

# Samhällsvetenskapliga fakultetsrådet / Faculty Council of the Social Science Faculty

2023-10-09 16:00-18:00

Kårsalen, Studenthuset, Stockholms universitet

Present: Martin Oscarsson, Mika Konings, Frankseco Yorke, Leo Alsenius, Jenny Lindholm, Susanne Berghofer, Clara Fahlstadius, Amie Trawally, Tim Kreuzer, Johannes Geith, Joel Rodrigues, Susan Kemp, Mai Söderholm, Loris Lauer, Jack Odeo, Luis Quintero, Alexa Lundagårds, Björn Alex Scheffler, Mikkel Seierup Bagge, Björn Nordvall.

## Dagordning / Agenda

- 1. Mötet öppnas / Opening of the meeting.**  
Meeting opened 16:03.
- 2. Val av mötesspråk och presentation / Choice of language for the meeting and introduction.**  
English.
- 3. Val av mötesordförande, sekreterare och justerare / Election of chairperson, meeting secretary and attestant.**  
Mika Konings elected chair, Martin Oscarsson elected secretary, Susanne Berghofer elected attestant.
- 4. Godkännande av dagordning / Approval of the agenda.**  
Approved.
- 5. Protokoll från föregående möte (2023-09-11) / Minutes from the last meeting (2023-09-11).**  
Quick recap of the main topics from the last meeting. Minutes are approved and online.
- 6. Rapport från nämnder och kommittéer samt fyllnadsval av representanter / Reports from boards and committees, by-election of representatives:**  
*Kortfattade rapporter från de organ som har haft sammanträde sedan förra fakultetsrådsmötet samt fyllnadsval av representanter / Brief reports from those bodies which have convened since last meeting, and by-election of representatives*

**a. By-election of treasurer**

Susan Kemp elected treasurer.

**b. Faculty Board of Social Sciences (SFN)**

Report on email from Mikkel Seierup Bagge:

*There will be updates to the security protocol regarding sensitive information. The preliminary fiscal report indicate that the social science faculty will be in total 41 mil. in the red. Within that 41 mil, there will be 20. mil that will be paid back. (+ the 10 million that was transferred to N-område that has already been reported to SFR). The faculty strategic plan for 2023-2025 was approved. DISK will create a new focus in one of their programs. (AI for health) This program will be a university collaboration, but questions exist regarding how this will affect students. No set plan or agreement have been agreed upon.*

No by-elections.

**c. Jämställdhetsgruppen**

Representative not present, no report on email. No by-election.

**d. Budgetgruppen**

Representatives not present, no report on email. No by-election.

**e. Lärarförslagsnämnden I (LFN1)**

No current representatives, no report on email. No by-election.

**f. Lärarförslagsnämnden II (LFN2)**

Report on email from Björn Nordvall:

*The most recent meeting from LFN II discussed two new hires, one for a lecturer at the Criminology Department and a professor for the Institute for Social Research (SOFI). For criminology, the discussion was about how the experts had disagreed completely about who should be ordered first and last, where potential hire A was first in one expert's opinion and last in the other expert's opinion and in both cases having placed person B in the opposite position. The decision was that one of the experts had not fully taken into account the hiring requirements. For SOFI, the*

*discussion was instead about establishing a reasonable ordering of the middle three potential hires. Being a research-oriented institution with little pedagogical work, which was reflected in the hiring criteria, there was less discussion about pedagogical merits than in other cases.*

Ida Nilsson elected ordinary representative.

**g. Lärarförslagsnämnden III (LFN 3)**

Report on email from Anton Stridh:

*One matter regarding promotion from lecturer to professor.*

No by-election.

**h. SAGA**

Meeting scheduled for last week postponed until November. No by-election.

**i. Centrala studentrådet (CSR)**

Student representatives elected to the new-president process. Exam-venue issue related to AI discussed, apparently the Social Sciences faculty is hardest hit but it is a problem with more faculties. Akademiska hus rents discussed, especially how educational funding is immediately removed before reaching students (as a political issue). Debriefings on IT issues (only 500 000kr is available this year for ALL IT improvements).

No vacant representative positions, no by-election.

**j. Arbetsgruppen för utbildning på forskarnivå**

Meeting last week. Discussion regarding alternative financing for PhD studentships, including self-financing. No by-election.

**k. Centrala doktorandrådet (CDR)**

Representative not present, no report on email. No by-election.

**l. Report from SUS**

Email from Jenny Wirén:

*Every three years, all groups at SU are reviewed and new representatives from SU are appointed. It is happening this year, which means that we will not have the list of which groups SFR will appoint representatives to and how many will be appointed until the end of January.*

Annual meeting postponed until February.

## **7. Pågående ärenden / Ongoing issues:**

### **a. Social activity**

A cash grant of SEK 2,500 approved by SUS. Discussion on possible event detail. Vote on choice of activity, between holiday party, arcade or murder mystery dinner. Most representatives present are in favor of having a holiday party. Ideas for activities are discussed. Mika Konings will prepare a full proposal for a holiday party until next meeting. Martin Oscarsson will reach out to the Social Science Association to check Bojan availability.

### **b. English language in documents and meetings**

During the SFN pre-meeting with the head of the faculty office, Mikkel raised the English language issue, in line with the guideline document established at the last meeting. Mikkel focused on RALV and the head of the faculty office saw no reason to keep RALV meetings in Swedish.

### **c. AI exams**

The threat of ChatGPT to exams have led departments to shift to more classroom exams. This poses issues with exam-room availability, which has already led to big courses/programs having exams squeezed in on weekends, between long lecture days. There are also a risk that exams are not sufficiently adapted from an online/essay format to a classroom format.

Experiences of implications so-far at different departments are discussed among the representatives present. Several departments seem to focus more on the threat to exams, rather than discussing and teaching responsible use of AI among students. At the Department of Computer Science, different exam formats are being assessed in terms of susceptibility to AI

assistance. Similar discussions are being had at the Department of Human Geography and at the Department of Education.

## 8. Diskussionsfråga / Discussion:

### a. Split discussion:

#### i. Diskussionsfrågor för studenter / Discussions for students:

Vad händer i råden? / What is happening in the councils?

All the councils are starting up and in relatively good shape (enough people). Furthermore, all councils got approved for SUS funding and are planning their own events.

#### ii. Diskussionsfrågor för doktorander / Discussions for PhD students and candidates:

Vad händer i råden? / What is happening in the councils?

Less possibilities for PhD students to teach at the Department of Economic History, because of financial difficulties at the department. This is also affecting recent PhD graduates, who used to be able to teach for a transition period after graduation.

At the Department of Human Geography issues of welcoming and integrating international PhD students are discussed further. The issues are recognized at other departments and the possible consequences in student recruitment is discussed. General information to newly admitted international PhD students could very likely be improved.

Some departments seem much more flexible with the first month(s) of PhD studentship salary. Travel and visa costs for international PhD students is also discussed. Is there any possibility for Stockholm University to fast-track students with Migrationsverket? Also, is there any possibility for the university to provide prepaid debit cards for new international PhD students?

### b. Joint discussion

Recap of split discussions. There are still a lot of departments not represented at the SFR, both on student and PhD-student level. New vacancies but still representatives in all boards and

committees. Absentees. Prioritize among ongoing issues between meetings. Email list for discussions between meetings, or maybe a shared page on Athena?

**9. Övrigt / Miscellaneous**

The council approves that Mika Konings applies for the SUS operational grant.

**10. Mötet avslutas / Closing of the meeting**

17:59