



Agenda – Science Faculty Council

29th March 2021, kl. 16.30-

1. Opening of the meeting

a. Round of presentation

Present:

Kevin Dorst (Organic chem., NFR chair) Nora Bergfeldt (NFR vice chair/ON), Alexandre Adler (NFR Vice chair/Fysikum), Eleonor Ryberg (Geo, CRS), Jonathan Wiskand (MISU & Fysikum/MISU merger group), Julika Zinke (CIVIS), Charlotte Haugk (Bolin Centre, substitute), Nadia Flodgern (FB), David Sundelin, Oskar Nyberg (Deep), Hari Nair (CDR), Pascal Meier(US CDR), Carl Tjernell (SUS), Martin Coll (MBW), Abraham Beyene (MND), Hanna Dort (Zoology), Kruger Nyasulu (Stockholm Resilience Center), Linnea Andersson (SCEG and GB), Alice Schmidt-May (BFN), Jason Krogh-Pedersen (Student Chemistry Council)

b. Election of chairperson

i. Kevin is chosen

c. Election of secretary

Alexandre is chosen

d. Election of adjuster

i. Jonathan Wiskand is chosen

e. Approval of the agenda

The agenda is approved.

f. Approval of last meeting's minutes

The previous minutes are approved

g. Co adjungation

h. Information from SUS

Carl informs us of the following things: SUS will hold workshops on public communication. 1 month until student union elections.

Student council at the chemistry section restarted, 30 mars reviving the MBW council. Change to election method of bachelor/master students to Larareforsk.... and Section boards, with Master and Bachelor students directly voting for their representatives through their section councils, not through NFR like currently. SUS also aims to lock in 1/2 split in undergraduate/PhD student representatives.

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2. Concerning NFR's representation

a. Nominated since last meeting:

Divya Bharathi is nominated as student representative for CIVIS Hub Council. Previous representative of the Bolin Centre wants to replace current rep, who cannot assume the position anymore. We agree to nominate her as a replacement.

Climate research school: Eleonor Ryberg says that the school is looking for representatives to the CRS Board. She wonders how the representatives should be chosen. The plan is to ask to all students, and nominate the interested for NFR to itself to nominate/vote on. Oskar says it was discussed in their PhD council and they agree with the plan. Charlotte says there is no email list for the Bolin Centre or the CRS unfortunately, making it more difficult to advertise for the position. Until the process is implemented (next general meeting of NFR), the representatives nominated by SUS will continue to act as such, including Eleonor.

b. Open election

i) SUCCeSS: 1 PhD student

The administration asks for a nominee.

ii) 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>).

iii) Groups within the quality assurance system:

3. Reports from NFR representatives

Central PhD-Council

Does your department have a travel/meeting budget for PhD students? If so, what happened to it with the pandemic? Please report to NFR.

University-wide career day is advertised and will be in Swedish: CDR was annoyed by the monolingualism, but questions in English are welcome. CDR working with University services to adapt it to international students/non-Swedish speakers in the future.

Faculty Board & Arbetsutskottet

David and Nora attended ON. Not much was relevant to PhD students, lots of advertisement for new assistant professor positions. Suggestions

to form a working group to discuss the future of the chemistry section, who might be reorganized.

Grundutbildningsberedningen

Linea missed the last GB. She would like the email for the chairperson that is valid. GB will look in the organization of the main areas inside departments, making a working group with student members to see if degree names/courses names satisfy students as the areas were currently defined for administrative convenience.

Department & Section Committees

Alice submitted a report from BFN. She is worried that tenure-track professors don't get any training in how to manage, which would hurt the students.

Nadia went to the research education committee. They discussed sending out a new survey about the effect on students of the corona situation. There was also a discussion about harmonizing half-time control between departments. Eleonor mentions changes at her department, geology, with the published manuscript replaced by a project proposal: the licentiate is now optional. Various other departments mention their practices, from half-time seminars (not official degrees, so you can re-use the material in your final thesis) to written exams, to licenciates.

They also discussed harmonization of how the PhD duration should be affected by the courses brought forward from the masters.

4. Discussion

Distance learning/teaching: What are your experiences? How could it be improved?

Oskar says it is difficult to keep track of students inputs while teaching (raised hands/breakout rooms on your own...). Engagement with students in general is difficult. Alexandre says lessons are longer to prepare.

Jonathan said teachers at MISU got x1.5 teaching time because of this reason. Jason suggests that having student cameras on ensure they pay more attention. Linnea agrees: teachers get good results when asking



kindly. Her department ran a survey for bachelor and master's students, which concludes soon. Kevin mentions that teaching staff sometime struggles with these new tools: for instance, a tablet is a valuable tool but not everyone will use it. Nora says exam supervision is extremely strange: impossible to see what students do! Hanna says home exams (so no supervision, just timing) might make more sense.

Hari suggests making a draft document for the compensation issue, listing which departments compensate online teaching. The council agrees.

5. Information from student- and PhD-councils

The chemistry council is interested in doing a university-wide public lecture.

6. Other

Jonathan invites comments for the MISU/Fysikum merger. He will write an email to follow up on this.

7. Meeting closed after roughly two hours.