

## Minutes

**Date:** 2012-03-12

**Time:** 17.00 – 19.30

**Location:** Ingvar Kamprad Design Center

**Attending board members:** Ufuk Kirik, Vahid Sohrabpour, Kerstin Hoyer, Fredrik Ejserholm, Karl-Magnus Persson, Ivaylo Vasilev

**Other present:** Johan (chairman of LDK) (10.00-18.00), Mikael Novén (vice president of TLTH, responsible for educational affairs) (ca. 17.30-17.45)

**Absent board members:** Malin Jonsson

**Protocol number:** 2012:3

§	Topic
§1	<b>Opening of meeting</b> The meeting was opened.
§2	<b>Was the meeting correctly called</b> The meeting was deemed correctly called.
§3	<b>Election of one person to co-sign the minutes</b> Ivaylo was elected to co-sign the minutes.
§4	<b>Approval of the agenda</b> The agenda was approved with addition of the following topics: Guidelines for spending in connection with meetings within the section.
§5	<b>Last meeting protocol</b> Meeting protocol 2012:1 and 2012:2 were read out.
§6	<b>Report from institutions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Immunotechnology will move to Medicon Village, but it's not decided when.</li><li>- At IKDC, new rules for the amount of PhD courses a PhD student has to take, states that new PhD students have to take less courses. Also, new PhD students are allowed to take up to 30 credits from their master education.</li></ul>

There seem to be different rules in different departments regarding the amount of courses that need to be taken by PhD students. At the meeting, it was decided to look further into this.

- Nothing to report from ELMAT (Fredrik) or Ivaylo.
- Karl-Magnus reported that they are moving into their new lab.
- Nothing to report from Chemical Engineering (Kerstin).

**\$7**

### **Report from the co-opted participants**

**Johan from LDK:** LDK has been working a lot with the strategic plan during the fall and are now planning to focus on quality assurance of research education, e.g. by discussing individual study plans with the vice rector. They are also working on a good e-mail list to all their PhD students. They liked having the PhD movie together with us and would like to have more activities together. This fall they've had a big work load, so they haven't managed to do any more activities themselves.

Something that they've come in contact a lot lately is a discussion on whether our university should move towards becoming a research institute like e.g. the Max Planck Institute in Germany and would like to hear what we would think about that. Transforming the university to an institute, could affect PhD students in different ways, e.g. would this mean that a PhD student would do his/her research there but actually be employed by the university and the institute would actually not be interested in research EDUCATION but just research. There seems to be a pressure from existing institutes to move other universities towards the same system. In the long run, this would mean that universities might move from governmental institutions to something more like foundations.

At the meeting, it was discussed to try to hear from people with experience from research in an institute, e.g. Max Planck Institute what they think about this to learn more about how it affects universities.

**Mikael from TLTH:** The student union now has 10 full time employees. Johan Eventoft is working with recreational affairs and is the one that can help us with everything from discussing ideas to practical things such as renting Cornelis.

TLTH would like to have some input to the change of the semester schedule (*läsårsindelning*) from PhD students. The semester schedule at LTH is a system not often used in Sweden and it causes problems to students, e.g. with CSN, since full time studies in our system does not fulfill to the demands on fulltime studies according to CSN. This has already caused problems for students when

CSN demanded their money back from all Engineering students in Sweden, since they don't study 20 weeks per semester. The change of the semester schedule could influence PhD students in a way of e.g. having to teach during longer time during the year.

Mikael's informed us about his role in the student union, which is to help us with anything we need help with, from simple things like borrowing a car from TLTH to bigger political things. Mikael is also part in *Forskningsberedningen*. Their main discussion at the moment is how research funds from the university is divided over research groups and taking up a course database for PhD courses and scholarship students. Regarding PhD students on scholarships that are not treated according to the rules, *Forskningsberedningen* is happy to get input from us. Something that has been discussed is a system where a department has to put money aside for a fourth year when they employ a PhD student on a three year scholarship.

Mikael also informed us about a survey, which LDK is going to make soon. The survey should give answers on how many PhD students actually are on scholarships. LDK will send the questions to us for input before sending out the survey.

Soon, new people for the research councils are going to be elected and we should make sure to have candidates.

## **\$8**

### **Report/info from the committees/members of the board**

#### **a. Chairman – UK**

##### **a.i. FU-group**

FU group is an informal group for people who informally sit together and talk about research educational topics. Ufuk will be able to take part from now on.

##### **a.ii. "Genombrottet"**

Ufuk talked to Anders Ahlberg and got some statistics about PhD courses given by them. They doubled the amount of spots in different popular courses but applications quadrupled, which was the reason for the courses still being over full. We informed them that we would like to have statistics available to students about how many applied and so on.

##### **a.iii. FN representative at LU level**

Ufuk got a mail from Rikard who has been elected for *Forskningsnämnden* at LU level. He was called to this meeting. Johan talked to him and he seemed to have some good ideas.

We have an *ombudsman*, who we can talk to if we need to. We will try to introduce her in the PhD introduction meetings/courses.

**b. SR-Dokt (Educational) – KMP & MJ**

**b.i. Safety Officer – Skyddsombud**

Karl-Magnus has got a lot of documents to read. The study council hasn't had their first meeting yet. During the first meeting, the question about a safety officer will be raised.

**c. PLUME – KH**

There are 28 couples of mentors and PhD students in PLUME this year. The 27<sup>th</sup> of March, there will be the first common meeting and we are now looking for someone to talk about mentorship during this meeting.

We're also trying to get the financial support from LTH settled. We think, that we should get better collaboration with LTH if this program should be more regular and going on on a yearly basis.

Ufuk and Fredrik will try to formulate a contract to assure we'll have money for the next years. Ufuk will talk to Axel and Anders Axelsson about short term money and a decision.

**d. Activities group – IV**

Something should be done soon, because soon it's midsummer and then students are gone for the summer. Ivaylo would like to have some feedback on what PhD students would like to do. This could e.g. be done in a pole on the website of the PhD student section.

Some kind of hiking or beach activity could be done in June.

Karl-Magnus told about Sofia from the LU side, who was interested in co-opting some activities with us.

We could have a PhD Olympics or something similar.

We could have a table at Pub Liten or the pub at Physics to get PhD students out there and maybe also ask what they would like to do as activities.

**d.i. "Welcome Dinner"**

The 7th of May Ufuk is going to present himself on the last or one but last meeting of the next introduction course for PhD students, so if we would like to have a welcome dinner for PhD students, we should do it then. Ufuk will

see how many PhD students are at the course and give Ivaylo the schedule of the course. We are expecting around 40 PhD students.

Ufuk talked to the person organizing *nollning* and told her that we are not interested in taking part in *nollning*, but will organize a welcome dinner. She was interested in coming to the dinner to present herself.

**e. Homepage and economy – FE**

The homepage is updated. The photos are up (except for Karl-Magnus) and documents are uploaded. It is possible to do a pole on the website. If you want to add things, talk to Fredrik.

There is a Dropbox, which is a cloud based storage where we can store files. The meeting protocols are going to be there. The budget is also there.

Fredrik pointed out that if you pay for something with a card, you get two papers. Only one is the recite! If you send a recite to Fredrik, he will transfer the money to you.

**f. Other?**

Nothing to report.

**\$9 Guidelines for spending**

Things that haven't been discussed in this forum, will not be paid by the PhD section! In general, food for official planned meetings for the PhD student section board is paid for as well as meetings for student council and other official meetings.

**\$10 Restructuring of the Dept. of Physics**

Since Malin and Teresia, who took initiative to raising this point, were not present at this meeting, it was decided to raise this point again at the next meeting.

**\$11 Popular science abstracts of the dissertation**

Kristina Lindgärde has asked us for feedback on what we need to make the process of writing a popular science abstract for our dissertation more interesting and less painful for the PhD students. She would like to sit down with a group of PhD students and discuss this. We suggest that Kristina calls for a workshop with all PhD students interested in discussing this and the PhD student section board will be there.

We think that it would be a good idea to publish all popular abstracts in a book for us and students to read. The benefit has to be clear. It isn't fun to write something that no one will ever read.

We agree that it is a good and important thing that PhD students talk about their research in public but it has to be more appealing to the PhD students.

**\$12**

**Upcoming events**

**a. SFSFUM 2012 in Lund (4-6 May)**

SFS is a collection of all student unions in Sweden. They work in the government and will have their one common meeting every year in Lund this time. This is the biggest event in student politics in Sweden. The ones of us that are working with educational questions should go there.

**b. Symposium on equality: "Forskarutbildning på lika villkor" (7-8 May)**

This would be interesting for the research council.

**c. Board get-together for all sections**

The chairmen of all sections meet now and then and they would like all boards to meet all together, e.g. for a BBQ party organized by the student union. Ufuk will send out a Doodle for us to decide which is the best date for us, which we will put into the main Doodle.

**\$13**

**Next board meeting**

18<sup>th</sup> of April at 17.00 at BMC.

The e-mail list [dokt-kall@tlth.se](mailto:dokt-kall@tlth.se) goes to all the people who could be interested in joining these board meetings.

**\$14**

**Other questions**

No other questions.

**\$15**

**Short communications**

No short communications.

**\$16**

**Closing the meeting**

The meeting was closed.

**Signatures**

**Ufuk Kirik**

Chairperson

**Kerstin Hoyer**

Secretary

**Ivaylo Vasilev**

Co-signer