

Menntamálaráðuneytið  
Sölvhólsgrötu 4  
150 Reykjavík  
b.t. Einar Jörundssonar og Hellen Gunnarsdóttur

Hvanneyri 25. febrúar 2008

**Efni: Athugasemdir við skýrslu sérfræðinefndar um viðurkenningu á fræðasviði auðlinda- og búvísinda (MMR07100567/10.2-) erindi ráðuneytisins dagsett 8. febrúar 2008.**

Skýrslan hefur áður verið send Lbhí til umsagnar þann 12.11.2007 og athugasemdir voru sendar nefndinni 16.11.2007.

Í athugasemdum Lbhí kom fram almenn ánægja með skýrsluna þar sem rétt var farið með staðreyndir að langmestu leyti og aðeins ástæða til að gera minniháttar athugasemdir. Nefndin tók síðan tillit til nokkurra athugasemda en brást ekki við öðrum. Þær athugasemdir sem nefndin brást ekki við voru þessar:

I

Bls. 9 efsta lína:

... the EC mentions that they received “*large and fragmented volume of material...*” and recommend that “*future ECs will receive a single document containing all material relevant to the accreditation process*”.

Okkar athugasemd var:

In our opinion this issue should be addressed to the ministry. The form of the application follows the design of the web-based electronic application form that required usually less than 2000 word long text for each chapter, accompanied by zipped appendices for further information.

## II

Bls. 12 önnur málsgrein

*“There was concern expressed that areas such as economics and agricultural economics, soil nutrition, biometrics and molecular biology are not adequately represented in the current curriculum and should be addressed with new academic appointments.”*

Okkar athugasemd var:

We believe that this is based on some misunderstanding as these subjects are included in the current curriculum. However, they are being manned by external teachers and it is therefore important to focus new recruitments into these areas.

## III

Bls 15 önnur málsgrein í Conclusions: *“However, no clear Strategic Vision with well-articulated goals and objectives has emerged”*.

Okkar athugasemd var:

It could be added for further information that the University Council decided, on its meeting on 17 October 2007, to initiate work on Strategic Vision for AUI for 2008-2012. Work involved with the merger of the institutions that formed AUI has taken up much of the time and effort of the management team and other staff until now but this has now been successfully accomplished. Thus the time is ripe for work on the Strategic Vision.

## IV

Bls. 17 í málsgreininni: Conclusions *“However, while general rules and procedures are formulated, entrance standards seem to be minimal and do not promote long-term educational quality and reputation”*

Okkar athugasemd var:

We agree on the reflections made by EC and we are aware of that entry standards need to be revised, and that has already been discussed in the AUI Teaching Committee. We have, however, decided to await new legislation for the secondary school level in Iceland, which also will give directives on entrance standards for universities. This law proposal will as far as we know be opened for discussion in the parliament next week.

V

Bls 20, neðsta lína: “*No description is found for the PhD programme*”

Okkar athugasemd var:

In our discussions with the Ministry about the present accreditation procedure we understood that the PhD education was a subject for a separate evaluation that is going to take place only after that accreditation for BSc and MSc programmes has been received by the university in question. Therefore only minimal information about the PhD programme was included in this application. We can provide more details if this is required.

LbhÍ þakkar ánægjulegt samstarf við sérfræðinganeftndina, Rannís og ráðuneytið við úttektarvinnuna.

Ágúst Sigurðsson  
rektor