

04 February, 2014

### **Centre leader report for Management Board meeting 19 February 2014**

Activity has concentrated on getting the Centre established and known.

Since the last Centre management Board (03 December 2014).

The Rector has made appointments to the **Management Board** in accordance with our recommendations at the last meeting.

It has been agreed that Anne Berit Fuglestad will hold the position of Deputy Leader of the Centre.

The **International Advisory Board** has been established with six members: Duncan Lawson, Barbara Jaworski, Burkhard Alpers, Rolf Biehler, Arvid Siqveland, Mogen Niss.

#### **Presentations of MatRIC have been made to:**

Faculty of Engineering and Science seminar - 16.12.2013.

The National Centre for Mathematics Education, Trondheim - 21.01.2014.

Members of the Mathematics Department at NTNU - 21.01.2014.

Agder Conference - 28.01.2014.

The Prime Minister (visiting UiA Faculty of Engineering and Science) - 28.01.2014.

#### **Further visits and presentations are planned**

NOKUT have arranged a start-up meeting for leaders of the new SFUs at Gardermoen on 10.02.2014.

Høgskolen I Bergen (Aasmund Kvamme, Study leader for Realfag) 17.02.2014

Norwegian Industrial Cluster (request of Anne Grete Ellingsen) 10.03.2014

Visit to Umeå University (Centre for Mathematics Education) 21.03.2014

MNT Forum in Kristiansand (at UiA) 26.03.2014

Visit to Rolf Biehler's centre in Germany (no date yet).

#### **Dissemination & networking**

A short article introducing MatRIC has been written by Anne Berit Fuglestad and Simon Goodchild and submitted to the journal 'Tangenten'. The intended readership of this journal is school mathematics teachers and mathematics teacher educators.

Frode Rønning and Simon Goodchild have submitted a proposal for a workshop at the forthcoming NORMA14 conference (A Nordic mathematics education conference) based on MatRIC and the project running at NTNU (KTDiM).

MatRIC working groups to visit Mathematics Education Centre, Loughborough for a joint meeting with the Loughborough group 11-12.09.2014.

A small group (Cornelia Brodahl, Per Sigurd Hundeland & Ingvald Erfjord) has been established to work with a design company on the development of the MatRIC web-pages.

Articles about the Centre are planned for Infomat (the newsletter of Norsk Matematikk forening) and NOMAD, (The Nordic Mathematics Education Journal).

### **Launch conference**

The programme for the launch has been widely distributed. We created an e-mail list from the websites of Norwegian universities and university colleges, also used the existing lists for the Norwegian Matematikknettverket and the NORME network of Nordic mathematics education. At the time of preparing this report, about 40 have signed up for the launch – the hotel conference facility has been booked for 100.

The first meeting of the International Advisory Board will take place in the afternoon preceding the launch conference (i.e. 11.03.2014). It is hoped that several members of the management board will be available (at Gardermoen) to meet with the IAB at some stage during the IAB meeting.

### **Special Interest Working Groups**

Meetings with Coordinators have been held (09.01.2014) and planned (13.02.2014). Also, informal individual discussions with group coordinators. The intention is to have groups operational by August 2014. A survey (national) of interests is being planned. Four groups were being formed, but the person invited to coordinate the teacher education group has withdrawn due to competing workload. Consequently three groups are being developed:

#### **1. Simulation Working Group** (Coordinator - Per Henrik Hogstad)

Core interests and activities of this group are:

- simulation and animation in pure and applied mathematics;
- co-ordination of video lessons, video-streaming, video simulations, interactive simulations, exercises and applications;
- coordination of simulations, modeling and assessments;
- use of digital tools as supplementary resources in mathematical teaching and learning.

#### **2. Digital Assessment and Video-teaching Working Group** (Coordinator - Morten Brekke)

Core interests and activities of this group are:

- use and creation of digital assessments in for teaching mathematics;
- mandatory testing and exams with digital grading;
- live streaming of lectures;
- production and use Video-lectures in mathematics teaching.

#### **3. Mathematical modeling Working Group** (Coordinator - Yuriy Rogovchenko)

Core interests and activities of this group are:

- creation of a knowledge database on the use of mathematical modeling in teaching;
- development of educational materials on mathematical modeling for user groups;
- development of educational activities that engage participants in the design and analysis of subject related problems.

The issue of the teacher education group is something I want to discuss with the Management Board together with the third item under the next heading (Appointments).

### **Appointments**

Centre Administrator/Manager: The announcement of the position was made 07.01.2014. A strong field of 19 applicants has been attracted to apply for the position.

PhD Fellowship has been announced.

I hope to announce a post-doctoral position very soon – I want to discuss this with the Management Board.

**Summary:** The basic structure of the Centre is in place, or with the appointment of the Centre manager very soon will be. The Launch conference is planned (with thanks to Elisabeth Rasmussen at Grimstad for all her work). Information about the Centre is being disseminated using various channels and media.

The main issues demanding attention just now are:

- (i) complete the process for the appointment of Centre administrator/manager
- (ii) the establishment of active and productive special interest working groups, realistically these will not be active until August.
- (iii) The seminar programme promised by the Centre has to be developed. Ideally some dates will be fixed to announce at the launch conference.

It is hoped to have the MatRIC conference as a higher education day joined to the end of the annual 'November Conference' run by the Norwegian Centre for Mathematics Education (NSMO) at Trondheim, 27-28 November 2014. We wait to learn the outcome of discussions within the NSMO management group regarding this proposal.

Simon Goodchild (04.02.2014)