

Meeting Minutes – Meeting of the Doctoral Board, 29th August 2023 15:15 – Hybrid meeting in Brunörten, Segerstedthus and Zoom

Attendees

Lux Miranda, *Chair*

Lennart Spode, *Vice-chair*

Jila Shams-Latifi, *Vice-chair and TNDR representative*

Ayesha-Mae Bilal, *Secretary*

Ceren Incedal, *Event Manager*

Carolina de Barros Vidor, *UDR representative*

Qinya Feng, *SDR representative*

Alice Zancanaro, *Board for Investigation of Misconduct in Research (NUAF) representative*

Aimee Miles, *representative for the Joint Committee on Work Environment Issues and alternate representative for NUAF*

Berenike Bick, *Advisory Board for Internationalization representative*

Camilla Lyckblad, *Library Board representative*

Erika Boije, *CIRCUS and CEMFOR representative*

Lilli Hölzlhammer, *representative for Reference group and Steering Committee for the Language Workshop*

Martina Wallberg, *representative for Center for Medical Humanities*

§1 The meeting was declared open by the chair

§2 Lilli Hölzlhammer 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 Introduction, brief updates from DN presidium, members & representatives (information)

Board members introduce themselves, and the chair and vice-chairs briefly clarify the roles and responsibilities of Doctoral board representatives (ledamoter), faculty representatives, DN-elected student representatives, UUFS-appointed representatives and ombudspersons, and alternates.

Complete information on the structure of the DN, voting rights, and more can be comprehended in detail from the [DN regulations](#). Members can convey any updates they wish to share for the next meeting by [entering them into this document](#).

§7 What do we want to focus on this year? (discussion)

The board goes over the existing working groups and opens the floor to discussing new actions to focus on for the upcoming year.

The first issue: the climate impact of Uppsala University. The university has plans to halve its CO2 footprint and improve sustainability. Board members share examples from their faculties/departments of areas of improvement and what measures are already being taken. These include the encouraging the second hand use of used electronics and furniture by making them easily available to students to take, encouraging policy to travel by train whenever possible, having vegan food as a default for events and allowing students to opt-in for other options, switching off energy-using appliances after work, and switching to renewable energy sources. Board members agree that it is strategically better to address changes that can be made at a systematic level, instead of an individual level.

Proposal: the Chair proposes writing a letter on behalf of the DN outlining the major issues, and with recommendations for changes that can be implemented by the university. The board will also meet Uppsala University Vice-Rector, Coco Noren, later this year and will include this as a discussion point with her. All board members present agree with the proposal. The board also establishes the “Climate Crisis working group”, spearheaded by the Chair, to tackle this issue going forward. Martina and Ebba volunteer to join. Anyone interested in volunteering can get in touch with the Chair.

The second issue: general dissatisfaction with Lingmerth’s travel agency that the university is in contract with. Board members discuss the various issues and setbacks of using the travel agency for booking travel and accommodation. The board is informed that Lingmerth’s contract with the university will be subject to renewal soon, and a working group is already in place with the aim of blocking the renewal of the contract. The board agrees that this is a fitting time for the DN to intervene as well.

The internationalization working group: Vice-chair Jila describes the aims and previous actions of the Internationalization working group to new members of the board, and seeks volunteers. Ayesha-Mae, Berenike, Carolina and Aimee volunteer to join.

The livability and wellbeing working group: Ayesha-Mae describes the aims and previous actions of the Livability and Wellbeing working group to new members of the board, and seeks volunteers. Anyone interested in volunteering can get in touch with Ayesha-Mae.

Sexual harassment working group: Vice-chair Jila reports that the handbook being created by the working group should be ready, and encourages the board to plan an oral presentation to discuss the findings and introduce the handbook. The board should also inform the faculty boards about it so they can inform PhD students, and request money to print the handbook to have it available in receptions or HR offices.

The Eventorz: Ayesha-Mae describes the aims and previous actions of the Eventorz. A major agenda for this year is to plan an orientation event held twice a year for new PhD students, giving them an overview of their student rights, information about moving to Sweden and Uppsala, and becoming a part of the university, as well as information about the Student Union, Doctoral Board, SULF, and where they can turn to for help when needed. The group is seeking volunteers, and anyone interested can get in touch with the DN event manager, Ceren Incedal.

§8 Remaining meetings of the academic year (information and proposal)

The chair proposes that the remaining meetings of the academic year be held on Tuesdays from 15.15 - 17.00, spaced four weeks apart with the exceptions of dates marked with an

asterisk (*) which are selected as to not conflict with end-of-semester holidays, and one meeting (◊) accommodating the visit of Prorektor Coco Norén. Board members present agree with proposed dates.

26 September 2023

31 October 2023 ◊

21 November 2023

12 December 2023*

30 January 2024*

27 February 2024

26 March 2024

23 April 2024

21 May 2024

18 June 2024*

27 August 2024

§17 Other comments or issues

§18 Closing of the meeting



Lux Miranda, Chair



Name, Ayesha-Mae Bilal



Lilli Hölzlhammer, Attestant