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Minutes of the meeting in Employer Panel Meeting part 2 (LiD) on June 6, 2023

Participants: Mette Hvass, Georgios Triantafyllidis, Allan Ruberg, Jesper Ravn

Unable to attend:

Other participants: Flemming Løvenhardt Petersen, Christine Pedersen (minute taker)

Item 7. Completion and evaluation in subgroup

- **Your use of Lifelong Learning and students' collaboration with the industry**
- *How does your organisation use Continuing Education / Lifelong Learning, and what are your preferred formats?*

Georgios and Mette are working on some micro credentials – specific topics. They are introducing Allan and Jesper to what they are working on now to meet the requirement on making smaller courses/education available to a broader crowd.

Mette Hvass is making a video about her PhD. A 10-minute introduction to the topic.

Georgios want to do videos about the labs and what they teach the in the labs and some visualizations.

They are also thinking about some short courses also for their students on 5 – 10 ECTS points.

- *Recommendations:*

- Allan: You need to be specific about who you want to attract to the courses. Is it architects or people in the construction industry. It is very popular to talk about circular economy and environment at the moment. You need to be very specific about the people you want to attract to the courses.

- Jesper: Flemming has a point about, weather it is short courses or a full education you want to do. I would suggest smaller courses on 2 – 3 days with very specific and basic understanding of Lighting Design in the industry.

- Allan: It is important that the courses make sense for the overall education that you already offer at the university. Lighting Design has not had a breakthrough yet in the broad construction industry, that would benefit the whole industry a lot because good Lighting Design saves money in the building industry.

Flemming: It is important to be clear about the kind of education/courses we are talking about is it 2 – 3 days or 3 years there is a big difference.

- **Use of AI in the industry**

- *Is AI part of your industry and how do you think we should accommodate this in our educations?*

- Georgios: Can I ask you a question about the sort of courses that can be offered in the industry? Because it would be nice to hear about the specific topics and Allan you mentioned something about sustainability or the life circle or the add ons to the contractors. Are there any other topics you feel could attract some attention, maybe something with the other topic AI and smart technology?

- *Recommendations:*

- Allan: My recommendation would be to go where the money is and, in the building, industry is about making c02 calculations every time they need to make a new building. If you work with lighting the right way, then this would be a good way to take out the co2 footprint from the new buildings by using circular lighting equipment. Very few companies offer this, but the technology is already available. You need to make a network for people who are working with these things and understand the importance of working with it. That could be an interesting topic for you to investigate.

- Allan: if you look at Danish center for lighting. They are making courses specifically for architects and they have courses taught by Vladan and he is an architect and a lighting Designer. He is teaching about the building Code, what are the requirements and what is the basic of light and he is showing some specific projects that he worked on. The need for education is very simple, so that is what the market needs to know about lighting Design. How to illustrate with light? What is street lighting? Is more light good? You could also make practical courses on how to it afterwards.

Allan: You probably need to do some work beforehand. Because very few building projects have Lighting Designers in the projects. The work is done by architects and engineers and not a Lighting Designer. You need to show the market how a lighting designer can create value. The thing that sets Lighting Designer apart from the rest of the people working in this industry is the Lighting Designers skills to use design-thinking. The design-thinking process is making sure that the client gets maximum value for money in the building process.

Georgios: If I can follow up, this is not just about life-long education, but about the need for Lighting designers and the value that lighting Designers creates. We talked about this Flemming, Mette, and I a few days ago how to communicate the value that Lighting Designers create.

Flemming: I would like to ask Allan and Jesper a question, if I have got a company and I would like to hire a lighting Designer and I should have enough projects for this Lighting Designer? How many projects do I need to have in my pipeline?

Jesper: I do Lighting Design most of the time at my company. I am making the strategic plans at my company and not so many specific projects. I don't do a complete finished project. It is very unusually for an architect company to have a Lighting Designer in the office. So, I do not know what it takes for an architect's office to want to hire a Lighting Designer. The architects don't know what Lighting Designers do.

Allan: Maybe it is a mistake calling the education 'Lighting Design' Because designer means something else in native English. You need to claim the right in the industry to make the Lighting Designers matter in the requirements for creating new buildings. You can get the students to do projects for the big installation companies and when the students return to the university, they present this, and you can do the same for the municipality.

Mette: I think you are right when you mention that we need to talk to the specifiers and get them to acknowledge the highly educated Lighting Designers we educate for the market.

Flemming: we already have connections to the social housing companies, and we have made appointments where the students have show them what a lighting designer can do.

Allan: We need both ways to go about it, thew practical one and the one where we contact the architectural organization and the engineer's organization. You need to take contact with people at the top of each organization to gain awareness about the education.

Item 5. Discussion about future curriculum revision

Georgios: This is part of the topics we need to discuss, how and what we can do to alter the education to suit the market? What are the points that the curriculum should have?

Jesper: We have talked about this more than once, and didn't we talk about this last year? We were talking about different topics if they were meaningful? We could suggest a lot of things, but you only have the students for a limited time.

Mette: We need to consider the academic side and the practical side of the education. But we are talking about how to make the education more useful for the industry. We are talking to the students about that they need to be thinking about what kind of Lighting Designer they would like to become, when they graduate.

Flemming: If I am a Lighting Designer and I contact a company and want to make myself available for the company?

- *Recommendation:*

- *Allan: The lighting design is a good education because you both have the create approach and the practical tools to do bigger projects. Lighting is also mathematics, physics, regulations, and standards. Understanding the trends in the society towards sustainability and making environments for people. And people need all this palette of knowledge. Or to do what Jesper is doing making the concepts for different projects specifically with the lights.*

- *Allan: When the students start their education, they should pick what type of Lighting Designer they would like to be from the beginning. And when they approach a prospect employer, they need to show the company the type of lighting designer that the company recognizes. I have never written an academic article in my life, and I have never used that when I represent my ideas on various projects, but the education we are talking about is a science and research education, so half of what you do is out of my view.*

- *Flemming: What kind of software do you use? Because I know from the Jobcentre that architects use Revit?*

- *Allan: the architects that I work with use Dialux., perhaps vivux and some plug-ins from Rhino and some in relux and you need to know these programs because all the employers are older and not good at using these programs.*

- Jesper: we have talked about this before, but the education is lacking some of the technical requirements, the calculations to support the public space and environment. And there where some misunderstanding that the architects because they were afraid that someone would take the rights to the design.

Georgios: We are looking into which sectors and companies that hire Lighting Designers. The education is very multidisciplined and we only have the students for one year and we must cover a lot of things.

Flemming: I have been looking at Linked-in to see where the students are working and very few is in architects and consulting engineering companies, a lot of them is working in the lighting department as a salesperson and wholesale companies and in general very few in academic working places. When I look at the students that travel outside of Denmark the picture is completely different, because we are way back in the Lighting design area.

Allan: You need to adapt the education to the needs in the industry. You need to take a decision to make a change and be more relevant and get more students with relevant and important jobs. You need to look at your clients and who you want to handover your students to after the they graduate.

Georgios: we also need to save the education, but maybe highlight some of the subjects more than others.

Georgios: Is AI a part of the industry?

Jesper: I have absolutely no idea.

Allan: I was giving a speech in Barcelona, and I showed some examples of how AI can be used. And AI will influence everything we do in the future. Also, when we think about the discussion, we have had the clients are years behind with using Ai and the new digital solutions. The clients are not asking for digital solutions at all. I don't think it is relevant to our customers yet.

Allan: I am sure that in a few years that we will use images and digitalization, but we need to know what to use it for and what value it brings to the projects. It will be useful in the software and technical solutions.

Georgios: I am always thinking about how to use data to make the designs better and better lighting in specific conditions and settings, but the technology is not good enough to use yet. I hear that you say they should focus on other things in the education.

Jesper: what are you making of all of this as your role as ambassador?

Follow-up:

Flemming: I think that we should put emphasis on the creativity, but also how to show people what value the Lighting Designers will be contributing with in the industry.