



Stipendiatororganisasjonene i Norge

Post Pandemic Internationalization: The Early-Career Researchers' Perspective

Forskerutdanningskonferanse, Oslo Met

Nicolas Gibney

leder@stipendiat.no

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Introduction

What is SiN?

- An umbrella organization representing PhDs and postdocs at the national level
- We have 11 member organizations and through them represent 7.000 PhDs and postdocs
- We are responsible for advocating for our constituents at national bodies and on the national stage
- This presentation is based on the experiences of our members and our board

Who am I?

- 4th year PhD at NHH studying Strategic Management and Organizational Change
- Leader of SiN since November 2021



Internationalization during the Pandemic

International Mobility

- Conferences cancelled or shifted to online
- No international mobility – no conferences, guest lectures, courses

Network Building

- Significant challenges in networking at digital conferences
- No opportunity to informally meet junior or senior researchers

International Collaboration

- Fine, if you had a network
- Little possibilities for new collaborations
- Reduced ability to find co-authors



Post-Pandemic



Mobility and Conferences

Slowly improving situation

- After 12-18 months, the world began reopening
- Significant challenges remain – depending on destination and length of stay

More possibilities

- Universities reopening for international course participants
- Conferences tend to be hybrid
- More emphasis on networking amongst young researchers at conferences

Future is still very uncertain

- Research stays vary by country
- Many established researchers are avoiding travel



Network Building

Increased focus on networking

- More conferences include networking events
- More participation at networking events

Digital conferences laid groundwork

- Physical conferences afford the chance to meet people from digital conferences
- Attending same conferences can continue relationships



International Collaboration and Publishing

More comfortable with digital collaboration

- Researchers at all levels are much more comfortable with digital solutions

Easier to collaborate – if relationships already exist

- Once contacts are established, digital tools make collaboration easier
- More emphasis on international collaboration – not just domestic

Greater opportunities for longer distance cooperation

- Researchers from around the world can collaborate over Teams/Zoom



What can be improved

More support needed from institutes

- Some PhD candidates missed 3 of 4 possible years of networking
- Lack of a good network can have enormous consequences for a career in academia
- Emphasizing mobility means little if there is no funding to support it

