

Ph.D. Council Meeting - Spring 30 May 24

Opening of the meeting

Meeting begins at 15:34

Participants:

- Michael Odelius (MO)
- Maddalena Bin (MB)
- Filippo Schiavo (FS)
- Pueh Leng Tan (PT)
- Roger Cattaneo (RC)
- Lorenzo Restaino (LR)
- Thong Nguyen (TN)
- Lukas Rødland (LR)
- Natalia Kuk (NK)
- Sambit Kumar Das (SD)
- Ludwig Neste (LN)
- Ludvig Doeser (LD)
- Alessandro Montella (AM)
- Christopher Ekman (CE)
- Anna Sandberg (AS)
- Pranay Nayak (PN)
- Olga Falowska-Pietrzak (OF)

Meeting formalities:

1. Approval of meeting being announced according to procedure
 - Approved unanimously.
2. Confirmation of agenda
 - Agenda confirmed with no changes requested unanimously
3. Election of chair person
 - ER was elected as the chairperson unanimously
4. Election of secretary
 - GA was elected as the secretary unanimously.
5. Election of two adjustors
 - MB, LR were elected as adjustors unanimously.

Address by Director of studies:

Michael Odelius (MO):

- Overview of the PhD studies homepage to avoid confusion and quick questions to Michael.
- Recommends to every PhD student to read through the webpage at the beginning of their PhD studies: Doctoral Studies at Fysikum
- Webpage summarizes the roles and department faculty responsibilities in Fysikum for various PhD studies.
 - The roles of the faculty responsible:
 - * Svante Jonsell: Subject responsible, PhD studies and Study plan responsible.
 - * MO: Job contract, time sharing responsibilities.
 - * Christophe Clement: Teaching assignment responsibilities.
 - * Åsa Storm: Human resource contact.
 - MO highlights the obligation and control of studies for the PhD students.
 - * Students can choose between Licentiate and Half-time review
 - * The licentiate should be with swedish summary and all compiled papers if any is to be published on Diva: a step-by-step guide is available on the webpage. Licentiate degree webpage
 - * MO is also responsible to calculate the PhD extension. Contact for MO specific information regarding extension.
 - * Committee assignments can be upto maximum of 40 days.
 - * Recommends to apply for the Doktorandtjänst (Doctoral studies extension) in advance to give time for processing if there are delays and extension required.

Information from Administration:

- Any question, please email Åsa Storm or hr@fysik.su.se

Treasury Report:

- FS updates the council with the Treasury report.
- New balance at the end of the year: 1013 SEK

Report from Revisors:

- Report approved and with no comments.

Report from NFR/CDR:

Delivered by GA:

Updates from the previous year's work:

- NFR and CDR sent in serious recommendations for salary revisions and raise for PhD council which were successfully negotiated by the Union on our behalf.
- Recommendations from NFR and CDR also pushed for a survey of work environment and harassment policy to get a feedback from the all employees.

Upcoming goals and objectives:

- On-going discussion about standardised and digitalised ISP's
- NFR is experiencing issues with filling Swedish speaking student representative positions, for example the Faculty Board and is recommending
- Will pursue the issue of non-Swedish speakers being unable to participate in the student influence structure via the Central PhD student council (CDR) in the fall semester
- There have been discussions about teaching duties and how it varies between departments and how it effects the workload of PhD students
- NFR is working on a case-study based report to be sent to CDR on the issue of having no standards of conveying PhD prolongation and end of PhD dates to the PhD students with extension on a timely basis.
- NFR and CDR is also discussing about recommending departments to formalize a procedure for Change of supervisor (especially under extraordinary situations like, close to end of PhD studies and so on..)

Report from Fysikum board

Delivered by ER:

Important decisions from the Board:

- Any harassment issues can be complained to ombudsman
- Equal opportunities goal is approved by Board and published on webpage
- Proposal to conduct Exit interviews for the PhD studies.
 - The procedure and the panel for the interviews is yet to decided.

Information from FysikShow:

Delivered by Ludvig Doeser

- Summarizes the work and experiments of Fysikshow
 - Magdeburg hemisphere experiment
 - Liquid Nitrogen experiment
 - Van de Graff (generator) experiment
- The audience is from 5 years to high school.
- Fysikshow is contacted by highschoools and teachers through webpage, facebook page.
- For the year 2023-24, with 9 members, the FysikShow had 30 shows.
- Total participants of 2750 students.

- Highlights that Fysikshow counts as a teaching with compensated hours between 30-40 hours.

Report from PhD council Board:

- Delivered by ER:
 - PhD Drinks & Game nights, a fun gathering activity were held 5 times, two in cooperation with SUS. The events were attended by several PhD students to a success
 - Athena page has been set up for PhD students with useful links and more general information. The minutes of the Council board meetings and other crucial information are updated on athena page on a timely basis.
 - A working group has been set up with KuF to establish guidelines for mentors and council board is actively involved with a representative.
 - Framework to assess the quality of supervisor
 - Evaluation of PhD courses as recommended by KuF was approved by the council board.
 - The recommendations from the council board were crucial in Fysikum board's decision to make the half-time control, an option between Licentate vs half-time seminar for all PhD students.
 - Division meetings were held in most divisions led by Board representatives to gather opinion, issues of fellow PhD students.
- Plans for the upcoming year:
 - Continue PhD Drinks & Game nights or other activity if there is such recommendations and ideas shared with the board.
 - Guidelines for mentors (ongoing)
 - Framework to assess the quality of supervisor.
 - Exit interviews
 - * Formalize an operational procedures on the type and composition of the committee to conduct the interviews is under discussion. The board's view at the moment is to have atleast one member from outsides the division of the PhD student, perhaps the mentor.
 - Guidelines for changing of supervisor (now discussed at CDR)
 - ER encourages the PhDs to take part in committees or send the issues to the email of the PhD council
 - Suggestion from the audience to talk to the PhD students that dropped out for Exit interviews
 - Set the timeline for the PhD EXIT interview as the feedback from the student might be incumbent upon the possible recommendation letters from the supervisor.

Elections

- ER reports on the organizational setup of the PhD council and university wide committees.
- Mentions the need for representation and importance of the Council and committees that being in a committee means making the PhD students' voice heard and representing PhD students in committee meetings.
- Representatives time gets compensated with an prolongation of your PhD contract

The house elects the representatives for the following positions unanimously (all positions).

- **PhD council Presidium:**
 - Chair: Ellen Riefel (ELPA)
 - Vice-Chair : Gandharva Appagere (INST)
- **Treasurer:**
 - Alessandro Montella (ELPA)
- **Revisors:**
 - Lukas Rødland
 - Pranay Nayak
- **PhD council members**
 - Lukas Rødland (KOMKO)
 - Arun Subramani (AtomPhys)
 - Pranay Nayak (KOMKO)
 - Nathalia Kuk (KOMKO)
 - Maddalena Bin(ChemPhys)
 - Ludwig Neste (ELPA)
 - Anna Sandberg (KOMKO)
- **Fysikum Board:**
 - Ordinary members: Chair and Vice Chair
 - Secondary Members:
 - * Lukas Rødland
 - * Nathalia Kuk
- **Research Education Committee (KuF):**
 - Ordinary members:
 - * Gandharva Appagere
 - * Pranay Nayak
 - * Maddalena Bin
 - Secondary members:
 - * Ludwig Neste

- * Lukas Rødland
- * Sambit Kumar Das

- **Undergraduate Education Committee**

- Ordinary members:
 - * Lukas Rødland
 - * Anna Sandberg
- Secondary members:
 - * Christopher Ekman
 - * Ludvig Doester

- **Committee for Research Strategy:**

- Ordinary members:
 - * Alessandro Montella
 - * Christopher Ekman
- Secondary members:
 - * Ludwig Neste
 - * Maddalena Bin

- **Technical division committee:**

- Ordinary members:
 - * Pranay Nayak
 - * Arun Subramani
- Secondary members:
 - * Gandharva Appagere
 - * Ellen Riefel

- **Committee for Working environment:**

- Ordinary members:
 - * Ludwig Neste
 - * Maddalena Bin
- Secondary members:
 - * Anna Sandberg
 - * Gandharva Appagere

- **Computer Committee:**

- Ordinary members:
 - * Ludwig Neste
 - * Pranay Nayak
- Secondary:
 - * Sambit Kumar Das
 - * Alessandro Montella

- **Docent committee:**

- Ordinary members:
 - * Lukas Rødland

- * Nathalia Kuk
- Secondary
 - * Alessandro Montella
 - * Christopher Ekman

- **Committee on Equal opportunities:**

- Ordinary members:
 - * Olga Falowska-Pietrzak
 - * Ellen Riefel
- Secondary members:
 - * Gandharva Appagere
 - * Arun Subramani
 - * Ludwig Neste

- **PR Committee:**

- Ordinary members
 - * Arun Subramani
 - * Ludvig Doerer
- Secondary
 - * Ellen Riefel
 - * Lukas Rødland

- **Budget Committee:**

- Ordinary members
 - * Ludvig Doerer
 - * Alessandro Montella
- Secondary
 - * Ellen Riefel
 - * Lukas Rødland

Other issues:

None

Closing remarks:

None

Meeting closes at 17:30