



**Minutes – Meeting of the Doctoral Board, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022 15:15 – Zoom meeting**

**Attendees**

Oliver Degerstedt, *Chair and acting secretary*

Elena Prats, *Vice-chair and HDR representative*

Irene Muli, *Vice-chair*

Haro de Grauw, *Student and PhD student ombud and University board representative*

Fabiola Stein, *UDR representative*

Daniel Schmitz, *MDR representative*

Antonia Degen, *SDR representative*

Philipp Rönchen, *HDR representative*

Erik Bowall, *TNDR representative*

Emma Sundström, *TDR representative*

Fredrika Nyström, *UDR vice-chair*

Zanna Friberg, *Advisory Board for Research Infrastructure  
(Forskningsinfrastrukturnämnden) representative*

Galyna Kutsovskaya, *Advisory Board for Research representative*

Max Karlsson, *UUFS representative*

**§1 The meeting was declared open by the chair**

**§2 Erik Bowall was elected as the adjuster for the meeting minutes**

**§3 The board approved the agenda**

**§4 The board approved the call procedure**

**§5 The board approved the previous meeting minutes**

**§6 Brief updates from DN presidium & representatives (information)**

*Chair Oliver Degerstedt:*

- Aliens Act manifestation in Uppsala final update, final cost ca 500 SEK of which 320 was police permit. Thanks to those who helped and joined. It was good fun, better turnout than expected, ca 150 people in our train from Gamla Torget to the train station. Will encourage PhD students to join the Stockholm manifestation coming up.
- Campus Gotland visit with Management Council in early March, met with PhD representative Soraya. PhD students on Gotland now have a link to both DN and TNDR, hopefully they will have good chances to get important questions lifted in both forums.

- Guide on how to apply for prolongation from University funds (*Universitetsgemensamma medel*) using the TekNat form was sent out via email. This is relevant for DN presidium and board member positions.
- Digital ISP pre-study – report finished next week hopefully, then translated to English
- The DN Language and Internationalisation report will not be published on MP at this stage. The communications department are instead planning a larger Internationalisation piece for MP where the DN survey report will form a part.
- Financing of Swedish for Academics courses – proposal for 2022 under preparation and will be worked into the activity plan (Verksamhetsplan – VP) process 2023 this spring.
- PhD students are needed to evaluate five of the research educations at the faculty of history and philosophy in autumn 2022, email will be sent out.

*HDR*: Nothing to report

*SDR*: Have continued talking about PhD student presence at interviews topic, taking the equal opportunities angle. Another topic also related to equal opportunities is that the allowance for PhD students (for courses and conferences etc.) is very different across departments. Finally, want to inform more on how to deal with sexual harassment in the PhD department handbook as well as introductory courses.

*MDR*: Need to follow up on harassment question from last meeting

*UDR*: new UDR board, until next February (2023).

*TNDR*: The grant used for promoting interaction between PhD students at TekNat has been increased. Faculty was happy to see new University guidelines for prolongation.

*TDR*: Recent cases of prolongation due to covid-19. PhD student asked for 8 weeks, got 6 weeks, seemed fair. Previously one student asked for 72 days and received the requested amount.

*Vice-chair Irene*: Involved in working group for the new student influence guidelines, the group is now working on communication plan for sharing the new guidelines.

*UUFS*: The DN by-laws (*reglemente*) was approved at the last UUFS meeting.

*Representative in Advisory Board for Research Infrastructure Zanna*: The advisory board recently discussed research data management and how to integrate this in research education in general.

*Representative in Advisory Board for Research Galyna*: The advisory board discussed KOF24, profile areas, Wallenberg and SSF research. They were also presented and analysis of EU research funds – Horizon 2020 and an overview of how are Denmark, Belgium and Netherlands are working to get more EU funding.

### **§7 DN elections in between meetings:**

- Representative for PUMA – 1 applicant: **Inga Goetz** was elected.
- Swedish speaking PhD student to review research education within SamFak – 4 interested, 1 final applicant: **Kimberly Norrman** was elected.

## **§8 War in Ukraine – how does it affect PhD students and what can we do (discussion)**

Student & PhD student ombud Haro: Concerned that so few have reached out seeking help regarding this. Chair Oliver as well as UUFS (except Rindi on Gotland) have the same experiences. Hopefully this means that those affected have found where to go via co-workers, supervisors, head of department or MP.

Galyna shares that it was very difficult to get a time with Previa, took almost two weeks and they said the War in Ukraine was not related to work environment. Oliver will bring this up with deputy vice-chancellor during the regular catch-ups with the students.

## **§9 Post-Defence Depression (discussion)**

Chair Oliver received a question regarding this – what can we give as advice? Only the usual healthcare system is an option when no longer employed and with access to company healthcare. Something worth mentioning to the Alumni network. Could also be good to talk more about life after the PhD via career events and as part of introduction to doctoral studies. To highlight the challenges at the different stages of the PhD.

## **§10 Remaining meetings this term (information)**

- Tuesday 26th April 15:15-17:00 with Prorektor Coco Norén
  - What points to bring up?
    - Work contracts in English
    - Equal opportunities topics in general
    - Harassment issues in the past, how were they dealt with. What were the resulting policies or changes
    - Code of Conduct, more transparent recruitment of PhDs and PostDoc – blinded CVs
    - Aliens Act – nothing is happening – what more can UU do.
    - Swedish for academics – more investment than before
    - Housing and wellbeing – higher quality accommodation, better pricing. DN working group met with Housing office recently, help with housing for international PhD students – 3 years only. Office inside the university, paid by UU – helps connect property owners with tenants. Housing office can only ask for renovations and a certain standard, not demand them.
- Tuesday 24th May 15:15-17:00 with DN elections
- Tuesday 14th June 15:15-17:00 (Tuvstarren, Segerstedt)

## **§11 Other comments or issues**

Markus shared an idea from a PhD student at Faculty of Medicine, the “Science fikas”. The board was positive to allocate funding for such an initiative. The suggestion will be presented in more detail at the next meeting.

Other events are encouraged, DN have some funding left this year.

**§12 Closing of the meeting**

*Oliver Degerstedt*

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Oliver Degerstedt, Chair & acting Secretary

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Erik Bowall, Attestant