**Faculty Council of Social Sciences**

Date: 2022-11-07
Time: 16:00-18:00

Place: Kårsalen, Studenthuset, campus Frescati

Attendande:
**Björn Nordvall** (PhD), Department of Human Geography
**Susanne Berghofer** (PhD), Department of Economic History and International Relations

**Şevval Salman**, vice chair of SFR, Department of Political Science
**Tianyi Miao**, The Department of Public Health Sciences
**Simon Froster Delbom**, SUS
**Emelie Baiden**, SUS
**Luis Quintero** (PhD), DSV
**Friedrich Krentz**, Stockholm Business School
**Nicki Rohani**, Stockholm Business School
**Viva Dyrén**, Department of Criminology
**Ella Hillström**, Department of Anthropology
**Ali Mohamed (PhD)**, Department of Education

Agenda

1. **Opening of the meeting.**

Şevval opens the meeting at 16:03

1. **Choice of language for the meeting and introduction.**

English is chosen as the meeting language

1. **Election of meeting chair person, meeting secretary and attestant.**- Şevval was elected as meeting chairperson;- Björn was elected as meeting secretary;

- Susanne was elected as attestant

1. **Approval of the agenda.**

The agenda was approved.

1. **Review of minutes from the last meeting (2021-10-03).**
2. **Presentation round from the councils and introduction of SFR**
3. **Rapport från nämnder och kommittéer / Reports from boards and committees:***Brief reports from those bodies which have convened since last Faculty Council:*

8.1. Faculty Board of Social Sciences (SFN)

*A PhD student’s request to take a Licentiate instead was brought up. The student was approved, but it was discussed if this should require the full faculty board’s discussion and approval. This is going to be brought up with SU’s principal.*

*The economy of the Social Science was brought up and there is a 44 million SEK surplus. The budget share for each institution will be discussed in a coming meeting.*

8.2. Lärarförslagsnämnden I (LFN1)

*No representative was present.*

8.3. Lärarförslagsnämnden II (LFN2)

*The promotion of a teacher at the university was brought up for discussion. They discussed the pros and cons, in particular the gender balance of teachers at the school (but no other forms of equality), and eventually agreed that it was okay. The representative noted, however, that they were not entirely sure what they were agreeing to and that the process of informing the representatives about what is going on should be lifted.*

*It was also noted by the representative that the meeting was a bizarre and very formal experience.*

8.4. Lärarförslagsnämnden III (LFN 3)

*No representative was present.*

8.5. Arbetsgruppen för utbildning på forskarnivå

*No representative was present.*

8.6. SAGA

*No representative was present.*

8.7. Jämställdhetsgruppen

*The representative questioned if only a single meeting per year was enough to adequately discuss equality issues.*

*The focus on gender equality to the exclusion of other forms of equality was discussed, particularly the representative’s experience of language discrimination where the meeting was held in Swedish despite the representative being an international student and having poor Swedish. The question of equality for different races and for non-binary and LGBTQ+ people was also not up for discussion.*

*It was discussed that a lot of females were leaving PhD studies at one of SU’s institutions, but the representative questioned the way the group intended to follow up on the problem and affect a change. The representative posed the question why they did not just ask the female students why they were leaving, but this had not been done.*

*The representative felt that the group was merely okaying discussions that had been made by someone else, and questioned where in the process different points of view were included.*

8.8. Budgetgruppen

*No representative was present.*

8.9. Centrala doktorandrådet (CDR)

*No representative was present.*

8.10. Centrala studentrådet (CSR)

*The representative informed those in attendance that there had not been a meeting yet and that there was thusly nothing to report.*

8.11. Report from SUS

*The annual meeting will be held in December, and representatives will be elected then. You can nominate yourself!*

*What SUS does was explained, particularly student’s right to be represented and informed decision-making. Their goal is to make education better, according to Swedish Higher Education Authority (UKÄ) mandate. They elect student representatives and advocate for student’s rights. SUS is the information channel between the SUS presidium, central university bodies, and faculty council. CSR (and CDR) elects representatives to CIVIS-related groups, the disciplinary committee (there is a new formal nomination process for this year, applications should include a SV), IT groups, property management groups, teacher education groups, and so on. See the CSR (or CDR) pages on the SFR page at [sus.su.se](http://sus.su.se) for more information about the groups and how the process works!*

*The CSR (and CDR) annual meeting will be held on 12 December where the CSR (and CDR) elections will be held. You can nominate yourselves via email for board and other representative positions. The deadline for nomination is before the meeting, 11 December was mentioned as the final day for nomination submission.*

**9. Fyllnadsval representanter / By-election of representatives:**

9.1 Chairperson of SFR

*No representative was elected.*

9.2 Arbetsgruppen för utbildning på forskarnivå

*No representative was elected.*

9.3 Budgetgruppen

*No representative was elected.*

9.4 Centrala Doktorandrådet, CDR (English)

*No representative was elected.*

9.5 Lärarförslagsnämnd I

*No representative was elected.*

9.6 Lärarförslagsnämnd II

*No representative was elected.*

9.7 Lärarförslagsnämnd III

*No representative was elected.*

9.10 SAGA

*No representative was elected.*

**10. Discussion points:**

**Discussions for students:**

The allotted time between course exam and the start of the next course was discussed. Final turn-in of home exams can start as late as an hour before another course is set to begin (i.e. the home exam can be turned in at 8:00 and the next course starts at 9:00) and exams can even take place after the start of another course. This is obviously stressful.

Equality for non-Swedish speakers was discussed, especially in regards to courses being changed from English-language to Swedish-language at short notice or faculty that are poor language speakers. Additionally, gender equality was discussed in terms of exclusion or outright dismissal of non-binary and LGBTQ+ people.

The ratio of lectures to self-study was discussed, in particular the thought that the number of lectures (the number 1-2 lectures per week) during a single course seemed a bit low.

Referrals to the disciplinary committee were also discussed. In particular, researchers as teachers were discussed with the comment that a good researcher is not always a good teacher and that this seems to have led to disciplinary referrals. Course literature lists were also discussed, particularly that some teachers use their own literature that they update every year and have referred students to the disciplinary committee for using an outdated version, which needs to have been purchased.

**Discussions for PhD candidates:**

The different requirements between institutions regarding the number of credits required to complete doctoral studies was discussed and that some course requirements can seem unnecessary. The average number is 75, but the number can vary between 60 and 110.

Information for incoming international PhD students was also discussed, in particular that there is no central documentation for introducing new PhDs to things like the Stockholm housing market, how studies are formed, etc. There was also a discussion about a collaborative document between other universities and colleges in Stockholm.

**11. Miscellaneous**

The next SFR meeting will be held on 5 december, 2022 from 16:00 until 18:00. The coming meeting is the annual meeting and representatives will be elected for the coming term. Position advertisements can be found on the SUS website. Nominations for yourself or other members of local councils are to be sent to the SFR email address. Only the name is necessary to be nominated, but exceptionally well-written motivation speeches can be read aloud at the discretion of the attendants in your absence. You can also nominate yourself at the meeting itself if you are physically present.

**12. Closing of the meeting**Meeting was closed at kl. 17:30.