

## Minutes of employer panel meeting Lighting Design on June 9<sup>th</sup> 2026

**Participants: Georgios Triantafyllidis, Mette Hvass, Ellen Kathrine Hansen, Lone Malmberg, Merete Madsen, Lars Hansen, Jesper Ravn, Allan Ruberg, Judi Stærk Poulsen (minute taker)**

### **Item 1. Welcome and approval of agenda** by program coordinator Georgios Triantafyllidis

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Georgios Triantafyllidis welcomed the employer panel for Lighting Design.

All participants briefly introduced themselves.

### **Item 2. Presentation of LID continuing education program (EVU)** by program coordinator Georgios Triantafyllidis

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Georgios Triantafyllidis introduced the background for the discussion by noting that the MSc in Lighting Design was launched in 2014, but is scheduled to be phased out in 2029.

He noted that currently discussions are ongoing to assess whether there is sufficient and sustainable demand for an academically accredited continuing education (EVU) program in lighting design, nationally and/or internationally.

Key considerations include potential target groups, program format and financial viability.

### **Item 3. Discussion and input regarding the further education program (EVU) – content and target group**

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Jesper Ravn opened the discussion by asking what would motivate individuals to enroll in the EVU program. He noted that the program is likely to be costly for individual participants and questioned whether industry demand is sufficient. He also doubted that many practicing architects would be willing to invest time in becoming lighting designers.

Allan Ruberg emphasized that the industry needs lighting design expertise but questioned whether this need is widely recognized. He noted that this may be one of the challenges in promoting an EVU program, as it may be difficult to guarantee employment opportunities for participants after completion.

Jesper Ravn stressed that the program should focus on design, as future participants would want to learn how to design light. He noted that current graduates see themselves as designers, although design has only been moderately covered in the program.

Allan Ruberg and Ellen Hansen stressed that the University and Danish architectural organizations should promote the value lighting professionals bring to building projects, clients and society.

Merete Madsen noted increased awareness of lighting design compared to five years ago, and she stressed the importance of maintaining education in the field.

A closer cooperation with Danish architectural associations was suggested by Allan Rubjeg, as their support might strengthen the program.

Lars Hansen noted that lighting design is not yet part of the standard building process and is often seen as the responsibility of electrical engineers. Without a collective effort to change this, demand for lighting design in Denmark will remain limited.

The discussion also addressed the high proportion of international students in the current MSc program, and consequently whether an EVU program should be offered in Danish or internationally.

Jesper Ravn asked about the financial feasibility of a one-year education program?

Lone Malmberg indicated that the program might reach break-even with around 15 students and emphasized that recruitment efforts should focus on companies rather than individuals

Merete Madsen stressed the importance of a research-based program, as the research should serve as a lever for lighting design in the industry. At the same time, she emphasizes that it is equally important that the education is design-based - with (young) teachers from professional lighting design practices as the base.

Allan Ruberg agreed, concluding that good lighting is still a matter of chance. Progress in the field is slow, and lighting professionals are often not integrated into consultancy teams.

Lars Hansen emphasized the need to convince clients of the value of lighting expertise. Research is therefore important, and architects need to convince clients in the building industry of the importance of lighting design.

Allan Ruberg suggested expanding the target group to include electrical engineers and electricians.

#### **Item 4. Summary and conclusion**

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Georgios Triantafyllidis concluded that further analysis and work is needed to define the possible program format and to determine whether an EVU program should primarily target the Danish market, an international audience, or both.

The discussion indicated that there is a recognized need for lighting design expertise in the industry, but also that the demand, target group, recruitment strategy and financial viability of such a program require further clarification.

Lars Hansen expressed interest in a follow-up meeting, and several of the points raised during the discussion may therefore be taken forward in future dialogue with the employer panel and relevant external stakeholders.

Ellen Hansen ended the meeting by referring to an earlier question raised by Jesper Ravn: why establish an EVU program while closing the MSc in Lighting Design? This was noted as a key strategic question for the further process.

Finally, participants were reminded of the Light Symposium in September.