

# Protocol – Science Faculty Council

2023 February 20th, kl.16:30

## 2. Members present

Daniela Guasconi (supplement for PhD council NatGeo; visiting), Erik Schwarz (NatGeo PhD council), Robert Dunst (IGV PhD council), Leonard Kersting (Org. Chemistry PhD council), Ezra Eisbrenner (MISU PhD council), Despoina Kouvousi (visitor for SCEG), Liennea Andersson (SCEG), Melissa Barton (SRC PhD council), Natasha Meiyeen (MSR), Hanna Dort (CDR & Zootis), Nadia Flodgren (Fysikum, AU PhD), Dominic Heslin-Rees (ACES), Natalia (Fysikum), Raymond Lucas McMaster (CSR, SCEG, Masters), Laveena Kansara (MBW, PhD), Divga Bharathi (Env. Sci master's), Robin Stoll (PhD mathematics), Therese Sivertsson (SRC/BÄR), Sachi Dilami Ilangasekara (MSR), Sam Rajan (NFR), Ellen Nein (BÄR), Raluca Tifrea (NFR), Jenny Wirén

## 1. Opening of the meeting

### a. Election of chairperson

Jenny Wirén

### b. Election of secretary

Raluca Tifrea

### c. Election of adjuster

Raymond Lucas McMaster

### d. Approval of the agenda

Point 2.b.4 has been removed from the agenda as it has already been discussed and the responsible group has already met; a new meeting will be created in the fall for this position.

The agenda has been approved.

### e. Approval of last meeting's minutes

Not yet as the minutes have not yet been uploaded on the SUS website. They will be revised for the following meeting.

### f. Information from SUS

- Last CDR meeting: discussions about the document regarding the regulation for education and assessment for the 3rd cycle level (PhD students)
  - Rights and obligations of PhD students
- The doc has been revised by a group in which a PhD student representative had a position.

- Sentences of interest that were flagged by SUS:
  - “Chair & vice-chair within the PhD council can have other positions (i.e., assessment groups, etc.)”
    - The “etc” was flagged by SUS as it offers too much open variation
  - Doc is up for review again
- Some changes will probably be regarding prolongation
  - No clear date for when the doc will be finished again
  - PhD student councils are encouraged to send emails with feedback to SUS with changes that could be made in the respective doc
- Doc for 1st & 2nd levels:
  - Still under review
  - Student representatives will meet on the 26th Feb to go through the doc
  - Hopefully done before summer
  - 1st and 2nd students are encouraged to send emails with feedback to the student council with some changes that could be made

## **2. Concerning NFR’s representation**

### **a. Nominated since last meeting**

- No nominations received since last meeting
- One person interested in the chair position

### **b. Open election**

- 1) Chairperson of NFR
- 2) Vice chairperson of NFR (third alternative):
- 3) Ordinary groups:

All vacant positions for ordinary groups and committees are found at the NFR site at sus.su.se (<https://www.sus.su.se/fakultetsraden/nfr>)

- **Områdesnämnden**
  - One representative remaining
- **Grundutbildningsberedningen**
  - One representative remaining
- Info will be sent out and the student representatives are required to spread it to their respective departments

## **3. Reports from NFR representatives**

## 1) Central PhD-Council

- Main thing going on: the CDR doc mentioned above
- National meeting of PhD council
  - Main topics:
    - Harassment and bullying
    - Sustainable academia (societal, economic, environmental)
      - Sweden is hosting the EuroDoc this summer
        - Discussion panel composed of PhD representatives from all over Europe
  - Students who are interested in attending the meeting with SUS, there are 2 positions available for PhD students. Contact [v.ordforande@sus.su.se](mailto:v.ordforande@sus.su.se) if interested.
  - ISP issue:
    - National council of doctoral students
    - ISP is different from uni to uni and there's work being done at the moment to standardize the format of a legally-binding doc

## 2) Faculty Board & Arbetsutskottet (AU)

- Faculty board:
  - Number of PhD students has decreased in the last years
    - Could be because of fund issues/ economical imbalance
    - There is an institution which provides the money to the PhD students but it has been locked up at the funds from 2020
      - It will be soon revised again
      - Unclear if this means an increase or a decrease in the wages
  - Changes regarding student influence and work-life will be increased
  - Org chem & material chemistry will be joint in the future
  - Reviewing the education:
    - A new engineering education group has been discussed
    - A new group will be created to deal with the number of students for bachelor and master projects
      - In the past: 120 new PhD students; now it's around 80
  - Now it's more expensive to have a PhD student than it was in the past
  - The decrease in PhD students is all over the university
    - Due to the funding



- The job market and internship market is a bit one sided as they do not offer a lot of STEM positions
  - MyCareer: programme offered by uni for students to find jobs
    - Amonoece → admin positions for students
      - It's under construction
    - Hasn't been working so now they're trying to buy a new site
  - Uni can put a lot more effort by advertising the available positions
  - Maybe have a group specialized on the well-being and adaptation of the international students
- Reasons for unoccupied positions in NFR: NFR cannot have its own Athena page. Solutions for increasing advertising of vacant positions.
  - Reasons: lack of engagement?
  - Maybe contact master's coordinators and ask them to post the available positions on Athena
  - Incentivise students by mentioning that the positions are paid
- For next NFR meeting: discuss about the possibility of having aa "association fair" in the Arrhenius building to spread awareness
- Create a new group formed by student council members for recruiting people for the council positions
  - Working group organized in March

## 5. Topics for discussion.

- 1) Reasons for unoccupied positions in NFR: NFR cannot have its own Athena page. Solutions for increasing advertising of vacant positions.
- Before next meeting: make it more clear which positions are in english and which are in Swedish
  - Make positions available for non-swedish people
    - Some positions are not able to be made for international students
    - Requirements: one could speak English but they have to understand Swedish at least
    - Agenda and docs within GB and OB can be around 200 pages which would require a lot of translation
    - Science faculty has the highest rate of english-speaking groups (~50%)
    - The higher up in the administrative structure the more Swedish requirements there are for the representatives

- Work is being put in to make everything more accessible for the internationals

**6. Other**

**7. Meeting closed**

**Adjusted**

**Imcmaster 14/03/2023**