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. Unfortunately, Lina could not attend due to a schedule conflict. Christer will have a separate meeting with her within the next couple of days.
  - b) The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed.
  - c) Christer then informed the group about the overall progress of SIREUS and the other working groups. He mentioned that the SIREUS MEMBER forum was a success; close to 200 participants from 12 SIREUS members and 6 Affiliated members. Representatives from 16 countries and 23 US states come from 94 different universities and relevant organizations. The members that were at the forum agreed that it was very well done, and it provided an excellent opportunity to network. Christer then informed the group about the work with thematic areas that now are published on the web, and referred to the email regarding the launch and that we still need some help with some definitions and relevant links. Christer mentioned about the Vinnova application that unfortunately was not granted, this means that the financial situation for SIREUS will be difficult going forward. Christer mentioned that the first SIREUS initiated academic delegation took place during May 22<sup>nd</sup> and May 25<sup>th</sup>. University of Texas at San Antonio, UTSA visited JU, GU and Chalmers. Christer extended his (and UTSA's) appreciation for the very welcoming, positive, and productive meetings at the universities. There are already follow-up activities scheduled between the universities.
2. Christer mentioned that the updated version of the goals & activities of the project plan is now approved and can be found in the SIREUS member area. He encourages everyone to review the document periodically, since this is what we have committed to do and will be measured on.

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He then asked the questions;

- Are we aligned with the project plan?
- How do we include researchers?
- How do we highlight internships in connection w/ studies

The group agreed that we are doing pretty good in following the project plan. However, including researchers is very difficult since the “recruitment” of researchers is totally different from recruiting students, and it is outside the scope of this group. Christer mentioned that we will try to get researchers interested via the thematic areas, workshops and potentially via the planned SIREUS RESEARCH (?) forum. The other topic that we should try to include in this WG is how to include internships. The group first started to talk about if it is important to also offer internships with studies in Sweden.

- “It is very interesting to have the practical part of the studies in Sweden”
- “It is really interesting to include internships, but it is hard to achieve. It is also difficult to do the matching and it involves a lot of work to get it right.”
- “JU has the International campus.”
- “SACC USA can handle the Visa part of the program. It is called US Talent to Sweden. We did it together with Linnaeus a couple of years ago” **[Christer will try to get more information from LNU]**
- “Chalmers had a program from scholarships competition with Volvo Group.” **[Linda will try to get information about this]**

3. a) Christer then briefed the group about the upcoming **“Study in Sweden Tour”** during mid-November that the group talked about during the last meeting. Christer mentioned that he is in contact with Chapman University and Washington State University, they are both very interested and have started the planning. He has also reached out to the General Counsel for Sweden in New York. Christer mentioned that we now must reconfirm the dates and the route for the “Tour”. The dates that were planned could cause some issue with the weather in WA and Christer asked if it would be possible to make the “Tour” prior to the Mexico fair. He also mentioned that WA had asked if it would be possible for the group to also visit the other campuses at WSU. The group then had an open conversation about the dates and venues.

The group agreed that indeed it would be better if we plan the “Tour” prior to Mexico, this means that the “Tour” needs to be completed by latest November 7 (in CA) so the participants for the Mexico fair could be there in time by morning of November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Another topic that was discussed was the WSU proposal of visiting more than WSU Pullman campus. The group agreed that the best would be to have a Study in Sweden event at WSU Pullman (the largest campus) and then have the SIREUS members representative visiting the other two campuses if the schedule allows. The group decided to form a planning group for the “Tour”. **[Christer will invite Tina, Linda, Maria and Stefan to a Teams meeting early next week.]**

b) **Student fairs.** As presented during the last meetings, SIREUS have made a mapping of available student fairs. Christer presented that SIREUS will schedule to participate in a couple of “Study abroad

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fairs” close to Washington, DC to gain experience. SIREUS then need help in creating material that can be used during those events. **[Christer will discuss with Lina how the material could be developed]**. The group gave feedback on the student fairs. In previous meetings the feedback was that QS fairs are not a good fit for SIREUS to attend. The group also mentioned that the NACAC shows might be good and that there might be other similar regional shows that could be interesting. The group gave feedback that some universities might not allow “non-university” organizations to attend, we need to check this early in the planning.

4. Next scheduled meeting is on August 24<sup>th</sup> @ 13.00 CET. Christer presented the meeting calendar for the rest of 2023 and have sent out invites for 2023 as follows,
  - a. August 24<sup>th</sup> @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
  - b. October 5<sup>th</sup> @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)
  - c. November 30<sup>th</sup> @ 13.00 CET (7 am EST)The meeting calendar will also be published on the website (private area).

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

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