

SPCO organized Annual Planning Meeting on 04-05 November 2019 at Ghion Hotel Dashen Hall.

- ❖ As per the project Cycle annual review meeting was held at Ghion Hotel from 04-05 November/2019 with the presence of AAU and Swedish partners. Plans and newly proposed activities, activities accomplished in 2018/2019 and problems encountered have been discussed.



- ❖ **Excel training:** A Half Day Excel Training provided for 37 AAU Staffs from different Departments by Swedish Professors from 10 to 13 December 2019.

According to 2019/2020 plan, Sida Projects' Coordination Office in collaboration with Swedish Agricultural University SLU organized a half day excel training for AAU Staffs'. The training was given by Swedish Professors for 4(four) consecutive days.

SPCO prepared a questioner to evaluate the training, to identify gaps and to improve its service in the future.

Among the trainees 68.9% of the respondents believe that the training was excellent and 31.1% said that it was a very good training.

Most of the trainees agreed that the training help them to manage different and bulky data and Shortcuts to use excel easily.

For the question what should SPCO need to Improve in the future? Respondents answered that it will be better to improve the time as it is too short to learn more about excel. As the training participants are from different departments they recommended SPCO to customize the training according to the activities done in the departments.



Photos from Excel training

Cultural Exchange between SPCO staffs and Professors from Sweden 13 December 2019

- ❖ Swedish Professors came to AAU to provide excel training for four days.



- ❖ AAU- Sida 40th Anniversary will be celebrated on May 2020 at AAU. Dr. Anita Sandstorm, Consultant for AAU-Sida 40th Anniversary, came to AAU to discuss on the schedule. The meeting was organized by SPCO on 11 December 2019 at Senate Hotel.



Photo from AAU- Sida 40th Anniversary Meeting, AAU, Senate Hall, 11 December 2019

International and Comparative Education

- ❖ CCEPS and University of Gothenburg Department of Education and Special Education together organized an academic international conference for International and Comparative Education doctoral students and academics on December 13 and 14, 2019 in Addis Ababa. The conference was attended by 55 guests from Ethiopia, Sweden and USA. The conference proceeding included 2 key note speeches by renown scholars in the field international and comparative education from University of Wisconsin Madison in USA and University of Uppsala in Sweden; 15 conference papers presented by PhD students and academics from Addis Ababa University and Gothenburg University; and Swedish cultural show by the Swedish academics who participated in the conference.



Academic International Conference at Ghion Hotel 13 and 14 December 2019



Photo from public lecture by Thomas Pokewitz at AAU December, 16 2019

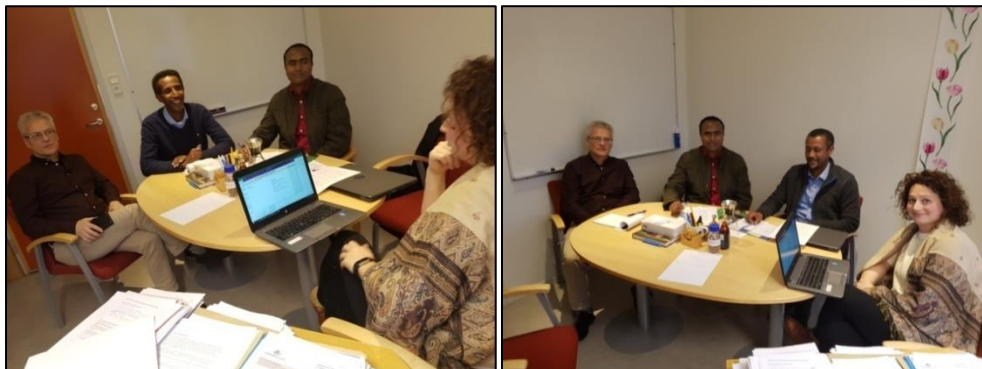
Biotechnology PhD Program

Supervision capacity building

Institute of Biotechnology staffs (6 in number) trained on supervision and mentoring of graduate students during their education and research as well as research laboratory management.



Training of Institute of Biotechnology staffs on Doctoral supervision training in Sweden



Discussions carried out between AAU and SLU teams on over all issues pertaining our project and specific sub projects



Institute of Biotechnology supervisors (left side) discussed with PhD students (right side) on their activities in SLU

Electric Power and Control Engineering PhD Program

The Sweden stays have been scheduled for 12 PhD students with their professors.

Four professors (two planned for 2018/19 and two planned for 2019/20) have registered to take PhD supervisor capacity building course at KTH Royal Institute of Technology. The training will be started at February 2020.

Yearly workshop, on which PhD students present their progress and proposal in the presence of professors, takes place at Addis Ababa University in November 2019.

Three conference participation took place in August 2019 out of the four budgeted for 2018/19.

Research Directorate

Upgrading the capacity of early- and mid-career staffs of AAU on Grant writing proposal and Research ethics is felt necessary by the University. AAU in collaboration with Gothenburg University, Sweden, one of the top 50 universities globally, will organize “train the trainers” workshop on two separate but interrelated topics:

- Training on Research Ethics: **Feb 26th – March 3rd, 2020**
- Training on Writing Grant-winning Proposals: **March 4th – 10th, 2020.**

Five delegates from AAU travelled to Gothenburg University, Sweden from 06 December 2019 to 14 December 2019 to design and develop the course content of the training with Dr. Yonas Alem and other higher-level management of Gothenburg University.

The Office of the Director for Research in collaboration with SIDA Grant Coordination has opened a call for research proposal to AAU women researchers for possible funding. The call was posted at AAU website. Twenty-nine (29) women researchers have applied and the proposal has been reviewed by a panel of experts. The review process is completed and the committee has recommended 20 researchers for funding. Each proposal is awarded 240,000 Birr.

In the first half of 2019/2020 budget year 8 academic staffs were supported to participate in international conference.

Graduate Program Office

5 PhD students were travelled from 01 July 2019- 31 December 2019.

Summery for short Term International Stay of PhD Students From July 07, 2019 December 31, 2019

Country	Student No.
USA	2
Europe	1
S. America	1
Oceania	1
Total	5

During this budget period out of the total of 853 female students, 50 female and 10 students with disability are awarded scholarship by Sida fund. At present we have 100 female students and 22 students with disability who are the beneficiaries of SIDA funds. The budget allocated and used for this purpose is Birr 645,000.00.

Women, Children and Youth Affairs Directorate

Women, Children and Youth Affairs Directorate provided life skill training for new entry students.

- ❖ Life skill training provided for new entry students in different campuses of AAU. The training was organized by Women, Children and Youth Affairs Directorate.



Photos from life Skill training

- ❖ Addis Ababa University Women, Children and Youth Affairs Directorate (formerly the Gender Office) with the support of Sida, organized a half day panel discussion on the theme of “Women are the bridge for inclusive development in Ethiopia” on 08 November 2019 at the Main AAU Campus, Mandela Hall.



Photos from a panel discussion