



AARHUS
UNIVERSITY

RECTOR HOLM-NIELSEN'S SUMMER SPEECH The Main Hall 17 June 2010

The decision of the University Board

- Four main academic areas
 - Aarhus Faculty of Arts, Kulturvidenskab
 - Aarhus Faculty of Science and Technology, Naturvidenskab og Teknologi
 - Aarhus Faculty of Health Sciences, Sundhedsvidenskab
 - Aarhus School of Business and Social Sciences, Erhverv og Samfundsvidenskab
- Senior Management Team: rector, pro-rector, university director and four deans
- Four dean positions to be advertised

The decision of the University Board

- Strategic financial management pool of DKK 200 million per year - approx. 3.5 % of turnover
 - Interdisciplinary research
 - Integration of education and research activities
 - Development of Aarhus University's inner education market
- Internal reorganisation driven by an thorough, decentralised process

Why have we set this process in motion?

- Universities face global challenges
- European ambitions
 - The Lund declaration: European research must focus on the great challenges of our time
 - 2030 targets for European investment in research: 3.3 % of GNP on higher education and 5 % of GNP on research and development - 2/3 of which should come from the private sector
- The Danish response
 - 1 % of GNP (Barcelona target in 2010) and at least one university in the European Top 10 (2020)

Isn't Aarhus University already a strong university?

- The decision of the University Board will strengthen Aarhus University even further
- The mergers have created opportunities for synergy which have not been exploited to the full
- We can strengthen AU's competitiveness by:
 - Coordinating and strengthening our research efforts
 - Increasing the quality of and interplay among basic, strategic and applied research
 - Basing our services to society and business on the broad research competences of the entire university
 - Setting new standards for flexible study programmes of the highest academic standard
 - Being an attractive place of work and study



Four strong main academic areas

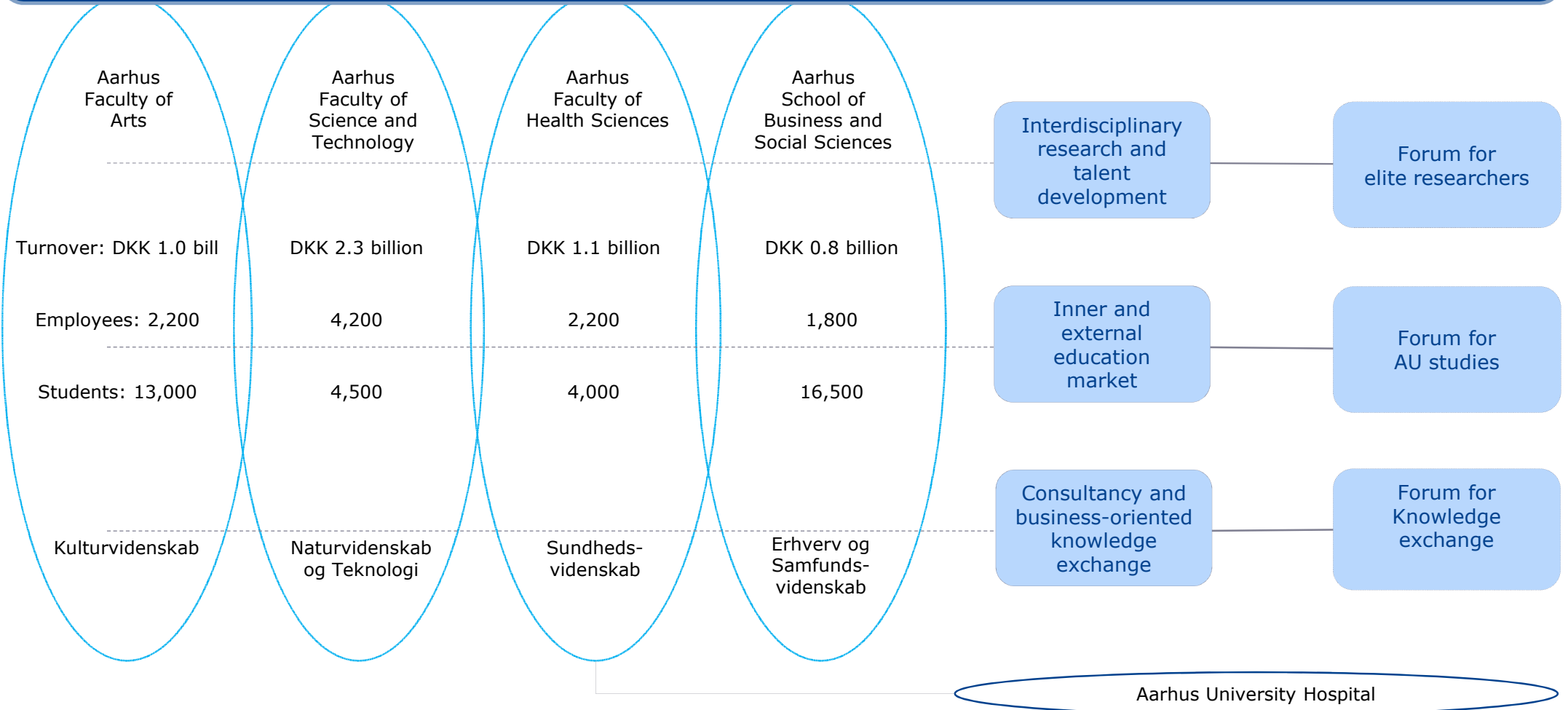
Each of Aarhus University's four main academic areas:

- Headed by an academically qualified and respected dean and three vice-deans along with department heads and centre directors, etc.
- The dean is responsible for academic and financial management
- Management exercised through delegation, incentives and efficient organisation and administration
- A suitable number of boards of study – possibly with accompanying student representative committees

The university's Senior Management Team

Rector, Pro-Rector, University Director

Four academically qualified and respected deans with a background in their respective main academic areas



Appropriate, effective administrative support

- Appropriate, effective administrative support at the level of the main academic area for:
 - local organisational units and 'clients' (such as researchers, teaching staff and students)
 - academic, strategic and organisational development
- Appropriate, effective administrative support at the level of central administration for:
 - strategic and organisational development and quality assurance for upper management, including support for the deans' responsibilities as heads of main academic areas and their interfaculty responsibilities
 - performance of university-wide functions in relation to staff and students

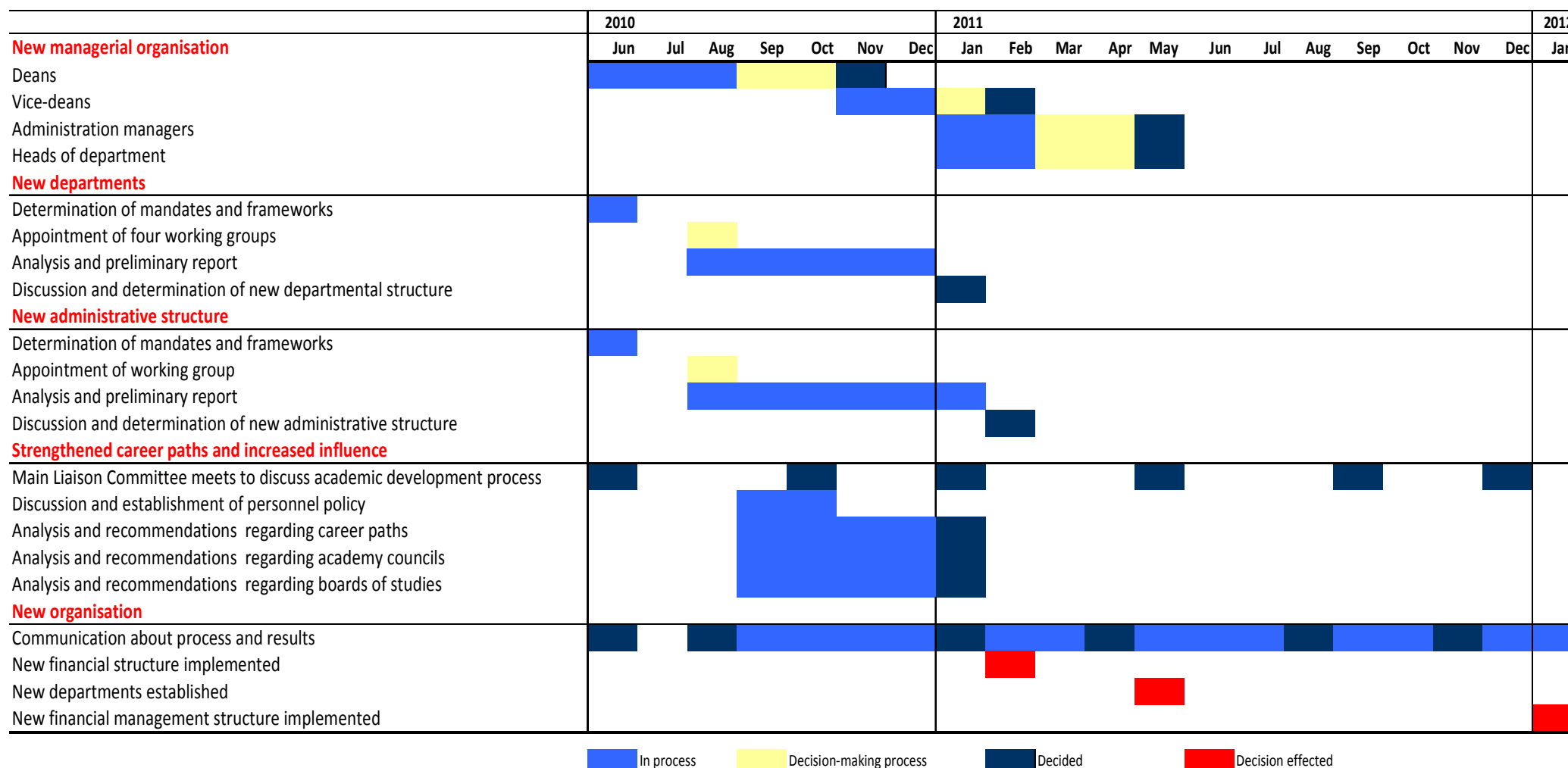


The vision plan for physical infrastructure 2010-2028

- A new vision plan for the development of the university's infrastructure has been developed in parallel with the academic development process
- Contains a major renovation of lab facilities (DKK 1.4 billion in Unilab funds)
- Main campus in Aarhus and strong campus in Emdrup
- Research facilities and research stations in strategic locations



Schedule June 2010 - January 2012



What will happen to the administrative and academic organisation of AU?

- New central management structure - progressively implemented
 - Four dean positions advertised now - positions expected to be filled in November 2010
 - Three vice-deans for each main academic area expected to be hired or appointed as of February 2011
 - Four administration managers and four heads of department expected to be hired or appointed in May 2011
- New main academic areas
 - Decision on four new main academic areas effective as of February 2011
- New departments - final boundaries drawn on the basis of an thorough academic analysis
 - Mandate and framework to be determined in June 2010
 - Appointment of four working groups in August 2010
 - Decision on departmental structure in January 2011
 - New departments to be established in May 2011

What will happen to the administrative structure, career paths and influence?

- The future administrative structure will be determined on the basis of a comprehensive analysis:
 - Mandate and framework to be determined in June 2010
 - Appointment of working group in August 2010
 - Decision on the administrative structure February 2011
- Improved career opportunities and greater influence:
 - The Main Liaison Committee to be involved in the academic development process
 - Discussion and adoption of new personnel policy September - October 2010
 - Analysis and recommendation regarding career paths, academic councils and boards of studies September 2010 – January 2011

Consequences of the decision of the Board

- An Aarhus University with:
 - A flexible, efficient structure and greater focus on interdisciplinary and interfaculty collaboration
 - Strong, coherent academic organisation at all levels
 - A sense of mental and geographical cohesion and community
 - Greater visibility in relation to external partners
 - An efficient, professional administration
 - Strategic and financial freedom to launch new academic initiatives
- The university will gain a stronger and more coherent management
- The university will meet global and national challenges from a stronger position

Transparency and openness will continue

- The academic development process has confirmed that we all want an even stronger Aarhus University
- The process of strengthening AU must take place in an atmosphere of openness and mutual respect
- Rumours and myths create unnecessary insecurity and do not further the university's development. For this reason, all aspects of the process will continue to be visible and accessible
- All relevant information will be communicated through such channels as News from the Rector's Office and the academic development process website:

www.au.dk/fu

- All staff members are encouraged to stay informed: check the website and discuss your questions and concerns with the head of your unit

Thank you for all your hard work and

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

Rector Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen

