

Minutes

Date: 2011-09-21

Time: 17:00-19:00

Location: Department of Measurement Technology and Industrial Electrical Engineering

Attending board members: Fredrik Ejserholm, Karin Westerberg, Maisam Abbasi, Sofia Fahlvik Svensson, Belinda Adler, Farzad Foroughi.

Other present: Hanna Modin, nominating committee and Daniel Sjöberg, inspector.

Absent board members: None

Protocol number: 2011:5

§	Topic
§1	The chairman opens the meeting Meeting opened
§2	Was the meeting correctly called The meeting was deemed correctly called
§3	Election of one person to co-sign the minutes Farzad Foroughi was elected to co-sign the minutes
§4	Approval of the agenda The agenda was approved with the addition of points 6d – nominating committee and 6h - LDK.
§5	Last meeting protocol The protocol was approved.
§6	Report/Info from the committees/members of the board <i>a. SR-Dokt (Educational) - Sofia</i> The research board has discussed the issue of foreign PhD students taking courses at graduate level and there should be no bill for this. However, there doesn't seem to be a formal decision yet. The strategic plan has been discussed, and it seems clear that there will be changes made to the proposal which has been sent out. Per Warfvinge has received the opinion from the study council and may be in contact with Belinda or Sofia about it.

There is also a suggestion to make it compulsory to write a bachelor's thesis after 3 years of study which will be discussed in the different committees.

b. Translation of documents and statute changes– Karin

Karin has written a draft translation of the statutes and charter. Belinda and Maisam will read through them to check.

The statutes need to be changed so that the board does not lose its mandate at the section meeting. The mandate of the board should follow the year of activity. In addition, the year of activity should be changed so that it follows the calendar year. Karin will make a suggestion of how to change the statutes before the section meeting.

Sofia pointed out that we need to make sure that the required changes are made to the TLTH statutes as well. Fredrik will be in charge of this.

c. Section meeting

i. The PhD Movie

We can rent Kino for 3000 SEK (fits 200 people) and we have booked November 16th and 17th. Discussion on whether to have one night for LTH and one for LDK or to share both nights. We will share both and make it clear in the invitation that one should be a member of one of the unions in order to see the movie. People will need to sign up via our webpage in order to reserve places at the movie.

The section meeting will be held in Kårhuset Aula on November 17th 16.59. The movie will start at 19.00.

d. Nominating committee – Hanna

The nominating committee is working on finding a board for next year, and they want to know whether the present board members want to candidate for next year. They also want more nominations.

Farzad commented that the committee should try to include international students in the board next year as they are an important member group.

e. Party/Social group

i. Football tournament

Our last board meeting was just before the tournament. 60 people in 8 teams participated and about 30 people came to the dinner party. In all it was a very successful event.

ii. Crux

The climbing event was also successful with about 20 participants and no rain. NatFak were supposed to have an event at the same time, but unfortunately they cancelled due to bad weather. Fredrik commented that the bill has not arrived yet. The cost was 600 SEK.

iii. PLUME

PLUME will receive 25 000 SEK from Region Skåne. We also need to make sure that LTH pays the money they have promised, and Karin will see to this. We are looking for people to run the programme during 2012 but so far no one has answered.

iv. Regatta

The doctoral section had a boat participating in the Regatta this year.

f. LTH Research Day – Maisam

Maisam has started planning some activities and is also looking for contacts to help with the arrangement, above all within research committee 2. Suggested topics are: research in industry and academia, PhD student's rights, Scholarships, Research education, Pedagogic development, Research methodology, Round-table discussions, Collaborations, Financing, New research areas and Presentations.

It was discussed that the plan should be made more specific, and to focus less on giving out information and more on providing a venue for discussion.

It was mentioned that there would be an event in the coming week: "LTH går runt" where students and employees had the opportunity to visit other research departments.

g. Webpage and contact with members – Fredrik

We will get our own email addresses which will have to be on the format dokt-XX@tlth.se and we agreed which addresses we need. The new addresses are:

President of the board	dokt-ordf@tlth.se
Vice President	dokt-vordf@tlth.se
Student Council President	dokt-srordf@tlth.se
Treasurer	dokt-kass@tlth.se
Secretary	dokt-sekr@tlth.se
The Board	dokt-styrelsen@tlth.se
Nomination Committee	dokt-val@tlth.se
Student Council	dokt-sr@tlth.se

Fredrik has also arranged a new webpage, which all agreed looks really good.

Volunteers are needed for updating the PhD student Handbook. We should be involved to make sure that it is good.

h. LDK – Farzad

Farzad had been to a meeting of the board of LDK. They had talked about:

- A coming documentary on TV4 about PhD students at LU.
- An upcoming equality workshop.
- That all committees should send written reports before the board meetings.
- That the medicine students want to make a survey of the study environment for PhD students. Hanna pointed out that LTH makes such a survey each year, and that it is best to avoid making double surveys.
- Student representatives in the education board.

§7 Activity report

We need to write an activity report to the section meeting. It was decided that everyone will write a paragraph about their areas of responsibility and send to Belinda before next board meeting.

§8 Fairness and equal opportunity for PhD students at LTH

We discussed that international students are usually not represented in the different boards and committees. However, they do come to social activities and participate in for example PLUME. Maybe they do not feel included in the administrative part of PhD studies? The board meetings are always in Swedish, which is one reason for this. There might also be cultural differences when it comes to expressing opinions at the departments. Possible ways to work on including more foreign students are to be clear about that the union and committees are for all students when we present ourselves at the introduction course for PhD students. We could also try to get more spaces at the course in Swedish for university employees. Finally, we should look at what the strategic plan says about these issues under “internationalization”.

§9 Next board meeting

The next meeting will be on October 27th at EIT.

§10 Other questions

We will have a lunch for all PhD student representatives on the department boards on Friday October 14th.

§11 Short communications

Nothing to report.

§11 Closing the meeting

The meeting was closed.

Signatures

Belinda Adler

Chairperson

Karin Westerberg

Secretary

Farzad Foroughi

Co-signer