



Centrala doktorandrådet (CDR) / *Central PhD Student Council* Meeting nr 7 2021

25^h of October 16:00-18:00

(in person and Zoom meeting)

Agenda

Chair, Pascal Meier, (NFR)
Vice Chair, Hari Nair, (NFR)
Kate O'Farrell (HFR)
Daniel Astone (JMK)
Ali Mohammed (SFR)
Filippo Schiavo, representative CIVIS

Jenny Wirén, Head of Student Advocacy and Governance, secretary of CDR
Elis Wibacke, President SUS

1. Opening of the meeting

Meeting opened at 16:03.

a. Election of verifier

Kate was elected.

b. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

c. Co-option

Elis Wibacke is co-opted.

d. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes was approved.

e. Approval of corrected minutes from 17th of May 2021

The minutes was approved.

2. Reports

a. University Board (*Pascal*)

Not much to report, main discussion was surrounding the budget.

Pascal attended, in the role as chair of CDR, the network for chairs in PhD student councils that was organized by SUS: s office. The issues discussed there were pretty much the same that have been discussed in CDR during the last year.

b. Humanities Faculty Council (*Kate, Maryann*)

Still a problem that some PhD students will not get confirmation on if they get extension due to the pandemic until the end of their employment. This is very stressful for the PhD students.

c. Social Sciences Faculty Council (*Ali, Allison*)

The two main discussions were on extension due to the pandemic and the new immigration laws that will deeply affect the international PhD students.

d. Law Faculty Council (*Daniel*)

The council have not had a meeting since CDR: s last meeting so nothing to report.

e. Natural Science Faculty Council (*Pascal, Hari*)

Nothing to report.

f. Student Union SUS (*Jenny/Elis*)

A network for chairs in PhD student councils has been started by the SUS office. The network will give the chair an opportunity to meet other PhD student council chairs and discuss common issues.

SUS office has been contacted by the faculty office at the faculty of humanities concerning the issue of extension for chairs in PhD student councils. A discussion is raised if the question of extension for chairs has been raised in other departments or faculties.

Instruction for Central PhD student council have been updated and one of the bigger changes in the document is that the chair of CDR no longer have to be one of the elected representatives from the faculty boards. This opens up the positions for more PhD students and will hopefully result in that the person taking on the role will not “miss out” on any days of extension due to the fact that PhD students can only be given 40 days extension per year.

g. Others reports

i. REBUS (*Ole*)

The question about the decision of extensions due to the pandemic was brought up in their covid group. For both Humanities and Natural Sciences decisions about extensions are made between departments together with the Dean. There seems to be an understanding about the worries regarding extensions, but difficult to parse out frustrations at department level in REBUS. (Comment: the feeling I get is that some departments, especially in the humanities, work slower than others, perhaps best to bring up the issue locally. Otherwise harder to address the problem, if it's not as much of a problem elsewhere).

For extensions in the future, they stress to document as much as possible in the ISP. From the Natural Sciences Faculty extensions granted have been between 0-6 months, with an average of 2,5 months. No data from Humanities. There was a short discussion on whether decisions of prolongations for those that have been affected until now but that don't need the prolongation right away should be made now or later. The current approach from both H-området and N-området is to delay these decisions to later, but discussions at the meeting suggested possibly revising this approach as not knowing future prolongation is stressful and makes it difficult to plan further ahead. This discussion is to be brought higher up through the Vice-Chancellor.

ii. **ON** (Amanda)

No reports.

iii. **BUF** (Sebastian)

No reports.

iv. **CEUL** (Sebastian)

No reports.

v. **CIVIS** (Filippo)

The group had a meeting on the 13th of October where four main points were discussed; the possibility of hybrid exchange, the possibility of paying future chair and vice chair of CIVIS for their work, statutes of CIVIS and the upcoming CIVIS-days in Brussels, where one of the representatives from Stockholm university will attend.

vi. Stockholm Trio (Fariba)

No reports.

3. Focus area for CDR HS2021

Pascal sent out an email to all the faculty councils asking for feedback on how the issue of extensions due to the pandemic are being handled in the different faculties. None of the faculty boards replied. Jenny will see if it is possible to send out a survey to all PhD student councils regarding how decisions on extension due to the pandemic are being handled in each department.

4. Discussion of issues raised by local PhD councils

All issues have been discussed during other points.

5. Sum-up and Delegating of discussion points

Jenny will see if it is possible to send out a survey to all PhD student councils regarding how decisions on extension due to the pandemic are being handled in each department.

6. Other issues

No other issues.

7. Closing of the meeting

The meeting was closed 17:05.

X

Pascal Meier
Chair

X

Kate O'Farrel
Verifier

X

Jenny Wirén
Secretary