Meeting Minutes – Meeting of the Doctoral Board, 19 March 2025 15:15 – Hybrid meeting
Location: 12:228, Blåsenhus

Zoom: https://uu-se.zoom.us/u/cdGrCtzsmw

All of the meeting materials can be found in the Drive folder

Attendees

Dolores Fors, Chair

Jinwen Yuan, Vice-chair, TNDR representative

Ayesha Mae Bilal, Vice-chair

Sai Viswanadha Sastry Upadhyayula, Secretary

Alireza Ataei, Social Organiser

Rachel Dwane, TNDR representative (Adjuster)

Elizaveta Yakovleva, TNDR representative

Laura Galeaone, UDR representative

Simon Göransson, JDR representative

Samuel Wennel, TDR representative

Matylda Jonas-Kowalik, HDR representative

Foteini Tzioufa, FDR representative

Jakob Beise, Alva Myrdal Centre for Nuclear Disarmament (AMC)

§1 Opening of the meeting

The meeting was declared open at 15:17.

§2 Election of Adjuster for the protocol (decision)

Rachel Dwane was elected as the adjuster.

§3 Approval of the agenda (decision)

The agenda was approved.

§4 Approval of the call procedure (decision)

The call procedure was approved.

§5 Approval of previous meeting minutes (decision)

Meeting minutes for both January and February were approved.
Drive folder

§6 Information - presidium, faculties, representatives, UUFS, others

Dolores – Attended Deans' Day focused mainly on AI; website is now operational after a payment delay. Current year's budget approved; funds stored in Uppsala Student Union's account.

Sai – Nothing to be added

Mae – Created an introductory guidebook for new students in Uppsala, got an opportunity to present about DN during welcome reception for new PhD students.

Jinwen – don't have anything specific, we should receive independent organization and have individual bank account. That would be easier to organise some events for phd students

Ali (PhD Gasque): Event planned for May 8th, with a maximum capacity of 200 people; currently, 180 have registered. Mae and Jakob volunteered to assist. The event will feature a DJ, choir, spex, and an introduction promoting DN. Budget concerns were discussed, and applying for additional funding from UUFS was considered possible. Legal concerns regarding financial handling were addressed; Ali confirmed, after consulting Skatteverket and the bank, that using a personal bank account for finances poses no issues at this time. It was decided to share a transparent budget breakdown on the Slack channel, and an Excel sheet was proposed for clarity. Any surplus funds can be transferred to student unions for future events. It has been confirmed that DN was not an official host for the event but have taken on a more passive supportive role. Further discussions about DN's financial contribution has been postponed to next meeting. Once all bookings and payments are finalized, it was suggested that the account statement be shared within the group for verification.

Rachel, Elizaveta – TNDR discussed changes in ISP and FUAP roles, concerns about honesty in the reflection section of ISP. Suggested including contact details for HR or relevant persons in ISP. TNDR elections changing to biannual elections for positions. Concerns were raised about removing teaching monitoring from the academic teacher training course. TekNat expressed a desire to continue teaching monitoring and is willing to sponsor it. Potential budget cuts due to negative financial status for undergrad education. Government evaluation planned for 2028 may impact PhD students, as evaluation criteria include publication rankings. TekNat has broadened the criteria for becoming an assistant professor. Outreach activities and external collaborations, such as work with industry or international university groups, can now be included in the evaluation process. This change aims to make the pathway to becoming an assistant professor more inclusive and reflective of diverse academic contributions.

Laura – Mentioned Matylda volunteered to draft a motion related to U.S. administration issues; currently pending. New UDR board formed recently, and they are trying to organize goals for this year.

Samuel – Nothing to report

Foteini – Nothing to report

Matylda – Shared updates from the Faculty of Arts. A 5-year time limit after PhD defence has been introduced for applying to a position of Associate Senior Lecturer. The doctoral

programme in languages has been refined to make it more accessible for international students, with plans to recruit a more diverse student body, especially those who do not have Swedish as their mother tongue.

Jakob – Announced Political Science conference (June 12–13) and Summer School (August 25–29), open for PhD and Master's students.
AMC annual conference

AMC summer school

§7 Working groups - business plan

Outreach – Updating website content, translation, reopening Instagram, and considering a podcast. Considering launching a "Day in the Life" Instagram series featuring PhD students.

Housing – Survey in development.

Visa related issues – Survey created and shared in slack for feedback.

Salary ladder – Collecting data on salary systems across faculties.

Swedish learning - January meeting held, working on actionable proposal.

§8 Budget 2024/2025 - Appendix A

Approved by UUFS. There is still 4000 SEK remaining in the marketing budget, which can be used to support outreach activities.

§9 Budget 2025/2026 - Appendix B

There is still room to make changes to the budget, which will take effect from July 2025. The total amount has already been approved by UUFS. The board plans to send the updated version as soon as possible. It was also approved to merge the marketing and event budgets.

§10 Business Plan 2025/2026

Business plan for the next board to be drafted during spring. Current plan may serve as a foundation.

§11 Looking forward: representatives 2025/2026

Promote through Instagram, posters, QR codes, Feverz talks, Google forms, website, and Slack.

§12 Career paths - Collaboration with Junior faculty

Planning a career development program starting in May; suggestions for speaker types and outreach methods invited via Slack.

§13 Any other business

Applications for equal opportunities funding are open until May. Proposals for seminars or activities are welcomed and could be included in the business plan.

§14 Closing of the meeting

The meeting was closed at 16:42.

Dolores Fors, Chair	Sai Viswanadha Sastry Upadhyayula, Secretary
Rachel Dwane, Adjuster	

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