

The Central PhD councils fall meeting 26th of November

Representation as PhD students at central and area level.

CDR nominates candidates to represent PhD students in a number of board and councils. The board and councils that CDR nominates are at central university level as well as at the area of Human sciences, this is here were the strategic decision about to implement initiatives regarding equal rights, quality assurance of PhD educations , etc are discussed and decided upon.

Nominations

If you are interested in representing the PhD students at Stockholm University in any of the councils or board listed below we highly recommend you to nominate your self.

Nominations are to be send to cdr@sus.su.se at the 19th of November. A nomination should contain motivational letter written by the candidate.

Elections of candidates

Election of candidates will take place at the meeting. All registred local PhD councils has one vote, all Faculty student and PhD student councils has one vote, and all ordinary members of CDR has one vote.

In case there are more candidates for a position than needed, there will be an election. Here

In the case there are exactly the number of candidates for a position which are needed, there will only be a vote of confidence if it is requested.

If there are vacant positions after the election procedures has taken place, CDR can nominate for these positions at a later meeting.

Prolongation

PhD members of the area boards, faculty boards, work group committees (this definition includes formally decided work and preparation bodies or councils), teacher proposal boards and department boards gets 2 days of prolongation + one day of prolongation per attended meeting. If a meeting last more than 4 hours it is to be counted as two meetings.

The main rule is that the extension must correspond to the work required by the assignment. By days is meant whole working days.

The PhD student must in advance notify the head of department which assignments are held so that the cost can be calculated in the institution's budget. The assignments are documented in documents that are attached to the individual study plan.

Decisions on extension are made by the head of department upon application from the doctoral student. In the event of any conflict between the institution and the doctoral student, the dean may, after hearing of both parties, make a decision on the matter. Extension is calculated after attendance and must be confirmed by minutes or the chairman's certificate.

Reporting to the central PhD council

The representative in CeUL is a representative of all PhD students at Stockholm University. Therefor the representative must repport to the central PhD council when there are issues that concern the PhD students. If relevant the central PhD council should be asked to give input.

Reports are either given in person at the central PhD councils meetings or by sending a written repport to the chair person of CDR:



Stockholms Universitets hörande församling.

Four ordinary PhD members

Language: Swedish

About Hörande församling

Hörande församling is in some sense Stockholm University parliament. Here there are representatives from all the different groups at the university among those students and PhD students.

Hörande församling is called for meetings when major changes are made to the organization of Stockholm University is done. Most importantly Hörande församling is to be included in the hiring process of the vice-chancellor (rektor) vice-vice-chancellor (vice-rektor) at Stockholm University.

Number of meetings

Hörande församling meets 1 -2 times per year.

Stockholm University Student Union

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Rektors beredning för utbildningsutvärdering och system för kvalitetssäkring (REBUS)

One ordinary PhD member

Language: Swedish

About REBUS

Rektors beredning för utbildningsutvärdering och system för kvalitetssäkring (REBUS) is a central preparatory council with the responsibility to develop a common quality assurance system for Stockholm University. In this council, all faculties at Stockholm University are represented, as well as the central PhD council and the student council (SUS). Since its start, REBUS has been working on developing a system for a permanent quality control at the university. Pilot studies will be conducted between 2018-2020. REBUS lends a helping hand to the institutions/faculties during the pilot studies by providing information and support about the developed system.

Comments from current PhD student representative (-s)

All members of the council have invested a lot of time and energy on the project. There is no doubt that they are passionate about launching a qualitative and workable system. Their engagement and level of knowledge about the organization of the university and tested quality control systems at other universities etc., gives one a good level of support when attempting to contribute in a meaningful way.

It is rewarding to be a part of this board, as one gets to take part in an important project. Since the quality of the PhD programs is a matter that concerns all PhD candidates at the university, there is no doubt that the work is important. The quality control systems and the pilot tests can and will probably make a substantial difference for current and future PhD candidates.

On a practical note: the workload is reasonable, and it is rather easy to plan your work as the meetings are scheduled in the beginning of the semester. For scheduling purposes, it could perhaps be of interest to know that the board has had conference meetings that require staying overnight. All material is in Swedish.

-Haymanot Baheru and Cecilia Bergqvist, 2019

Official web page: <https://www.su.se/om-oss/fakta/kvalitet/kvalitetssystem-för-utbildning/rebus-1.368823>

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RASK

One ordinary PhD member

Language: Swedish

The purpose of RASK

The purpose of RASK, which is the working group for REBUS, is to review the pedagogical development work for teachers, and to a minor degree, PhDs, at the University and suggest improvements. In short, this is a education quality assurance task.

Currently, as of fall 2019, this involves reviewing potential merit based systems for making pedagogical development more attractive for employed teachers (i.e. bitr. lektor, lektor, docent, professor) with the goal of improving the teaching that students receive. This system would also make it more easy to overview the pedagogical competence available at the institutions, and better ensure that new teachers meet common standards.

As of fall 2019 the group consists of eight members. The chair is occupied by the vice president of the University and includes members from various Areas, one PhD student representative appointed by the Stockholm University Student Union as well as an internal representative from SUS.

RASK meets 2-3 times per semester, normally before or after lunch for 1-2 hours.

Comments from current PhD student representative

Being part of RASK gives you as the student representative a chance to take part in this very important quality assurance work that will leave a permanent mark on the way the University handles pedagogical competence in the near future. Most of the discussion and planning concerns permanent teachers, but pedagogical requirements and expectations for PhDs is also being discussed. Overall I find it very interesting, as it gives you insight into how the University deals with this, and an overview of how other universities in Sweden are handling the same issue. It is also rewarding as the group has the potential to improve the teaching received by all students, and it is not as time consuming as certain boards can be.

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The council for work environment and equal opportunities.

One ordinary PhD member

Language: Swedish

About RALV

Organization and working methods RALV is a forum for collaboration between employers and employee / student representatives. RALV collaborates and discusses university-wide issues, strategies and policies, and is an advisory body to the management. The operational work on work environment and similar conditions issues falls within the framework of responsible administrative departments (primarily the Human Resources Department, the Real Estate Department and the Student Department), and according to Stockholm University's decision and delegation order.

RALV-US and RALV-AM

Stockholm University has obligations and responsibilities from two perspectives: As an employer to the employees and as an educational institution to the students. To ensure that all relevant issues are covered It is important that all issues have sufficient space, both questions concerning students and issues related to employees. To ensure this, RALV has two committees: Employer / employee work group (AM committee) and educational institution / student working group (US committee).

The entire RALV meets once per year in September. Here the focus is to follow up on work regarding work environment and equal rights at the university and to discuss if there is the need for changes at a university level.

In total there will be 6 meetings per year, the meetings will be two hours long.



Centrum för universitetslärarutbildning styrelse (CeUL)

One ordinary PhD member

Language: Swedish

The purpose of CeUL

The main task of the CeUL is to coordinate and further develop the university educational activities. CeUL is responsible. Among other things this means that CeUL is responsible for the teachers and doctoral students at Stockholm University are offered courses that offer skill development and that these course are based on established research in pedagogy and subject didactics at university level.

The Board consists of nine members. A chairman appointed by the vice-chancellor, three members appointed by the Area Committee for Human Sciences, two members appointed by the Area Committee for Natural Sciences, a professor of higher education pedagogy at Stockholm University. Two student representatives from Stockholm University Student Union.

CeUL meets 3 times per semester. The meetings last 2 hours, and normally the meetings are held in the afternoon.

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Human Science Area Board

One ordinary PhD member

Language: Swedish

Number of meetings : 4-5 per semester, á 3 hours

About the Human Science Area Board

The Human sciences area board is the highest deciding organ of the human sciences, which includes the faculties of law, humanities and social sciences. The area board makes decisions for the human science area that concerns strategic planning of education and research within and between the faculties. The board also manage cooperation internally within the area, as well as externally with private companies and other governmental organs.

Comments from current PhD student representative

I find it very rewarding to be a part of this board, as I get to take part and have a say in many important decisions. The human sciences area board decides on issues such as budget for all departments within the human sciences area, funding, strategic choices about the PhD education (as well as bachelor and master's education), and settling cases related to work environment issues. Because it is the highest deciding organ within the human sciences, many boards and councils report to the area board (e.g. PhD education board, external cooperation board, work environment and equality council). It is then up to the area board to make the final decision in the corresponding matter. Thus, being a part of the area board gives a great insight into the university decision-making process. However, as it is such an important organ, it sometimes involves reading somewhere around 100 pages of material before each meeting (although I have often found it okay to skim through most of them).

- Philip Gustafsson, 2019

Official web page: <https://www.su.se/humanvet/om-oss/organisation/omr%C3%A5desn%C3%A4mnden>

The area of human sciences preparational board for the PhD education. (BUF)

One ordinary PhD member

Language: Swedish

BUF meets once per month, and the meetings are 2 hours long

About BUF

BUF is a preparatory board for the Human Science Area Board (ON). The purpose of BUF is to prepare ON on strategically important questions regarding the PhD education. BUF regularly informs at the ON meetings.

Comments from current PhD student representative

I've had many assignments as a PhD-student representative (including both the Faculty board of Social sciences and the Area board of Human sciences) and BUF has been the most rewarding (if, sometimes, also frustrating) and interesting assignment. All issues treated are relevant for PhD-students and there is a strong need for input from the PhD-student collective. It is possible to have a big impact on the conditions of all PhD-students within the human sciences area. The other members of the working group have valued my perspective as a PhD-student, and the discussion climate has mostly been open and explorative. I was the only PhD-student representative during my time in BUF, but if both seats could be filled, I think that would be great, as the PhD-student representatives will then have the possibility of discussing the issues in advance, if need be.

- Sandra Hellstrand, 2019

<https://www.su.se/humanvet/om-oss/organisation/omr%C3%A5desn%C3%A4mnden/beredningsorgan/utbildnings-beredningar/forskarniv%C3%A5-buf/beredning-f%C3%B6r-utbildning-p%C3%A5-forskarniv%C3%A5-buf-1.370475>

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Samverkansberedningen at the Human area

One ordinary PhD member

Language: Swedish

About Samverkansberedning (SB)

SB is a preparatory board for the Human Science Area Board. The purpose of SB is to prepare the area board on strategically important questions regarding collaboration across the university. SB meets once per month, and the meetings are 2 hours long

Board of Research ethics course for PhD students at the area Human Science

One ordinary PhD member
Language: Swedish

About the board

The board is responsible for the organization and development of the course on research ethics given for PhD students at the area of Human Science. The role of the PhD student in the board is to bring a PhD student perspective on how the course can be improved and developed to meet the needs of the PhD students.

The board meets 1-2 times per year. The meetings are roughly 2 hours long.

About the course

Starting 2017, the Human Science Area offers a recurrent course package in research ethics, primarily aimed at PhD students. The package comprises five courses of 1,5 credits each. The courses are hosted by the department of philosophy, but teachers from other subjects will be involved in each course.

Each module is designed to be the equivalent of one week of work, including preparation and examination, but the teaching is concentrated to one half day of lectures and seminars per course. Teaching will be in English.

General central substitute position at central level

Up to six PhD students

Language: Swedish

About the position

Sometimes the regular CDR representative will be unable to attend the respective board or council in which they represent CDR. This general substitute position is there to fill in for those vacancies. This applies to the following boards: *Stockholms Universitets Hörandeförsamling, REBUS, RASK, RALV and CeUL*

As a substitute, you will get +1 day prolongation for every meeting you attend.

As a general substitute, you are expected to attend the meetings where the ordinary representative is unable to attend. You will report to the Central PhD Council (CDR).

General central substitute position at area level

Up to six PhD students

Language: Swedish

About the position

Sometimes the regular CDR representative will be unable to attend the respective board or council in which they represent CDR. This general substitute position is there to fill in for those vacancies. This applies to the following boards: Human Science Area Board, BUF and Samverkansberedningen

As a substitute, you will get +1 day prolongation for every meeting you attend.

As a general substitute, you are expected to attend the meetings where the ordinary representative is unable to attend. You will report to the Central PhD Council (CDR).



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