



## Minutes – Science Faculty Council

7th September, kl. 16.30 - 19.00, Zoom

*Present: Pil Maria Saugmann (PhD at Fysikum and chair of NFR), Viktor Karlström (PhD at MBW, vice-chair of NFR and student representative in Områdesnämnden), Martin Schulthess (Masters' student at the Department of Physical Geography, chair of GÄR and vice-chair of NFR), Yuan Guo (PhD at MBW and student rep. in Områdesnämnden), Nora Bergfeldt (PhD at the Department of Zoology), Hari Nair (PhD at the Department of Environmental Science), Eike Müller (PhD at Fysikum and student rep. in Docentberedningen), Tobias Grøsfjeld (PhD at the Department of Mathematics and student rep. in Sektionsberedningen), Kevin Dorst (PhD at the Department of Organic Chemistry), Oskar Nyberg (PhD at DEEP), Alexandre Adler (PhD at Fysikum), Pascal Meier (PhD at DBB and vice-chair of CDR), Per Calissendorff (PhD at the Department of Astronomy), Jonathan Wiskandt (PhD at MISU), Patrik Tegnér (Masters' student at Fysikum and chair of FÄR), Linnea Andersson (GÄR, student rep. in Grundutbildningsberedningen), Elis Wibacke (Student Union), Joakim Edsjö (head of Grundutbildningsberedningen, during 4b.)*

### 1. Opening of the meeting

Pil Maria Saugmann opens the meeting at 16.30.

a. Round of presentation

The members introduce themselves.

b. Election of chairperson

Pil Maria Saugmann is elected.

c. Election of secretary

Elis Wibacke is elected.

d. Election of adjuster

Alexandre Adler is elected.

e. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved.

f. Approval of last meeting's minutes

The minutes from the last meeting were not included in the calling for this meeting and will instead be included in the calling for the next meeting, on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October. The minutes will not be approved until then.

g. Co adjungation

Professor Joakim Edsjö, chair of Grundutbildningsberedningen, joins the meeting at 17.00 to inform about the affects the Covid-19 pandemic has on the education at

Stockholm University Student Union

the faculty (see *4b. An update from the undergraduate students' situation*). Joakim leaves the meeting at 17.29.

h. Information from SUS

Elis Wibacke informs about the student union's work with Covid-19 related issues, about structural changes at the student union, and how the student perspective is voiced within the regional alliance Stockholm Trio (between SU, KTH and KI) and the European alliance CIVIS. More information about these alliances will be provided later, if NFR is to appoint a student representative to one of the working groups within the alliances. For example, SU is responsible for a CIVIS hub council for Climate, Environment, and Energy where a student representative has been elected through GÄR and a PhD student representative can be elected by NFR.

2. **Concerning NFR's representation**

a. Nominated since last meeting:

The presidium of NFR has not nominated any representative during the summer, however two people have expressed interest in becoming representatives, including Gisela Horlitz (PhD student at the Department of Environmental Science). Additionally, Linnea Andersson has been to a GB-AU-meeting and is willing to remain a student representative in GB-AU for the rest of 2020. Two new working groups to Grundutbildningsberedningen have also been created and will need student representatives.

b. Open election

i) Ordinary groups:

Gisela Horlitz is elected as a secondary member of LFN at the Section for Earth and Environmental Sciences.

Linnea Andersson is elected as an ordinary member of GB-AU.

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:

No need for an election.



### 3. Reports from NFR representatives

#### a. Central PhD-Council

Hari Nair and Pascal Meier report from the meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September. The main focus of CDR is on Covid-19, and in relation to this CDR has discussed a letter to SUHF and a major labour union.

#### b. Faculty Board & Arbetsutskottet

Viktor Karlström reports from Områdesnämnden (the Faculty Board) and its working committee, Arbetsutskottet. A major economic issue facing the university concerns a rent increase because of Akademiska Hus. The gravity of this rent increase has not been clear before.

A new Centre for Circular and Sustainable Systems (SUCCeSS) will be created and NFR should ask for a PhD student and a Master's student representative on the board.

Tarfala Research Station has received new bylaws.

An evaluation of Stockholms Matematikcentrum, and a joint International student programme with Uppsala, will take place.

#### c. Grundutbildningsberedningen

Linnea Andersson reports about the new programme evaluations, that will complement the mandatory course evaluations. A recommendation on this will be made to the departments at the faculty.

#### d. Department & Section Committees

Eike Müller reports from Docentberedningen.

□

### 4. The situation due to the corona pandemic.

#### a. An update from the PhD student working group.

Viktor Karlström reports from the working group. An online-based survey will be sent out later this month. The faculty will not grant extra prolongation for all PhD students because of the Corona situation but will instead grant prolongation on an individual case-to-case basis.

#### b. An update from the undergraduate students' situation.

Joakim Edsjö gives a presentation about how Covid-19 has affected the education at the Faculty of Science. His presentation will be available after the meeting. Some points that are made concern a decline of motivation among students, who have found studies harder to follow



online, and voiced a need for communication. Teachers have seen an increased workload and drastic changes have been made to the exams. In the autumn semester 2020, ca. 30 % of the students at the Faculty of Science will be present at campus. The university follows the recommendations from FHM and the departments will prioritise practical aspects and first-year students. Drastic changes during the semester will be avoided, which means that most restrictions will be in place until January, at the very least.

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

The councils have nothing to report at the meeting but can send in written reports afterwards if they want.

#### **6. Other**

The next meeting will also be digital but the annual meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November will most likely be a hybrid. The meeting can be arranged in a big room with space between the participants, however an option to join digitally will also be provided to everyone who is not comfortable with attending the meeting at the university.

Pil Maria Saugmann asks the NFR members how the councils want to receive Corona related news between the meetings. Some think information between the meetings might prove redundant but most agree that a monthly e-mail with information would be good.

The last discussion of the day concerns PhD buddy or mentor systems at the university. Oscar Nyberg mentions a guide that can be shared with interested PhD councils.

#### **7. Meeting closed**

Pil Maria Saugmann closes the meeting at 18.16.



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Pil Maria Saugmann,  
Chair

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Alexandre Adler,  
Adjustor

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Elis Wibacke,  
Secretary