

The Humanities Faculty Council (HFR)

2023-12-14, kl. 14.00 – [Kårsalen]

Attendees: Monika Truncyte (SUS), Kai Nunez Wiklund, Indre Nugaraite (PhD), Jonas Axin, Natalia Kalyva, Tesfaye Woubshet Ayele (PhD), Magnus Ahlthorp, Amanda Kann (PhD), Anastasios Kapodistrias (PhD), Giada Brighi (PhD), Sofia Wakander (PhD), and Hermela Embaye.

1. Call meeting to order

Hermela Embaye called the meeting to order at 14:07.

2. Meeting formalities

2.1. Appointment of chairman of meeting

The council appointed Hermela Embaye as chairman of the meeting.

2.2. Appointment of secretary

The council appointed Amanda Kann as secretary of the meeting.

2.3. Appointment of attestant

The council appointed Natalia Kalyva as attestant of the meeting.

2.4. Approval of previous meeting's minutes

The council decided to postpone this point until the following meeting.

2.5. Adoption of agenda

The council decided to adopt the proposed agenda with the addition of 6.1.

Information about the recruitment process of the university's new president.

3. Reports

3.1. Information on any pertinent, relevant, or interesting emails received by HFR

Hermela Embaye presented the matter

Last day to apply for council project funding is December 15th. A number of individual questions/cases were received, for example confirmation of new student representatives.

3.2. Information from SUS

Monika Truncyte presented the matter

SUS sent out a survey on remuneration to all student representatives from bachelor's and master's level who were active during this autumn semester. The survey is anonymous; however, the answers will be presented to the student union and the university. The aim is to evaluate whether SU is following (and informing representatives about) the rules regarding remunerations. If you, or your council members, have not yet filled out the survey, please do that until the 22nd of December. You should have received the link to the survey via your email, and SUS will also be sending out a reminder at the beginning of next week.

CDR is electing new PhD representatives for AM-committee (arbetsgivar- och medarbetarutskottet) and US-committee (utbildning- och studentutskottet) for next semester. These two committees are part of RALV and are on central level. AM-committee is a forum to discuss work environment issues from an employee viewpoint, while US-committee discusses work environment topics from a student perspective. Meeting language is Swedish. PhD representatives receive extension of employment for their participation in these committees. Contact SUS for more information.

3.3. Central PhD council (CDR)

No representatives were present.

3.4. Central Student council (CSR)

Natalia Kalyva presented the matter

Deadline until December 19th for a survey on the most urgent issues facing students (for example meeting language, rent, literature cost, student economy in general, climate imprint from the use of paper, etc.).

CSR discussed computer rooms and the need for access to computers for students on campus – further discussions will be had with SUB. A lot of people agree that there should be one computer room, instead of several spread out, and that it will save money to have it concentrated in one room (for example in regards to maintenance).

CSR is organizing a “Battle of Councils” event in April or May 2024. At this point they’re in the planning stage and only have a draft. They are interested in volunteers to run the event.

3.5. Humanities Faculty Board

Magnus Ahltop presented the matter

The two academic appointment boards at the faculty are planned to be combined during next year and made into one – more information regarding changes in board/working group composition and representative elections will come early next year. The last date was January 31st, but it might be later. The formal list will be sent to SUS. Currently elected representatives will remain until the end of February.

The faculty budget for 2024 has been accepted.

3.6. Academic Appointment Board – Historical and Philosophical Subjects

No representatives were present.

3.7. Academic Appointment Board – Language Science Subjects

A new teacher in Finnish has been suggested for appointment. It is up to the faculty to decide to appoint the teacher.

3.8. Committee for Budgetary Management

As last meeting was cancelled, there was nothing new to report.

3.9. Language Studio Reference Group

No representatives were present.

3.10. Board for Education and Quality (HUGO)

No representatives were present.

3.11. Centre for Indo-European Languages and Cultural Studies

No representatives were present.

4. Matters for discussion

4.1. PhD student group

The PhD student group discussed issues of language use in department- and faculty-level communication and meetings, regarding inclusion of non-Swedish-speaking PhD students in student democracy and department activities. Being able to include Swedish language courses in the course part of PhD education was mentioned as a precondition for participating in Swedish-language activities.

SFR has raised similar issues in a motion to the Dean, and HFR also plans to draft a motion to the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities on this topic.

4.2. Master's and Bachelor's student group

The Master's and Bachelor's student group discussed issues from the last HFR meeting on exam invigilator behavior and on-campus computer room availability, in relation to the HFR chair's recent meeting with the Dean. Since the Dean meeting, the faculty has become aware of new complaints from students regarding the exam invigilators, which were discussed.

As the Dean suggested that the use of computers in computer rooms was deemed too low in relation to maintenance costs, the group discussed potential reasons for low computer room usage (such as insufficient information or equipment) and ways to potentially reduce maintenance costs (such as concentrating facilities to a single room rather than multiple rooms).

The group also discussed concrete reports of poor exam invigilator behavior along with where to report such behavior, and Monika reported that SUS has set up regular meetings with Tentamensservice on this issue. For those departments that don't use Tentamensservice, the first step should be to report it to the head of the department.

5. Matters for decision

5.1. Humanities Faculty Board (HFN) – [Swedish, 1 ordinary, 2 suppliants]

The council appointed Jonas Axin as ordinary representative.

5.2. Board for Education and Quality (HUGO) – [Swedish, 1 ordinary, 2 suppliants]

No nominations were received.

- 5.3. Academic Appointment Board – Historical and Philosophical Subjects – [Swedish, 1 PhD suppliant]**
No nominations were received.
- 5.4. Academic Appointment Board – Language Science Subjects – [Swedish, 1 suppliant]**
No nominations were received.
- 5.5. Committee for Budgetary Management – [Swedish, 1 ordinary, 2 suppliants, 1 PhD suppliant]**
No nominations were received.
- 5.6. Language Studio Reference Group [Swedish, 1 ordinary, 1 suppliant, 1 PhD suppliant]**
No nominations were received.
- 5.7. Centre for Indo-European Languages and Cultural Studies [Swedish, 2 PhD ordinary]**
No nominations were received.
- 5.8. The Scholarship Committee [Swedish, 1 suppliant, 1 PhD suppliant]**
No nominations were received.
- 5.9. Central PhD council (CDR) [1 PhD suppliant]**
No nominations were received.

6. Other matters

6.1. Information about the recruitment process of the university's new president

The process of electing a new university president has begun, and will conclude with a public hearing open to students in Aula Magna in either early June or late August 2024.

The council discussed matters to emphasize during formulation of the candidate profile and interview questions. Matters brought up included experience with student influence, listening to and prioritizing issues relevant to students and PhD students, and valuing all aspects (at all levels) of the university rather than prioritizing the most profitable parts. The students also stressed that the president needs to be someone who will prioritize Akademiska Hus.

7. Date for the next meeting

The next HFR meeting is planned to be held in January, prior to the annual meeting in late February – date and time will be set and informed about later.

8. Meeting adjourned

Chairman of the meeting adjourned the meeting at 16:17.



Secretary
Amanda Kann



Attestant
Natalia Kalyva