

Minutes from the Central PhD council (CDR)

Meeting nr 3, 2020

Friday 17th of April, 12:00-14:00, Zoom, online meeting.

Present

Chair, Rebecca Bengtsson, (SFR), Psychology department

Vice Chair, Pascal Meier, (NFR)

Hari Nair, (NFR)

Anna Horn, (JFR)

Conrad Bakka, (HFR)

Maryann Tan, (HFR)

Clàudia Figueras, (SFR)

Cecilia Bergqvist, (Co-opted REBUS)

Jonas Eklund, PhD student ombudsman, secretary of CDR

§ 1. Formalities

a. Opening of meeting

The meeting was declared open at 12:04 pm.

b. Election of verifier

Claudia, was elected, together with the Chair to verify the minutes.

c. Co-option

Cecilia was co-opted.

d. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

e. Previous minutes

The approval of the previous minutes was postponed until next meeting.

§ 2. Reports

a. University board

No meeting since last CDR.

b. Humanities Faculty Council (HFR)

The last meeting had been postponed to April 24th..

Maryann enters the meeting. 12:09.

c. Social Sciences Faculty Council (SFR)

SFR had a Zoom meeting the 24th of March. Preparing, and teaching zoom classes have taken a lot more time for the PhD students due to not being familiar with video teaching.

There had been a discussion on the additional money given after the doctoral defense at the department of philosophy. Conrad will look into how this works.

The corona-situation had been discussed and overall it works quite well.

Rebecca, recommend CeUL:s information on online teaching available on the SU website.

CDR should monitor the concern with teaching taking more time during corona.

d. Law Faculty Council (JFR)

Anna informs about the last JFR meeting that was over Zoom. The course evaluations on doctoral level had been discussed and there were some concerns about anonymity, when the PhD students are so few.

At the department they arrange Zoom lunches every week, and Zoom fika once a month.

The increased labor for teaching online has been discussed and the need for additional hours for teaching. As for now there are no decisions on compensation.

e. Natural Science Faculty Council (NFR)

Hari informed from the last NFR meeting. Cecilia Bergqvist has been elected substitute in CDR.

The evaluations and how the results are implemented in the education and department has been discussed.

Cecilia, informs about the access to labs in corona situation.

f. The Student Union (SUS)

Jonas informs that the situation for PhD students are discussed at SUS(?) meetings at the university. So far there is no general decisions on prolongations due to the situation.

g. The Swedish National Union of Students Doctoral Committee (SFS-DK)

No report.

h. Others

Cecilia reports from Rebus. How often quality assessment should be done have been discussed. Somewhere between 3-6 years seems reasonable.

There are more applicants to the university for next semester. This due to the unemployment due to corona.

The IT system works well in this situation.

Student surveys have been discussed and the general opinion is that they take a lot of work and few participates. If the knowledge gathered through surveys is not used to improve the education what is the point of doing them.

§ 3. Nominations

a. Confirmation on positions in the University Board

Rebecca will be the ordinary member of the University board, and Pascal the substitute. Both will attend the meetings.

b. Vacant position

Still vacant positions in ON, BUF, RALV, Hörande församling, Ethics and a new position in Stockholm Trio.

§ 4. SFS nomination for Chair of Doctoral committee

CDR are happy to endorse Pil Maria Saugmann for the Chair of SFS Doctoral Committee.

§ 5. CDR rules and procedures

Nothing to add.

§ 6. CDR annual plan

We discussed in the previous what CDR would work on in 2020, in this meeting we discuss the options and decide.

Conrad informs on an ongoing discussion in HFR, about a petition to prolong all PhD student's employment. As PhD students in Malmö have done.

Anna, two options, either CDR keep up the business as usual, focusing on a specific subject, or focus on corona and the aftermath and problems following this. Opposes a petition for a general prolongation as PhD students are affected differently. The situation is affecting the whole society and we need to take a responsible stand, and make sure that the ones most affected gets compensated. We should also follow the discussion at other universities in Sweden and Europe.

Hari, the PhD students at their department is getting less work done due to the corona situation. Suggests that that the local PhD councils should discuss the situation at their department.

Pascal, not just about the PhD students, money is disappearing from Universities around the world. How will corona affect future career possibilities, post-docs and so on. Bring this to the university board.

Maryanne, suggests negotiations of prolongations locally, but also important that CDR have a general stance.

Anna, too soon to know how the situation will affect different PhD students. Supervisors have a big responsibility in this situation.

CDR will monitor the situation and if bring the discussion to the University Board, when it is suitable.

For now, CDR decides to focus on the corona situation for the semester.

§ 7. Discussion on issues raised by local PhD councils

Claudia, at DSV PhD students are working from home and they are using Slack as a way to connect with colleagues. They are also having digital after works using Zoom. The employees at the department are allowed to take office supplies (screens, chairs and so on) home to get a better working environment. The department is paying for taxi transport if needed.

Cecilia, informs about a PhD survey which shows that PhD students are not satisfied with the feedback they get from the department. The right to “utvecklingsamtal” is discussed.

Hari, informs that the PhD students are still working in labs at their department, and there are some concerns in how to make sure that people that might be sick is not staying home. The employees need to take individual responsibility.

13:08. Conrad leaves the meeting.

§ 8. Next meeting

A doodle will be sent out for next meeting that is planned for May.

§ 9. Miscellaneous

Nothing to discuss.

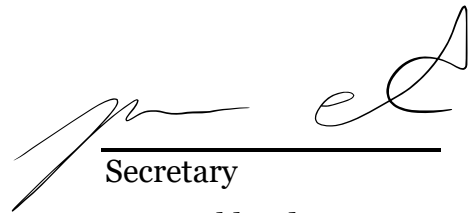
§ 10. Closing of the meeting

The meeting was closed at 13:22 pm.



Chair of meeting

Rebecca Bengtsson



Secretary

Jonas Eklund



Verifier

Clàudia Figueras