



Meeting Minutes – Meeting of the Doctoral Board, 8th September 2020 15:15 – Online meeting via Zoom

Attendees

Oliver Degerstedt, *Chair*

Angelika Drigo, *Vice-chair*

Haro de Grauw, *Vice-chair*

Charlotte Viktorsson, *Secretary*

Evgenii Tikhomirov, *Event manager*

Antonia Degen, *SDR representative*

Christoffer Fjellstedt, *TNDR representative*

Elena Prats, *HDR representative*

Philipp Rönchen, *HDR representative*

Achyut Ram Vyakaranam, *MDR representative*

Fabiola Stein, *UDR representative*

§1 The meeting was declared open by the chair

§2 Haro de Grauw was elected as the adjuster for the protocol

§3 The board approved the agenda

§4 The board approved the call procedure

§5 The board approved the previous meeting minutes

§6 Introductions from DN presidium & representatives (information/update)

All attendees presented their role in the doctoral board and which faculty they represent.

MDR – In their first meeting they discussed the language issue, and how they can help PhD students learn Swedish.

SDR – In their first meeting they discussed the routines in the time surrounding the dissertation, where there are no universal guidelines for PhD students regarding the use of their university email and so forth. Also, they might arrange a mini conference for PhD students and faculty members at the university.

FDR – Their representative will be elected soon.

Nothing else to report from the faculty boards.

§7 Election of PhD representative to the Board of WoMHeR (decision)

All members of the doctoral board were sent the candidates' applications before the meeting.

Since the chair Oliver Degerstedt was not an administrator of the Zoom meeting and therefore was not able to create an anonymous poll, it was unanimously decided that Angelika Drigo would count the votes which were sent to her through the chat function in Zoom.

The elected representative for the board of WoMHeR is **Therese Johansson**, who will hold the position until 30th of June 2021.

§8 What should DN focus on this year? (information/discussion)

The chair Oliver Degerstedt showed a Power Point presentation of the main focus points this year, which are:

- **Prolongation**

The report from 2019/2020 will be sent to the management council.

There were some questions about prolongation in the survey from 2019/2020, especially since departments have different rules and guidelines.

It was discussed whether there should be a general policy for how quickly a decision regarding prolongation should be made and whether it should be possible to appeal such a decision.

The board agreed on starting a working group regarding prolongation issues.

- **Language/internationalization**

Since there are already a lot of focus on translating documents to English, the board agreed that the focus this year should be on Swedish learning.

Information about Swedish language courses at the university should reach all PhD students at UU.

A working group will be created, that among other things will try to increase the number of Swedish courses offered to PhD students and post docs.

- **Effects of COVID-19**

There are apparent differences between the departments regarding how to handle problems that have arisen due to COVID-19. For example, this includes issues related to prolongation.

It appears as though there will not be any central funding for prolongation related to COVID-19, and this raises questions about how the decisions about prolongation will be made on department level.

Vice-chair Haro de Grauw will write a template that can be used by PhD students at department level to raise issues they have encountered due to COVID-19.

- **Compensation for PhD representatives**

The system for compensating PhD student representatives will be reviewed and possibly revised. The possibility of being able to choose between monetary compensation and prolongation will be investigated.

- **DN website update**

The website is not user friendly, and should be updated and renewed. How this will be achieved is to be decided later.

- **Events during the autumn 2020**

There is money allocated for the PhD gasque, but due to corona it will probably be cancelled. However, the board agreed on trying to arrange a few smaller events this autumn, starting with a hike and picnic.

§9 Other comments or issues

No other comments or issues.

§10 The meeting was declared closed by the chair

Oliver
Degerstedt

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Oliver Degerstedt
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Oliver Degerstedt, Chair



Charlotte Viktorsson, Secretary



Haro de Grauw, Vice-chair (attestant)