

Steering Committee Minutes

Steering Committee

Meeting # 20

Date: November 5th, 2024

Minutes prepared by Christer Bergman – November 11th, 2024

Participants

University	Contact name	Present/Not present
Chalmers University of Technology	Mikael Enelund	Not present
University of Gothenburg	Karolina Catoni	Not present
Jönköping University	Nerrolyn Ramstrand	Not present
Linköping University	Maria Engelmark	Not present
	Margareta Alfredsson	Present
Linnaeus University	Annett Wolf	Not present
Luleå University of Technology	Jennie Hägg Wilhelmson	Not present
Lund University	Richard Stenelo	Not present
Mid Sweden University	Anna Lindahl	Present
Mälardalen University	Damir Iovic	Not present
Stockholm University	Tina Larsson	Not present
	Åsa Petri	Present
Uppsala University	Johan Tysk	Present
Partners		
Swedish Embassy	Maria Brogren	Not present
Swedish Institute	Douglas Washburn	Not present
	Linnea Lindgren	Present
KK Stiftelsen	Joakim Appelquist	Not present
Chapman University	Niklas Myhr	Not present
SACC USA	Christer Bergman	Present

Agenda

1. Welcome
 - Minutes from last meeting
2. Progress Report
 - Events & Activities
3. Decision / Discussion / Information
 - Financial Report
 - SIREUS 2.0 Implementation
4. AOB & Next meeting

Presentation material

During the meeting a ppt presentation was used containing information that was sent out prior to the meeting.

Minutes

1. Christer opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 20th Steering Committee meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting were then briefly reviewed and action items will be covered during the meeting.

2. Progress Report

Events & Activities

- **SIREUS Study-in-Sweden** tour on October 4th to 12th – results
 - October 4th – Washington DC (9 universities -15 rep)
 - 143 students registered - 73 attended – 70 alumni registered – 27 attended
 - October 7th – New York City (9 universities -15 rep)
 - 70 students registered - 27 attended – 63 alumni registered – 26 attended
 - October 11th – San Francisco (3 universities - 6 rep)
 - 89 students registered - 44 attended
 - October 12th – Silicon Valley (2 universities - 4 rep)
 - 30 alumni registered - 12 attended
 - Strong Social Media push / Instagram boosting
 - DC (11,941 views/103 clicks), NYC (10,802 views/77 clicks, SF (8,901 views/82 clicks)
 - Total costs (for SIREUS): \$17,552 USD. SI contributed \$15,500 USD!!!
 - Both Student recruitment and alumni events.
 - Feedback:
 - San Fransisco was great.
 - NYC was not worth it – probably should not be included next year.
 - Recommend that not mix student and alumni event. Unless it is an alumni panel at the student recruitment event.

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- *Potential visits next year could include Minnesota and Chicago area. Try to find colleges that do not offer master's program, e.g. Gustavus Adolphus...*
- **SIREUS RESEARCH forum** (“Research, Knowledge and Innovation”)
 - *Fifth RESEARCH forum on October 2nd, 2024 – Deep tech investment in the life science and human performance space*
 - *For 2025 and beyond, the SIREUS RESEARCH forum is planned to be led by Maria Brogren with support from SACC USA.*
- **Finetuning the operation** and programs for 2025 and beyond.
 - Preparing the transitional documents, website and articles to be published
 - Preparing to transition the operation to SACC-USA
 - 2 trainees will be 1 trainee in January 2025
 - Christer B will conclude his assignment by January 2025 (as per contract)
 - All activities will be operated by SACC-USA.
 - SIREUS financials will be included in the regular SACC-USA financial report.
 - Christer B will be supporting in a volunteer capacity on request from SACC-USA
 - SIREUS Programs
 - SIREUS ENTREPRENEURS forum – March 2025, Denver & Boulder, CO
 - SIREUS MEMBERS forum – May 28th 2025 in San Diego
 - Innovation Tour – to be planned after request
 - Study-in-Sweden fall 2025 – October/November 2025

3. **SIREUS Decision / Discussion / Information**

Financial Report

Christer presented the financial report for September 2024 and emphasized that there are no real surprises. By the end of the year, the SIREUS finances will be closed and for 2025 and beyond, the SIREUS financial will be fully incorporated in SACC USA financial reports.

SIREUS 2.0 Implementation

SIREUS Affiliation of Swedish Universities

Christer referred to the revised document of SIREUS Affiliation of Swedish Universities that is now finalized. He also talked about the preliminary MOU that was sent out to the steering committee members and some feedback he received. Mainly the feedback is regarding the time period for the MOU. Margareta Alfredsson and Christer will revise the preliminary MOU and send it out separately shortly after the meeting.

The affiliated members will have preferred pricing on SIREUS offered programs, possibility to direct programs to certain areas, firsthand contacts to other universities and other stakeholders and will get invitations to academic workshops and seminars.

As of today (November 5), 6 SIREUS members are positive to join the affiliation (JU, LiU, LIN, LU, MiUN and SU). 3 SIREUS members have opted to not join the affiliation (GU, MDU and UU) and 2 SIREUS members have not yet made any decision (Chalmers and LuTH).

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Christer opened the conversation whether or not there is enough members to have a meaningful affiliation. The group emphasized that together we have to try to get other Swedish universities to join. Christer agreed and will send out a message to “all” other Swedish universities, including KTH and KI. He will communicate to the group to whom he has sent the message, and the group was willing to forward it to others, should there be any we missed.

Christer again emphasized that since the decision of the affiliation has been delayed, the transition process will be compressed and the SIREUS team is doing everything to accomplish a transparent and professional transition campaign.

Final Stakeholders Group Meeting

Christer informed the group that there is a planned last meeting with the Stakeholders Group on December 17th, but the invitation has not been sent out and he recommended that the meeting should be cancelled. He will send out a formal message to the Stakeholders Group (cc the Steering Committee) during December declaring the SIREUS initial project has finished and inform about the formation of the affiliation. Everyone agreed with the recommendation and will inform their members in the Stakeholders Group about the plan.

4. AOB & Next meeting

Since there were no Other Business for the meeting, Christer thanked the participants for the meeting.

The next steering committee meeting will be held via Teams on December 10th @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST). The main topic of that meeting is to update on the transition for the SIREUS network.

Christer reminded us about the dates for the steering committee meetings for the whole of 2024. Invites have been sent out.

- a. ~~January 16th @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)~~
- b. ~~March 5th @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)~~
- c. ~~April 16th @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)~~
- d. ~~May 28th @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)~~
- e. ~~August 20th @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)~~
- f. ~~September 24th @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)~~
- g. ~~November 5th @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)~~
- h. December 10th @ 15.00 CET (9 am EST)

The meeting calendar is also published on the website (private area).

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