

## Agenda – Science Faculty Council meeting 30.5.2022 - kl. 16:30

### 1. Opening of the meeting

#### a. Round of presentation

Alex (chair), Ellen, Robert, Ellen (BÄR), Ruben (DEEP), Nora (Zoologi), Alex (Vice-chair), Hanna (vice-chair), Carl (Ombudsman), Bart (Astronomy), Robin (math), Divya (CSR), Eleanor, Laveena (MBW), Dominic

#### b. Election of chairperson

Alex Adler

#### c. Election of secretary

Alex Rego

#### d. Election of adjuster

Nora

#### e. Approval of the agenda

All approval

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

Adjusting to include attendance

#### g. Co adjungation

No decision as council, meeting with dean

#### h. Information from SUS

- 20.5% that voted for SUS election. Student association of left got most votes, then social democratic students, third was student party, last was liberal and conservative alliance
- 25<sup>th</sup> May 30, 2022, SUS parliament elected new president and vice president, Simon (social democratic) and Disa (student association of the left), respectively
- Prioritized issues: More sustainability and dedication, safe student economy, treat students equally (including PhD raises), work for student health
- New board, budget, and operational plan from SUS
- Constructed a plan to address critiques against university: four new work groups that will look into course evaluations, evaluation of PhD program and courses, new systems for feedback and views, how the education can be more

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- connected to work life. These workgroups will work until end of the year when they will present some type of plan to fix these issues. University will try to have contact person for all student influence to discuss how things work across departments. University will include in list of decision-making groups that we can elect students that don't speak Swedish. Action plan has been sent out to every council.
7. Newsletter being sent out to all councils a few times per semester
  8. New period for project funding, opened last week. Can apply for projects that will be held during first half of fall semester. Apply until 21 Aug. All councils can apply, for activities (BBQ, welcome event, hire lecturer, etc.). For activities in first half of fall semester
  9. Manifestation of Alien Act where SUS were present. SUS presidium had meeting with minister of education, discussed Alien act, economy for students, etc.
  10. Remind that BSc and Ms. should apply for payment from SUS if on NFR council. Need to be member of SUS, need to apply tomorrow (May 31<sup>st</sup>) latest.
  11. Physics student council is starting up again and elected new board and chairman.
  12. New document Q&A for new students about student influence that will be sent out:  
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f8033b6deco723d16822cec/t/6294947fb605286e0a60483a/1653904512055/Q%26A+about+student+influence.pdf>
  13. Science area evaluating programs each fall. NFR elects reps to the evaluation groups. This time non-Swedish speakers can be elected to the groups. Four different evaluations groups: MS in Biochem and biophysics, MS in Biology, PhD in Math, PhD in Zoologi
  14. New work group that will go over funding for research and PhD education. Representatives should still join. (In Swedish). Nora nominates herself. Approved.
  15. New work group will investigate if Arrhenius lab and geo buildings should be locked during the days so students need key cards. All depts are against it. Geo having difficulty with cards already. Access for MS students is from 8-5, huge problem. Zoologi already has locked corridors, just makes it more annoying. Could be problems for restaurants and cafes in the buildings.
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## 2. Concerning NFR's representation

- a. Nominated since last meeting: Informationsberedningen (Martin Adolfson, fysikum). Approved.
- b. Open election
  - i) Ordinary groups:

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>).
  - ii) Groups within the quality assurance system:

## 3. Reports from NFR representatives

- Central PhD Council
  - Two CDR meetings.
    - Reports from various faculties
    - Resection of Swedish fluency among all members. SUS might send out survey.
    - Advocacy questions from last NFR meeting.
- Central Student Council
  - Environmental council for SU - How can students interact more with councils? Apply to SUS for event on earth day? Concert where they pick up trash afterwards? Organize cleaning from parks.
- Faculty Board & Arbetsutskottet
  - Next meeting on Thursday, will be bringing up
    - Remove astronomy BSc because they're renaming it
    - New suggestion for rule document about rules for education on BS and MS level for science faculty. Rules for PHD students on hold until fall.
    - Suggestion for halftime control in PhD education. PhD students should do halftime control within 3 months of half study time. PhD student should present progress in writing and seminar. Someone who knows subject but is not advisor should be given written feedback. Can be replaced by Licentiate, within 6 months of half study time.
    - Revising rules for PHD defense. Added that one person in grading committee should know about the Swedish doctoral

education system. Retired teachers and researchers can be opponents as long as they are active in research.

- Grundutbildningsberedningen
  - Efforts made to communicate about basic education should be merged between departments; have faculty be in charge of communicating outside university.
  - Questions about university obligations to teach students of morals/ethics in science.
  - Uni should work to recruit students from disadvantaged background, but law doesn't make it compulsory that these students need to graduate at same level as non-disadvantaged students.
  - Faculty need more support staff to deal with above issues.
- Department & Section Committees
  - N/A

#### 4. **Topics for discussion.**

##### a. Presidium priorities for rest of 2022

The presidium suggests focusing on three topics for PhD students: clarity on the rules and decision for pandemic-related prolongation, check that the half-time raise “guidelines” are respected by all departments, and standardize the rules surrounding printing of theses.

For raise: Dean said time first, ISP secondary. For prolongation: If collaboration fell through or project failed due to covid. Dean can go against recommendation of head of department. Dean will not look at department's financial situation when making decision. We have been sent guidelines on prolongation by secretary.

Follow-up/thesis group meetings for other departments are not standardized.

##### b. Open discussion on student issues

Because we are all PhD students in the presidium, we were unwilling to set priorities for students without the input of NFR.

- i. Adjust language requirements for Swedish-only meetings due to large number of international students.
- ii. Don't know how to reach out to BS students for recruitment



c. Requesting a grant from SUS

- i. Welcome BBQ in September. Need to give amount when submitting application. Both operational and project funding can be applied for.

**5. Information from student- and PhD-councils**

SFS has asked for some information from us. Send results to Hanna Dort (hanna.dort@zoologi.su.se). Do you know, in your department/section:

- How long postdocs are?
- What efforts are done to help Ukrainian scientists?
- What is the average time to PhD completion?

**6. Other**

- a. Next meeting for NFR will be Sept. 5

**7. Meeting closed**