

Minutes of the KIF General Assembly

7th October 2019

Moderator: Mette Grage

Minutes: Carol Anne Oxborrow

Call for General Assembly

While the notification of the upcoming General Assembly was sent out in August it was without an agenda. The agenda was first circulated the week before the Assembly, which strictly speaking was in contravention of the KIF constitution. However, no one present at the Assembly objected to the late circulation of the agenda and it was unanimously decided to proceed with the Assembly

Chairwoman's Report (Maren)

See Maren's presentation.

- 1) Maren started by thanking the board for a year of great collaboration. She also noted our collaboration with the Geological Museum that is hosting the General Assembly for the second year.
- 2) This year focused on working with other organizations to make KIF more visible. Good examples of this collaborative approach are the Christmas Party held together with the Bohr Alumni Association at NBI; The 'All Feminists on the Streets' demo on 8th March and the film evening at Cinemateket, a showing of the film 'Hidden Figures', as part of Space Days (50th Anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon landing), on 2nd October.
- 3) Other activities were
 - a. The KIF Prize Talk presented by the 2018 KIF Prizewinner, Kristine Niss, who couldn't hold her talk in 2018.
 - b. May 27th was the DFS Annual Meeting which included a KIF session at which Thomas Vils Pedersen presented the UCPH Guidelines on Offensive Behaviour. One aspect of these guidelines have awoken ire in some quarters because the definition of what is offensive behavior is determined by the experience of the victim and whether they find the behavior offensive. It is not determined by whether the offensive person considered or intended the act to be offensive. However, this shouldn't really be so controversial or provocative, since it only mirrors Danish law practice in this area.
 - c. 21st June BBQ and quiz evening at NBI was well-attended, and everyone enjoyed a balmy summer evening in the NBI garden.
 - d. 2nd October was Girl's Day in Science at NBI, in collaboration with Teknologipagten, which is currently setting up a network of women and girls in the STEM subjects. KIF is now a partner in Teknologipagten. Also on 2nd October KIF co-hosted the film night and debate panel at Cinemateket. See www.teknologipagten.dk for more information.
- 4) Communications and visibility have improved, but this is always an area that is difficult and time-consuming to expand. Majken has added much original content to the KIF homepage including Events past and upcoming; KIF Prizewinners and the KIF library of articles on gender studies and related articles. KIF now has an Instagram account, which has been used

for Takeovers, whereby professional female physicists can show people their workday and activities.

- 5) There have been no KIF Invites events this year since other collaborative events have required organizing.
- 6) A new board was elected at last year's General Assembly. Maren was elected Chairwoman with Mette as her Vice-Chairwoman. Mette has been on the board in 1994-1997 and 2008-2016. Heidi was elected Treasurer. Corrine Toulouse and Ela Ugur both left the board. It was decided that there should be a maximum of 10 board members including the Chairwomen.
- 7) KIF continues to get 10,000 DKK a year from DFS. The outlay so far for this year was as follows:

Income:

- Annual contribution from DFS: 10000 DKK

Expenses:

- Gift for speaker at KIF event 150 DKK
- Logo stickers 400 DKK
- Website fees 1140 DKK
- Invited speaker for DFS Annual Meeting, travel expenses 1000 DKK
- Roll-up banner 1000 DKK
- Annual meeting 2019: TBD

There were no comments to the financial statement.

Election of new board members

Heidi is leaving Denmark, to take a job in Santiago, Chile as a staff astronomer at the ESO. Volunteers can be elected in absentia if they have put their names forward at the General Assembly. The role of the board members is to meet once a month, to organize events and to participate in them. Some people are always needed to help with the website, promote KIF's visibility and to do the practical tasks to do with realizing each event. Those remaining on the board are: Mette, Maren, Heidi, Ane, Majken, Lais and Sara. 3 new board members are needed. The three volunteers, elected without opposition are: Rajika Kuruwita, an astronomy post-doc at Star Plan; Ayoe Buus Hansen, who has a PhD in air pollution modelling; and Gillian Drake, a master's student in cosmology at NBI. The constitutional sitting of the new board will take place immediately after this General Assembly.

Suggestions from Members

- Ayoe: KIF could present spontaneous, on-the-street talks about physics and gender issues by female physicists like the soapbox talks at Hyde Park Corner.
- KIF should work to have more visibility at RUC, and more visibility in general – this is always a concern.
- Girls Day in Science by Naturvidenskabernes Hus is a good national initiative, somewhat like the one in Germany. However, it isn't meant to discourage boys. KIF should be involved in this in a regular basis. Microsoft and other big companies do this sort of outreach aimed at both girls and boys. Currently GDIS is not well-known, but it will be sure to grow in and public recognition with each year that it is held. ITU has done this for years, and even has IT camps for girls. MS has a female head of development, which maybe plays a role in their engagement in the area.

- Sara: Physics staff at various institutes seem very passive about diversity issues, even the women. What can we do to engage more people in this subject?
- Reggie: A KIF travel scholarship would be a good idea, like the Danish Meteorological Society travel grant. We could send KIF participants to the all-female science conferences organized by the APS.

END OF MEETING

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