

Agenda – Science Faculty Council meeting 28.03.2022 - kl. 16:30

1. Opening of the meeting

a. Round of presentation

Present: Alexandre Adler, Nora Bergfeldt, Divya Bharati, Ruben Blokzijl, Anne-Charlotte Bunge, Hanna Dort, Elena Farahbakhsh Touli, Ellen Nein, Carl Tjernell, Barteld Van Baal, Jonathan Wiskandt, Ruilan Xu,

b. Election of chairperson

Alexandre will chair the meeting

c. Election of secretary

Hanna Dort is meeting secretary

d. Election of adjuster

Nora Bergfeldt is adjuster.

e. Approval of the agenda

The agenda has been approved.

f. Approval of last meeting's minutes

No objection to last meeting's minutes

g. Co adjungation

Nora represented us on the biology section board temporarily last week; she has been approved for her position for the rest of the year.

h. Information from SUS

- Project funding can be applied for at SUS until Wednesday, 30 March for events occurring in the second half of this semester. This can be done at the SUS website.

- A work group is being created to review doctoral education at SU. Election of the PhD student representative will take place at CDR on Wednesday. Contact CDR if you would like to nominate yourself. Prolongation is regulated in the document they will be reviewing. The committee will meet in Swedish. A draft of new regulations will be sent to SUS before it is approved, and it will be forwarded to doctoral councils for comments. If there's anything you know you want changed in this document already, share your ideas with SUS. There is no pressing reason the document is being reviewed; this is a scheduled activity.

- SUS has made an action plan to engage more students at the Faculty of Science in

Stockholm University Student Union

Visiting address

Universitetsvägen
2A

114 18
Stockholm

Phone +46 (0)8 15 41
00

www.sus.su.se

Org. nr. 802003-
6425

the union. This includes poster-making templates, Q&A documents about student influence. Everything will be available in English on the SUS website, and QR codes will be generated to add to posters.

- Four parties can be voted for in the upcoming election, which will be from 26 April to 6 May.
- New student ombudsman (Alice) and new communicator (Rebeka) working at SUS.
- Next SUS pub is on 5th April, starting at 6PM at Cafe Kåriander. A photo exhibition of endangered/extinct animals will be on display.

2. **Concerning NFR's representation**

a. Nominated since last meeting:

- Elena Touli approved as IT-beredningen representative.

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://www.sus.su.se/fakultetsrad/nfr>).

ii) Groups within the quality assurance system:

c. Discussion of what section boards do → what is discussed at section boards goes forward to ON; think of it as something between department and faculty level, where opinions are prepared for ON. (In Swedish)

3. **Reports from NFR representatives**

Central PhD-Council

Meeting will take place at 15:00 on Wednesday, 30 March in kårsalen.

CSR

Discussion of online exams, especially for students with additional needs. The minutes from the last meeting and relevant documents will be posted online and translated into English. Miljö-området has a new climate calculation tool they would like to present at council meetings. This tool can be used by different departments to calculate CO₂ emissions. Discussion of SUS advocacy issues, document will be brought up in discussion at the end of this meeting and shared with NFR. Key matters CSR would like to propose are below:

- Study free day after exam (student health)

- Most master's courses do not have final exams but rather have projects; how can additional student needs (e.g. for dyslexia) be accommodated for in these instances?
- Increase in CSN
- Increase in student accommodation availability
- Institute internship/thesis portal for SU students
 - All departments must agree to this and actually use it.
 - Students should have their SU email accounts (the student.su.se accounts) to contact professors with, so emails aren't filtered out as spam. These accounts already exist and can be accessed through Outlook.
 - Will increase accessibility to researchers and help out international students (who may have difficulties getting internships at companies, due to language barrier)

□ **Faculty Board & Arbetsutskottet**

New Marine earth science bachelor's program will likely be accepted. Fusion of chemistry section departments discussed, not endorsed in the report. PhD student standardized pay raise decision falls under HR due to union agreements, so ON will not be making a decision, although most boards have agreed that raises should be time based. (AK) If official requirements are adopted, half-time control should be both a written summary of research and an oral presentation, but departments can choose whether it's licentiate or just a seminar – however, it is suggested that half-time control is not in any way linked with pay raise.

- o MISU representatives do not agree with written report requirement, due to risk of self plagiarism. Their reports and presentations are closer to reflective, follow-up meeting content than presentation of articles.
 - No opponents at MISU seminars, as half-time seminars are not actual defenses.
- o Nora (at AU) agreed with decision that written requirement and oral requirements were fine, since it allows the student to get feedback from non-supervisors. Supervisors decide who should read report – typically education head, unit head, or follow-up

committee. Suggestion is that report is reviewed by non-supervisor in the field.

- o Information on doing a licentiate in conjunction with a PhD is almost impossible to find on SU websites.
- o At Physics department, half time report is not published, but is still written and sent to “readers” assigned by supervisors.
- o NFR will bring up issue of extra workload for students and faculty if written reports are required. The oral report recommendation is approved as-is. If you have any additional comments, contact Nora Bergfeldt.
- o You can see who your section’s ON representative is on their website.

Grundutbildningsberedningen

- No outstanding issues. An astronomy program will be renamed. No discussion of “scientific theory” course. Previous discussion of if degree project titles will be included on master’s/undergraduate degrees → was not in favor of it on the main diploma because it would “change the degree” granted. Perhaps include it in the transcript? Titles seem to already be in LADOK and on transcripts (for zoologists, at least), but this may be a department-level issue.

Department & Section Committees

- PhD pubs will be starting up again. Food can be paid for with SUS grants. Rules about serving alcohol can be found here:
<https://vanligafragor.systembolaget.se/org/systembolaget/d/vad-galler-om-man-vill-servera-alkohol-till-ett-sl/>

Fysikum

- PhD students will not be allowed to keep their decommissioned computers, but we’ve negotiated a 10% off the recycled computer price discount. However, this may still be a bit expensive. Website: inrego.se (code: sthlm22)

4. **Topics for discussion.**

Do departments and the faculty help students enough with career development? (e.g. internship services, job fairs...)

Some comments below:

- Supervisor-dependent
- Post-PhD course run by Emily Freeland is excellent; she's a career coordinator that works at the Physics department.
- No encouragement to do external internships during the PhD
- Mentorship with industrial partners possible?
- BIG did a really good job in Nora's undergrad days, as they had a mandatory bachelor's course (Biologists and Society) that connected them to industry. Meteorology has a 7.5 credit industrial internship course. MISU has a military collaboration (potentially?)
- Departments have smaller events, like seminar days with people in industry.
- PhD students have been encouraged to talk about their academic work with those they teach.
- University does have a mentorship program with alumni that pairs students with mentors. Not all departments participate (only 14 do). <https://www.su.se/english/education/alumni/alumni-mentorship-programme>
- Once a year, DEEP organizes a career day where they have alumni come and give talks about what they're doing now.
- Some mentorship programs canceled due to lack of mentors.

For CDR: What focuses should student governance pursue this year?

Some comments below:

- Improve employment/"work-life" outreach, have international-student friendly career fairs.
- Build a sense of community amongst students (emphasize in-person meetings, events)

5. Information from student- and PhD-councils

6. Other

50% raise discussion → moved beyond ON, because collective agreement needs to be checked with SACO to see what's allowed. NFR still suggests raises are time based.



8 February 2023= Career Day for faculty

No responses to interdepartmental pub email from MBW

Next NFR meeting on 30 May 2022

7. Meeting closed at 18:42