

Working Group Minutes

Working Group 4 Sweden

Meeting # 18

Date: November 21st, 2024

Minutes prepared by Alice Berntson – November 21st, 2024

Participants

University	Contact name	Present/Not present
Blekinge Tekniska Högskola	Maja Elofsson	Not present
Chalmers University of Technology	Linda Millsvik	Present
University of Gothenburg	John Molander	Present
	Fanndis Herrmansdottir	Not present
Jönköping University	Eric Freid	Not present
Linköping University	Therese Winder	Present
	Fredrik Andersson	Not Present
Linnaeus University	Stefan Haglund	Present
Luleå University of Technology	Robert Omberg	Not present
	Linda Alfredsson	Not present
Lund University	Maria Lindblad	Not Present
Mid Sweden University	Ellen Horbach	Not Present
Mälardalen University	Johanna Forsström	Present
	Niclas Johansson	Not present
	Hans Öberg	Not present
Stockholm University	Tina Larsson	Present
	Sofie Trosell	Not present
Uppsala University	Lina Solander	Not present
	Matt Greig	Not Present
	Cecilia Tiscornia	Not Present
Partners		
Swedish Embassy	Jenny Majidyar	Not present
SACC Trainees	Alice Berntson	Present
	Annie Arcini Lundwall	Present
SACC USA	Christer Bergman	Present & Group Leader

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Agenda

1. Welcome
 - a. Review of minutes from last meeting
 - b. Update on SIREUS progress
2. SIREUS 2.0 Implementation
3. Study in Sweden 2024 & 2025
4. SIREUS RESEARCH Forum
5. 2025 and beyond
6. "Next meetings"

Presentation material

During the meeting, a ppt presentation was used following the agenda sent out before it. This ppt presentation will be archived on the SIREUS website alongside the minutes.

Minutes

1. Christer opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. He then reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting and spoke briefly about the agenda for the meeting. He thanked everyone for the last meeting when the Study in Sweden tour was reviewed.
2. SIREUS has moved forward with SIREUS 2.0, and there will be an affiliation with hopefully a broader network in both Sweden and in the US. SIREUS is updating the website to prepare for the new implementations launching in 2025. The affiliated members will have to sign an MOU with SIREUS, however, there are no formal financial nor resource commitments tied to the agreements. Information about the new SIREUS affiliation offer has been sent to over 20 universities. Jönköping University (JU), Chalmers University of Technology (Chalmers), Linköping University (LiU), Linnaeus University (LIN), Lund University (LU), Mid Sweden University (MiUN) and Stockholm University (SU) has said yes to become affiliated. University of Gothenburg (GU), Mälardalen University (MDU) and Uppsala University (UU) has said no. Blekinge Technical University, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) and University West (Högskolan Väst) has shown their interest.

The Steering Committee has been involved in the process. For questions or leads regarding the affiliation, please email Christer. Even non-affiliated universities will have the opportunity to participate in events such as the SIREUS Study in Sweden tour. The updated website is scheduled to launch on December 18th. The last Steering Committee meeting will take place on December 10th. Moving forward, the SIREUS initiative will be fully integrated with SACC-USA. Christer will conclude his involvement with SIREUS but has committed to providing support on a volunteer basis for a transitional period.

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3. A review of the feedback poll from the Study in Sweden events was conducted. The poll was mistakenly sent to 38 recipients, although it was intended only for participants of the events. During the meeting, Christer confirmed that all participants had received the poll. Of those invited, half of the universities responded. Among the responses, half rated their satisfaction as 4 or 3. However, one university gave a rating of 1, which is concerning. Christer reviewed the feedback and noted some positives, such as good student turnout and engaging discussions. However, moving forward, there is a clear need to increase student attendance, particularly from American students. Currently, half of the participants had Swedish connections, while the other half learned about the event via social media. Christer emphasized that the primary goal for SI is to attract paying students. Discussions are ongoing with SI on strategies to attract these students for future events. He also inquired who would like to join the planning process for Study in Sweden 2025 and will send an invitation for a startup planning meeting. Christer proposed January 14th, 15:00–16:00, as a tentative date for this meeting and will send an invitation to all affiliated universities.
4. The last SIREUS RESEARCH forum was held on October 2nd, and the article summarizing the webinar has been published on SIREUS social media channels and website. Moving forward, Maria Brogren from the Embassy of Sweden will take the lead on the RESEARCH forum, while SIREUS will handle planning and invitations.
5. Going forward, there will not be any regular working group meeting held, however there will be planning meetings for the different events. This in order for the participants to be part of the planning and decision-making process for all the events.
6. There are no next meetings planned. Christer thanked everyone for 18 valuable meetings and wished everyone and their universities all the best going forward. Christer is always available for questions or discussion online. The universities thanked Christer for his engagement and project planning.

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