



Agenda – Science Faculty Council 2023 October 17th, kl.16:30

In attendance:

- Samyuktha Rajan (SR - Chair)
- Hanna Dort (HD - Zootis Ph.D. council-CDR)
- Angela Ceballos (AC - DBB)
- Gandharva Appagere (GA - Vice Chair, Fysikum Ph.D. council)
- Erik Schwarz (ES - NatGeo Ph.D. council)
- Laveena Kansara (LK - MBW Ph.D. council)
- Melissa Bartom (MB - SRC Ph.D. council)
- Katja Belec (KB - SCEO)
- Linnea Andersson (LA – SCEG, CB)
- Bart van Baal (BB - Astronomy Ph.D. council)
- Miejam Lichtnes (ML - BÄR)
- Matilda Johansson (MJ - SUS Ombud)
- Despoina Kouvosi (DK - SCEG)
- Robin Stoll (RS – Math Ph.D, council)
- Robert Dunst (RD - IGV)
- Erza Eisbrenner (EE - MISU Ph.D. council)
- Dominic Heslin-Rees (DH – ACES Ph.D. council)

1. Opening of the meeting

Meeting opens at 16:35

- a. Round of presentation
- b. Election of chairperson
SR elected as the Chairperson
- c. Election of secretary
GA elected as the secretary
- d. Election of adjuster
BB elected as the adjuster
- e. Approval of the agenda
Agenda from previous meeting approved with no objections.
- f. Approval of last meeting's minutes
- g. Co adjungation

2. Reports from boards and committee and by-elections of NFR representatives

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*Brief reports from those bodies which have convened since last meeting, and
by-election of representatives*

a) SUS:

MJ reports:

PhD students priority issues. Identified some of the priority issues for the Fall and the spring semester.

- Issue 1: For students to have a healthy environment, handling abuse and discrimination issues. Planning to recommend and draw up a joint university guidelines to handle abuse and discrimination related issues.
- MJ asked if she can prepare a slides on all the different divisions and departments reps that will go up for elections in the Annual meeting.
 - The audience second the idea for such a preparation

b) Central PhD-Council:

HD reports:

Salary negotiations involving SACO. SACO will be pushing for a 50% and 80% raise to be time-based.

- Definition of the 50%-80% timeline is left to the discretion of the departments and SUS/CDR are working to standardize the definition.
- Reiterate that the PhD students have the right to take vacations and all the deficit vacations days should be payed out.
- Rulebook on the PhD students is finalised and is being circulated
 - No longer a 40 day cap on the compensation for the SUS and CDR representation.
- SFSTK - The national group of PhDs. Main agenda: Discuss the plan of the ISPs and the possible room for improvement in the line of helping the students and protect the students in regards to complete the research work.

c) Area Board/Områdesnämnden

Ellen Riefel reports in absence:

REBUS has lifted the question if they can put the requirement that students have their own laptop, since the computer rooms are not used much. The 'lokal examensbeskrivning' for the masters in 'Molecular Techniques in life science' has been decided upon.

A few changes in the rules for research studies have been made. A lot of them are just formulations. For example the formulation on the requirement that everybody has done the CeULs supervision course now also includes external supervisors.

What decisions were made?

Some anställningsprofiler, a change in prioritization and dimensionalisation plan, the new masters exam

SR: Presses to ask for clarity on the final point on the decisions made at the last OM meeting.

d) Arbetsutskottet

Nadia Reports in absence:

The teacher education was discussed. Currently the teacher education is done at the other area in IÄD (institute for didactics) but there are discussions on which form of teacher education should be offered. Since a few years the science area decided not to offer a subject teacher education, instead students have to get a bachelors in science and study a "complementary pedagogy education" (KPU), which they can do at whichever university offers a KPU. Before this there used to exist a long teacher education (bachelors + teaching education in one). The current problem is that many other universities and colleges offer shorter KPU (only 60hp and with fewer requirement on previous education) which are attracting more students than the 90hp KPU that SU offers. So it was discussed which form of teaching education SU should have for the science area.

As part of the finances of the science area it is suggested to reinstate "doktorandsnurren" which is a performance based distribution of funds for hiring/employing PhD students. This "doktorandsnurren" was used before 2020 and it is suggested to be reinstated with the same principles as then. From 2024 the distribution of funds for financing PhD students will be done using "doktorandsnurren".

e) Central student council

No contact on the possible meetings to the elected representative

f) Grundutbildningsberedningen

- Phase out and close out of the previous computer halls in Frescati campus.
The decision is rational - Only used for 10% capacity and costs 5Million SEK.
- In exceptional situation where student struggle without computers, then the department has to take notice and handle the issue.
- 'Athena' deal to run out on 2027.

g) Department & Section Committees

No updates

All vacant positions for ordinary groups and committees are found at the NFR site at sus.su.se (<https://sus.su.se/rad-och-natverk/nfr>). The language requirement is also mentioned on this website. (***Link is not valid anymore***)

3. Joint discussion

1. NFR Annual meeting: when will it take place?

- SU sends the list of repos and positions to SUS and then revises the list once every few years and this is one such year
- MJ suggestion: To move back the annual meeting to elect the student representatives to February instead.
- Alternative suggestion by SR: to elect a mini annual meeting in Fall/December and larger annual meeting in February.
- Clarification on the time-line of the elections and if such an election would deter the PhD council meetings ? Recommend that the PhD councils organize the Fall meetings to nominate the representatives soon before the Fall NFR mini-annual meeting
- Council unanimously consents on splitting the annual meeting in 2 parts.
Next meeting is where we elect Chair, Vice-chair and Treasurer.

2. Matilda: how to spread information about the vacant positions within NFR.

Several vacant positions – MJ asks for suggestions to encourage more students to participate in the elections and

- Point was raised on having the deliberations in English to compensate for the lack of Swedish students overall and the intent of the same to participate in
 - Point of interest: Meetings in Humanities are held in English and SUS is working with constantly but receiving some pushback from some departments.
- HD suggests to have the broadcast of these positions during the PhD introductory session.
- SR points out that reaching out to the department heads and PhD councils once in a while.
- LK suggests to crash the department meetings to raise awareness on the positions and importance in the decision make process.
- RJ makes a point on the suggestion to have a SUS/NFR rep to be present during the Annual election meeting while the NFR positions are being elected.
- MJ also requests the councils [members] to respond to mail from the SUS to have a SUS rep attend the meetings.

3. NFR received funding for social event. Discussion on what to do, how and whom to publicize to, and when to organize it.

- Money to organize the social event - about 3800 SEK
- Everyone from NFR is free to join
- Hope to organize it somewhere in the week of 3rd of November.

- 10 minute break -

4. **Split discussion:**

1. Information from student councils

Nothing much to report. The new members were explained about the NFR roles and responsibilities.

2. Information from PhD councils

Issue 1: Insurances

- HD notes that the Insurances are possibly covered during the weekend work.



- Safe and representatives department - see how the safety, discrimination and equality could be ensured and promulgated for the non-swedish PhDs
- Strive to have more interaction and involved with the nation PhD union.

Issue 2: Migration

- LK notes that there should be some help from the departments/HR on VISA and Resident permit renewal process. The council overwhelmingly seconds the motion.

5. Other

6. Summary of issues to discuss at next meeting

Next meeting proposed to be held in December as mini-annual meeting.

7. Meeting closed

Meeting Ended at 18:10