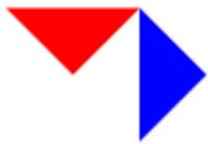


Centre Management Board and IAB meeting

Meeting Time: Friday 28 November 2014: 13.00-14.40
Place: Scandic Lerkendal, Trondheim

Minutes (not yet accepted)

- 46/14 Welcome: attending: Barbara Jaworski, Duncan Lawson, Burkhard Alpers, Arvid Siqveland, Marit Aamodt Nielsen (Chair), Simon Goodchild, Olov Viirman, Elna Svege, Inger Johanne H.Knutson, Anne Berit Fuglestad, Frode Rønning, Ingvild Andersen Helseth, Line Eielsen Malde.
- Apologies received from Ingvald Erfjord, Claire Vaugelade Berg, Morten Brekke, Sondre Tordal, Harald H. Gautestad, Frank Reichert, Margrethe Naalsund
- 47/14 Agenda for meeting agreed. It was clarified that the input and advices from the IAB would be discussed at point 54/14 – MatRIC Goals and achievements
- 48/14 Minutes from meeting held on 15.10.14 accepted as an accurate record.
- 49/14 There were no matters arising from the minutes not included below.
- 50/14 Leaders report - SG commented very briefly. The discussion based on the leader report would be done at point 54/14. 227 people now receive the MatRIC newsletter.
- 51/14 Bergen Workshop
- The responses to the workshops have been good/very good. We have received a few critical comments that we will learn from. We brought the UiA broadcast unit, the MultiMEdia Students from UiA. They were very helpful both with streaming and during the workshop with editing of the videos etc.
- 52/14 The Website was launched 27.11.14. This is a major Event for MatRIC. The phase 1 of the webpage is now published and the phase two will start with a pre-project in the end of January.
- 53/14 Reports from NTNU and NMBU
- NTNU:** The project is running (KTDiM), this is a fairly extensive effort to revise and improve basic mathematics education for engineering students that started autumn semester 2014.



Currently in the project the actions are about generating data: survey data, interviews and logbooks.

A Post doc researcher is now employed. New position, associate professor has been announced: deadline Monday 1 December.

NMBU: Refer to mail from Margrethe. Not so much to add from the last meeting. They have a new position out with deadline 2 December. This person will work some percentage within the project.

54/14 Discussion on achievements, issues, goals and strategy for 2015

Comments from members of the International Advisory Board and discussion

Maybe it is better to do fewer things well than many things not so well.

Research

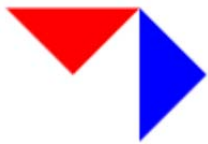
Notes high level of achievement but misses reports of research activity. A lot is going on that does not seem to have research as a part. Where is the research or the research strategy? The emphasis is on activities, but with no research alongside there will be no research evidence. Research should go along in parallel alongside other activities. Could MatRIC spend more money at research? Conversations with people at the conference demonstrates there are several (named) who would welcome a research partnership with a mathematics education researcher.

There is a danger of developing a gulf between researchers and 'champions' of change in practice. How is MatRIC going to reach a good proportion of mathematics teachers who are not concerned to research their practice? MatRIC can put research alongside – here is an evidence base – there are ways of working to enhance learning – mutual respect of complementary competencies and expertise. MatRIC needs to establish credibility, to offer something teachers can 'run with', presented in a way that is demystified. MatRIC with Mathematics Educators should help the practitioners to become better. Not an easy task, there is a division ME and Mathematics teachers.

Are we building everything at once without a body of people to engage in the actions?

MatRIC is not funded as a research project and MatRIC's task is not only research, it is also developmental work. We should look further ahead – to the next call from the Research Council of Norway, and aim for MatRIC to be active in setting up a collaborative proposal to the FINNUT programme. Politically it would give a lot of credibility.

Research is not easy and needs research training. It is necessary to focus on the long term. Identify dedicated developmental areas as a starting point and then find funding for dedicated research in one of these areas. It cannot be expected if people are leading the working group activity. Needs prioritization and recognition of the difficulty of research.



Post doc and PHD stipends: There is a research weight within MatRIC. Can we make sure PhD and post-doc researchers contribute to the MatRIC research agenda, for instance by making sure they are connected to one of the working groups? Now there are lots of bits of pieces, not coherent. Should be more focused in 2015. By linking PhD research to working groups it could be possible to work strategically with supervisors.

Products (of MatRIC working groups) may be used, but are they good? Setting research questions is the way we want to go. Beware the danger of deceiving oneself.

Impact

Appoint an external person to be an evaluator at high level – impact. Is MatRIC really connected, or just communicating with isolated champions? Want someone more detached than a critical friend, a person who will be honest.

Impact is a long term process, MatRIC needs to be planning for impact now. The joint meeting at Loughborough may be an opportunity to consider impact, and how to look forward.

The impact of SFU: Are more people reflecting on their practice, are more people attending and going away changing their practice?

Engaging more teachers to reflect in practice, also want to achieve better learning of mathematics. There are different goals, reduce the drop out in mathematics and increase the progression rate. How can this be measured and dealt with?

Need to be clearer about the relationship between MatRIC and MEC Loughborough.

Aim to be excellent ... excellent at being excellent!

Other issues

Missing – secondary school, some contact with MatRIC.

The effort has been put into reaching out to Norway, events etc. Big focus has been on the networking in 2014.

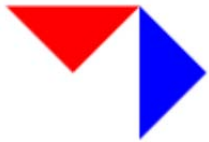
Consider appointment of one more organizer – so the Leader becomes less Event maker...

New activities planned in 2015 (Support centre, mathematics teaching course and research network): We put money into a person to organize it.

Support Centre: need to appoint someone that will go abroad and learn how to do this in a good way, there should be research to go along with it. Structure. There needs to be built a culture/philosophy. Sigma – material to train people. Organize one day workshops to train the people who will work there. All the material is on the web and MatRIC were given the kind offer that someone from Sigma could be invited to give a workshop in Agder.

There will be a NOKUT meeting – criteria for success.

What MatRIC has achieved



MatRIC Centre for Research,
Innovation and Coordination
of Mathematics Teaching



Senter for
fremragende
utdanning

Impressive report. MatRIC has achieved a lot!

The kick start has happened: now think forward. There are expectations out there that needs to be met.

55/14 Any other Business

Contact IAB: We have shrunk to five and will keep it that way for now.

Connection MEC and MatRIC – should this be formalized/make it clearer what this relationship should be?