

Mistra Urban Futures

Notes

Board Meeting No. 37

2 December 2019

Phone at 16.00-17.30 pm CET

Participants:

Fredrik Hörstedt (Chair)
Olivia Bina
Thomas Elmqvist
John Robinson

Ex officio:

David Simon, Director
Stephen Agong, KLIP
Warren Smit, CTLIP
Barry Ness, SKLIP
Åsa Moberg, Mistra
Nayoka Martinez-Bäckström, Sida
Jan Pettersson, GMV
Mikael Cullberg, Länstyrelsen, Consortium
Council

Invited participants:

Viveka Blomgren, Secretariat
Jan Riise, Secretariat
Henrietta Palmer, Deputy Scientific Director

Apologies:

Benjamin Bradlow
Caroline Wanjiku Kihato
Lyla Metha
Elma Durakovic, GOLIP
Beth Perry, SMLIP

1. Opening of the Board meeting

Fredrik Hörstedt

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

2. Approval of the agenda and potential conflicts of interest

Fredrik Hörstedt

The agenda was approved. No potential conflicts of interest were announced.

3. Minutes from previous meeting and matters arising

Fredrik Hörstedt, David Simon

Minutes from the two previous meetings (17 October and 14 November) have been approved by members of the Board.

No comments on the minutes from previous meeting.

Matters arising

Sida application, comments received 27 Nov.

Jan Pettersson thanked for the useful Sida comments. One important aspect is that Sida wants all LIPs and nodes involved; it will contribute to the legacy of Mistra Urban Futures



and a more holistic approach.

The Board strongly supported the feedback document from Sida and offered Jan Pettersson help in the process of re-writing the concept, which he much appreciated. He asked for comments from the Board to be sent to him during the preparation process.

A revised concept note will be submitted by 13 December. That deadline would enable Sida to decide and to finish the paperwork done by end of this year, i.e. the week 16-20 December. Sida would also like to discuss with Chalmers if the costs for participation in the World Urban Forum in February could be paid in advance of Sida's first payment, which can be made at the end of January at the earliest.

The information was noted.

4. Financial update and prognosis

David Simon, Jan Pettersson

The uncertainties that remained from last meeting have now been largely resolved with the clarification of GOLIP's budget situation since the Acting Director's return to work. The exception remains a part of the SKLIP budget of 400 kSEK, which should be resolved within the next week or so. The current prognosis is that the Mistra Urban Futures will close at the end of this year with an underspend of 21 kSEK. This means there will be no "Mistra extension" as has been discussed previously, the unfunded 6 months extension which was based on an expected underspending up to 1,5 mSEK from 2019 activities.

Several reasons for the prognosis being considerably lower than four months ago exist, principally the clarification of GOLIP's expenditure against budget, additional Centre wrapping up costs in view of the changed situation regarding a Mistra extension and other anticipated continuities, as well as currency fluctuations since the SEK exchange rate is currently unfavourable.

The Board noted that, based on the latest advice from GOLIP, the forecast is now considered by the MUF Secretariat to be trustworthy and that there are two remaining questions to prioritise: first the remaining uncertainties concerning GOLIP and SKLIP. An unfunded extension must come as a second priority.

However, the Board also noted a boundary condition for the dedicated discussions with GOLIP and SKLIP: should the result be an overspend, the Chair and Centre management will reconnect to the Board for further mandates for resolving such a situation.

It was also noted that the Board is expected to approve the final accounts and the final report during the first half of 2020.

5. Mistra Urban Futures' website update and domains

Jan Riise/ Viveka Blomgren 

The Board has previously expressed its wish that the website of Mistra Urban Futures must be kept for at least five years, as an archive for all publications and all other documentation. GOLIP has offered to host the site, as has Mistra. There are technical challenges concerning this, such as updates of the CMS (Content Management System). It was suggested as far as possible to ensure that Mistra Urban Futures' publications also can be found in the universities' repositories.

Decision: The Board asked David Simon and Viveka Blomgren to liaise with the new GOLIP to find a solution, and Jan Pettersson to find out about the universities' repositories.

6. Deliverables 2019 and wrap-up activities

David Simon/ Jan Pettersson

The documentation regarding already published material and expected output from the Centre this year includes about 100 different titles, not including the book chapters – which are increasingly being recognized as publications with their own DOI numbers.

The final conference in Sheffield delivered the ethos of the Centre and its achievements very successfully.

Given the changed context, broader wrap-up activities during 2020 are budgeted at approximately 550 kSEK. This includes the final report, audit and updating the website with publications submitted this year but not published until 2020.

Decision: The board approved the report and plan concerning deliverables and the plan and budget for wrap-up activities.

7. Plan for Final Report 2019

David Simon/ Jan Pettersson

David Simon and Jan Riise presented a draft structure for a Final Report to be published no earlier than late February 2020. The Board suggested that it be strengthened in terms of the significant contributions of the Centre to the development of co-production methodology. Methodological progress should be part of the introduction and it was also suggested to create a map of main outputs over the past 10 years.

The Board commends the overviews and summary of results presented at the last Annual Conference, which could be a starting point for a revised content of MUF's final report.

Jan Riise will discuss further with Mistra and Sida and make the most of the available resources.

Decision: To approve the plan, adding the comments and suggestions mentioned above. 

8. Thank you to everyone!
David Simon

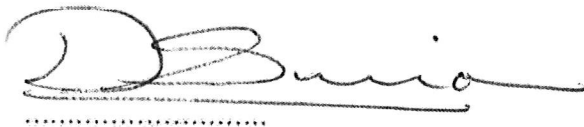
The Director thanked all Board members for their participation, engagement and time for Mistra Urban Futures, which had contributed in no small way to the Centre's success and in navigating the numerous challenges in the last two years.

9. Any other business
Fredrik Hörstedt

No other business was reported, and the Chair closed the meeting, thanking everyone for taking part and echoing the Director's thanks to the Board as well as expressing his sincere thanks to the Director.

Signed

David Simon
Director



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Fredrik Hörstedt
Chair of the Board



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