

Terms of reference for the Faculty Business Committee at Science and Technology

Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of appointing a Faculty Business Committee at Science and Technology are to significantly increase dialogue and collaboration with the private business sector. The Faculty Business Committee is Science and Technology's coordinating body for the activities concerning business collaboration with a view to ensuring a professional approach to private companies.

There are a number of advantages in connection with increased business collaboration. These include access to external research funds, new networks, dividing the research infrastructure, joint research applications, collaboration regarding degree programmes, and a contribution to solving major societal challenges.

Background

Increasing collaboration with the private business sector is a strategic aim at Science and Technology and the university as a whole.

The Faculty Business Committee at Science and Technology is appointed with a view to increasing collaboration with private and public companies.

Tasks

The task portfolio for the Faculty Business Committee includes:

- Ensuring – in collaboration with the Dean's Office, the Faculty Management Team and the local business committees – that the annual targets for the extent and nature of business collaboration at the faculty are achieved.
- Providing presentations to the Faculty Management Team regarding the overall strategic principles and direction of Science and Technology's business collaboration.
- Providing the Dean's Office and the Faculty Management Team with advice regarding business collaboration.
- Ensuring that Science and Technology and Aarhus University stakeholders are involved to a relevant extent in business collaboration.
- Coordinating collaboration with the (major) companies cutting across departments and centres, as well as initiating 'major academic ventures' such as pilot projects.
- Supporting Aarhus University's management and players in collaboration with the university's strategic business partners.

- Providing management information to the Dean's Office, the Faculty Management Team, the Committee for Research and External Collaboration, and the Senior Management Team in connection with enquiries.

Composition of members

- The Faculty Business Committee is appointed by the dean.
- The chairs of the local business committees are ex-officio members of the Faculty Business Committee. It will be possible to send a substitute to meetings to represent the local business committees. The chair is shared by the vice-dean for research and the vice-dean for knowledge exchange.

Meeting cadence

- The committee meets as required and at least four times a year.

Secretarial services

- The Faculty Business Committee is provided with secretarial services by the Faculty Secretariat, which is also responsible for coordination with and involvement of other Aarhus University stakeholders.