



AALBORG UNIVERSITET

Study Board for  
Chemistry and Bioscience

**Minutes from Study Board meeting on Wednesday 10.06.26 at 13.00 in Aalborg and Esbjerg**

**Present from Aalborg:** Majken Pagter (MP), Lars Hastrup Pedersen (LHP), Nicklas Bjørnmose Dupont (NBD), Mikkel Aaholm Bennetsen (MAB), Marcus Juul Skovmose (MJS)

**Observers:** Niels T Eriksen (NTE),

**Present from Esbjerg:** Morten E. Simonsen (MES), Jonas Bjerring Christensen (JBC),

**Cancellation/not present:** Mads Koustrup Jørgensen (MKJ), Ida Gjerulff Thomsen (IGT) (observer), Clara Victoria Raunholt Ehlert (CRE) (observer),

**Agenda:**

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Approval of minutes from meeting 20.05.2026
3. Student applications (confidential)
4. General information
5. Discussion
6. Curricula
7. Quality assurance
8. Budget
9. Any other business

**1. Approval of the agenda**

**Action**

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| Approved.<br><br>Appendix 26-101 submitted subsequently for item 7.<br>The Study Board reviews the semester reports before considering the SurveyXact evaluations under item 7. |  |
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**2. Approval of minutes from meeting 20.05.2026**

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| Approved. |  |
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### 3. Student applications (confidential)

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| <p><b>a) List of application cases processed since the last Study Board meeting, appendix 26-090</b><br/>LHP reviewed student cases since the last meeting.</p> <p><b>b) Reconsideration of application for exemption allowing a fourth examination attempt, appendix 26-091</b><br/>The Study Board approved the exemption based on new information, including documented illness in the applicant's immediate family.</p> <p><b>c) Reconsideration of application for exemption allowing a fourth examination attempt and exemption from the 24-month rule, appendix 26-092</b><br/>The Study Board approved the exemption based on new information, including the applicant's own documented illness.</p> <p><b>d) Application for exemption allowing a fifth examination attempt, appendix 26-093</b><br/>The Study Board approved the exemption based on the applicant's own documented illness.</p> <p><b>e) Information on students at risk of dropping out</b><br/>Delayed students, Spring 2026, appendix 26-094<br/>Study progression for regular students with an open framework, appendix 26-095</p> <p>LHP reviewed the list and explained the significance of the number of missing ECTS credits.<br/>It was suggested that, for next time, an overview be prepared distinguishing between students who are genuinely behind in their studies and students whose delay is due to, for example, part-time study arrangements or an individual study plan.</p> |  |
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### 4. General information

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| <p><b>a) Nomination of Lecturer of the Year (student representatives)</b><br/>NBD informed the Study Board that several nominations had been received. The nominees will be acknowledged at the graduation ceremony, where the Lecturer of the Year will also be announced. NBD will send the nominations, including a brief justification for each nomination, to LHP.</p> | NBD |
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### 5. Discussion

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| <p><b>a) Delegation Guidelines, appendix 26-096</b><br/>LHP explained that there is currently a central focus on ensuring that Study Boards do not delegate decision-making authority to, for example, the Study Board Secretary without the Study Board having considered the matter itself, such as in student cases.</p> |  |
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| No comments have been raised regarding the current procedure at BIO, and the Study Board may therefore continue its practice as described in appendix 26-096. |  |
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## 6. Curricula

### a) Information on professional master's degree programmes and revision of programme regulations in the autumn

#### **Professional master's degree programmes in Esbjerg (Bioengineering and Chemical Engineering) and in Aalborg (Chemistry, Biotechnology and Biology)**

LHP explained that the new professional master's degree programmes are based on the existing master's degree programmes. They will follow the so-called 1+2 model, meaning that the first year is identical for both regular master's students and professional master's students. Thereafter, professional master's students will have two years to complete their Master's Thesis while simultaneously working in a relevant part-time position.

The department must apply for approval by 11 December 2026, and the new professional master's degree programmes are expected to be offered from September 2028.

Students must apply directly to the professional master's programme from the outset and must secure a contract with a company within their first year of study.

#### **Master's Degree Programme in Biotechnology, Aalborg**

LHP informed the Study Board that a revision of the curriculum for the Master's Degree Programme in Biotechnology is to be undertaken.

LHP presented various proposals for the revision.

NTE informed the Study Board about the upcoming programme evaluation of the degree programmes in Aalborg, which will take place in autumn 2026. A panel consisting of various stakeholders will be invited to participate in the evaluation.

NTE further informed the Study Board that it has been decided that both diploma engineering and master's degree programmes will be shortened by one month. For the diploma engineering programmes, this will apply to students who commenced their studies in September 2025.

It has not yet been decided when the change will take effect for master's degree students.

As a consequence, amendments to the programme regulations for the diploma engineering programmes will be required.

## 7. Quality assurance

### **SurveyXact and Review of Semester Reports (Evaluation of Autumn 2025)**

(Focus on the received semester reports and the corresponding evaluation reports that the Study Board did not have time to address at the May meeting, as well as evaluation reports for which no semester reports have been received.)



**Evaluation of Study Activities, Autumn 2025 – Semesters and Projects, appendix 26-097**

**Evaluation of Study Activities, Autumn 2025, appendix 26-098**

**Aalborg**

1st semester BSc, appendix 26-068

3rd semester BSc, appendix 26-069

5th semester BSc, appendix 26-070

1st semester MSc in Biology, appendix 26-071

1st semester MSc in Biotechnology, appendix 26-072

1st semester MSc in Chemistry, appendix 26-073

**Semester Reports, Autumn 2025**

**Overview of submitted semester reports, appendix 26-074**

LHP informed the Study Board that reminders had been sent to the coordinators responsible for the semester reports that had not yet been submitted.

**Esbjerg**

**1st semester MSc in Chemical Engineering, appendix 26-078**

LHP noted that several comments had been received regarding the Colloid Chemistry course, particularly concerning the excessive workload and volume of course material. Comments were also received regarding the Chemical Thermodynamics course.

The lecturer is aware of the comments raised in the evaluations.

**Aalborg**

**1st Semester BSc, appendix 26-079**

Comments were received regarding the Mathematics course as well as the PBL course.

Concerns were raised about the structure of the Calculus course, possibly due to the involvement of several different lecturers. The Department of Mathematical Sciences determines the structure of the course and the examination.

LHP noted that it would be helpful if students were provided with an overview of the course, including information on which lecturers they would have and when.

MJS commented that the course appears to be more suited to a written examination than an oral examination, which may be one reason for the students' frustration.

MAB agreed and noted that the examination questions were heavily focused on theory.

LHP stated that there used to be an annual meeting with the Department of Mathematical Sciences regarding their courses.

NTE responded that this had probably only taken place during the initial phase of the collaboration but suggested that it could be reinstated.

It was noted that the course had previously been assessed through a written examination, but that the format had been changed to an oral examination in an effort to reduce the failure rate.

NBD suggested that the examination could beneficially be extended to allow more time for students.



LHP further informed the Study Board that comments regarding the PBL course had been forwarded to the course coordinator at the Department of Planning (PLAN).

**5th Semester BSc in Biotechnology, Chemical Engineering, Environmental Science, Chemistry and Diploma Engineering, appendix 26-080**

LHP highlighted the comments concerning group formation and noted that the process should be made smoother.

Part of the solution lies in the students' approach to group formation, as well as in establishing an appropriate framework for the process.

MAB commented that group formation sometimes resolves itself naturally when students are able to form groups with their preferred peers. However, a solution is needed for semesters in which the group formation process does not work out as smoothly.

NBD noted that a proposal had been submitted suggesting that groups should be formed in advance. Those present at the meeting agreed that this would not be a desirable solution.

LHP suggested that a better approach would be for project proposals to be presented first, after which groups could be formed based on students' preferred project themes.

LHP further suggested that project groups could be formed across specialisations, thereby increasing the opportunities for students to find suitable group members.

NBD agreed and stated that it would be a good idea to present project proposals on one day and conduct the group formation process on a separate day.

**1st Semester MSc in Chemistry, appendix 26-081**

LHP noted that several comments concerned the availability of group rooms.

NTE commented that, across the evaluation reports in general, there had been many remarks regarding group rooms.

LHP informed the Study Board that a reorganisation of office space at Fredrik Bayers Vej 7H is planned, whereby at least two staff members will share offices. This will free up additional rooms that can be used as group rooms.

**Other Semesters**

LHP noted that the course *Project Management and Economics* on the 6th semester in Esbjerg had received the same comments as in previous evaluations. There may now be an opportunity to address these issues as the diploma engineering programme regulations are due to be reviewed.

JBC stated that they would clearly prefer to undertake the internship before writing the Bachelor's Project. In their view, it would be easier to establish a collaboration for the Bachelor's Project after completing the internship period.

MES explained that most students write their Bachelor's Project within, or in collaboration with, the company where they completed their internship. A list of approximately 30 company contacts is available to assist students in finding internship placements.

JBC remarked that the list should probably be updated.



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| <p><b>MSc in Bioengineering, 2nd Semester</b></p> <p>LHP noted that the <i>Bioresources and Biorefineries</i> course had received criticism regarding the instructions provided for the Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) component. In addition, the wording of the learning objectives had been discussed in connection with the examination.</p> <p>NTE stated that the comments would be discussed with the lecturers responsible for the course.</p> <p><b>Points for the Study Board's Attention, appendix 26-101</b></p> <p>NBD noted a request for improved and more extensive training in the use of laboratory equipment, including training related to laboratory safety.</p> <p>LHP explained that this issue is particularly relevant in relation to international visitors and students, who may not necessarily have received appropriate laboratory safety instructions.</p> <p>JBC informed the Study Board that, for the 1st semester in Esbjerg, an introductory laboratory equipment course had been organised, consisting of various practical exercises. The feedback received had been very positive. The course was taught by one of the laboratory technicians, two student assistants, and a laboratory technician trainee.</p> <p>In addition, an annual safety course is offered, which all students are required to pass once a year.</p> <p>MES will investigate the laboratory training courses offered in Esbjerg and forward the relevant information to NTE for inspiration.</p> <p>MES added that the courses were introduced primarily on the 1st semester to standardise procedures, particularly because many students enter the programme from different educational backgrounds.</p> <p>Regarding the Environmental Science programme, several constructive comments and suggestions for adjustments to the curriculum had been received. This will be addressed as a follow-up action.</p> <p><b>Semester Reports / Steering Group Minutes</b></p> <p><b>Steering Group Meeting 2, 6th Semester, Esbjerg, appendix 26-082</b></p> <p><b>Steering Group Meeting 2, 2nd Semester MSc in Bioprocess Engineering, Esbjerg, appendix 26-083</b></p> <p>The item had already been reviewed at the previous meeting.</p> | MES |
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## 8. Budget

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| a) Study Board grants – Updated, appendix 26-100 |  |
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## 9. Any other business

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**AALBORG UNIVERSITET**

Louise Kiilerich Pratas  
Referent

\*AI was used for translation of the minutes from Danish to English.