



Place: KTH campus and <https://kth-se.zoom.us/j/69633360195>

Time: 17:00-18:30, June 21st 2021

§1. Opening formalities [17:00-17:25]

- a. Meeting opening
Gloria (Chapter Chairperson) declares the meeting open at 17:17.
- b. Invited: chapter board, head of educational affairs and chapter auditors
Attendees: Gloria Samosir, Sofia Broomé, Inês Lourenço, Deniz Yildiz, Jasmin Höglund Hellgren, Federico Izzo, Mohammad Abuasbeh, Jing Jing. Jing Jing has been invited as co-opted member.
- c. Choice of meeting chairperson
Gloria is approved as meeting chairperson.
- d. Choice of meeting secretary
Sofia is approved as secretary.
- e. Choice of meeting minutes checker
Federico is approved as minutes checker.
- f. Approval of meeting agenda
Add 2.c.vi and 4.a.ii to the agenda. Addition is approved.
- g. The latest protocol checking and signing
The protocol is approved.

§2. Reports & updates [17:25-19:35]

- a. Board reports
Board reports are attached to the minutes
- b. THS Central
 - i. THSxDr
Meeting with THS management, Gloria and Federico, and the new management, Teo and Amanda and Hanna (replacing Charley, Agnes and Ävelin). We were updating them on the PhD chapter board, short-staffedness for next year. They offered their resources, if we cannot cover all forums, for example. We can forward opinions toward a particular forum in that case. They told us that 25 Mkr have been set aside for COVID-funds for doctoral students until December 2021.
- c. From KTH Central Organizational Bodies
 - i. University Board (Sv. Universitetsstyrelsen, US)
Gloria attended. Two notable items. ISP internal audit report. The



University board approved the report. An action plan will be formulated. In Faculty council KTH internal politics have played out. Rector mandate is ending: there is now a Nominating committee, composed of 2 teacher representatives, 2 students, representatives from US, etc. US changed the work procedure for the Nominating committee. Faculty council used to be explicitly mentioned in the work of the NC. The formulation was changed so that NC will take input from faculty, students and employees. The new decision should be more compliant with higher education ordinance and law. Ävelin Pantigoso Velasquez and Simon Edström are the student reps in the NC.

ii. Board of Education (Sv. Utbildningsnämnd, UN)

Jasmin attended. Follow-up on quality dialogues. Summary of them. Largely the same things that have been brought up before; long-term stress, courses, etc. Sustainable development is often restricted to the “ecological” side, rather than other aspects of sustainability. Studierektor position will change to vice dean. The intention is to connect this position more to the PAs and have a more clear role in general. Jasmin mentions that the matters brought up at UN are not always PhD-related, which can be taken into account when assigning board members to instances later on in the meeting.

iii. Faculty Council (Sv. Fakultetsråd, FR)

Federico attended. Working directives of NC for the new rektor. Prodekanus thought these changes were a bit rushed right before the work started for the NC. The essence of the change is that the faculty of KTH do not have a formal ‘in’ to the NC, in the same way that the students have THS to go via; this is because the faculty council apparently formally does not have the right to represent the whole faculty like THS does with students.

Discussed the academic citizenship. This is about how to give back to the department/division while you are employed, through taking on roles such as PA or vice- or head of division. There is a problem of too few candidates, often there is only one candidate. Sometimes people are reluctant to do the work and do not do a great job. Doctoral students were not really mentioned in connection to this. Their strategy to improve this situation was not entirely clear but they would try to push more for that aspect of academic work when for example recruiting new faculty.

iv. Language Committee (Sv. Språkkommittén)

Gloria attended. There is still a representative from THS International affairs who is very dedicated to having meetings in English. For example if he



is invited to talk about the internationalization of KTH, the meeting will still be in Swedish. Pertains to doctoral students since we are a very international student body. By law the decisions need to be formulated in Swedish but nothing in the law says that discussions cannot be held in English. Gerald McGuire says that we could maybe succeed from a legal point of view in saying that we are not fairly represented in Swedish, so we would have the support from the language committee in this sense. The language policy 2.0 emphasizes the parallel usage of Swedish and English. Some frustration that the Rektor has not yet adopted this new policy. Discussion among the board members on the background of the language policy (not letting Swedish become 'lägspråk', etc, for democratic reasons).

v. eISP Focus Group

Gloria attended. In the approval process of an ISP, the three roles involved apart from the student are supervisor, admin, PA and FA. The new suggestion is that when the ISP is sent back, one should be able to choose whom to send it to. If the supervisor sends something back to the student and the student says ok it should not need to go back via the supervisor.

vi. Ethics committee

The committee is arranging ethics seminars in the fall, probably Oct 1st as it looks right now. Technically possible for the board to appoint a board member whose mandate is ending, as a continuing member of the ethics committee if the board cannot fill this position, according to Gloria. Decision about this is postponed.

§3. Decision points [19:35-19:50]

a. Preliminary proposals for next board's assignment:

i. FU

Mohammad is proposed. Saiman proposes to be the substitute. There is also a possibility to reach out to THS if neither can make it.

ii. US

Saiman is proposed. The role is symbolically important. Things brought up in the pre-meetings, where the president is present, tend to have effect.

iii. FR

Federico continues.



- iv. SR
Used to be once per month but it became more frequent recently with 'theme' meetings. Both Ines and Jing are interested in this one.
 - v. Language Committes
Inês is proposed. Relatively light, 3 times per semester 1.5 hours.
 - vi. eISP Focus Group
Federico is proposed. Relatively light, 3 times per semester 1.5 hours.
 - vii. ASP Reading Group
Federico is proposed.
 - viii. UN
Tends to be more undergrad-oriented. Would be good if someone still had access.
 - ix. AN
A passive participation is proposed, to receive emails and information and only participating when important. Federico continues.
 - x. Academic reference group for sustainability.
Jing is proposed.
- b. Approval of the Time compensation document for the PhD Chapter Board, Spring 2021.
The board approves the document, by majority.

§4. Discussion points [19:50-20:20]

- a. Continued discussion on strategies for and potential uses of the new SEK 1.000.000 activity budget:
 - i. [Application form for funding from the PhD Chapter \(draft\)](#)
 - ii. International reception
 - 1. *The treasurer confirms that the 1Mkr has arrived.*
 - 2. *Discussion of whether school-money for the student council should or should not be used for time compensation. I [Sofia] suspect that this money is dedicated for activities, rather than time compensation. We should perhaps try to get clarity on this though. For example, at x school, is money taken from this money right now for prolongation? I don't think so? I think the prolongation money comes from other funds and so this 1Mkr should not be 'financial aid' for KTH in that sense.*



3. Justifiable expenditures should be 90% of what we spend. If we cannot spend the 1Mkr this might be understandable due to COVID and etc, Mohammad had heard this from Erik THS.

b. Handover and looking forward

- i. Preliminary plan for next year's first ("kick-off") meeting

Discussion is tabled.

- ii. Recruitment of new board members

Discussion is tabled.

- iii. Additional questions and concerns

Discussion is tabled.

§5. Meeting closure [20:20]

Gloria declares the meeting closed at 20:20.

Protocol,

Meeting chairperson: Gloria Samosir

Signature: _____

Secretary of the meeting: Sofia Broomé

Signature: _____

Minutes checked by: Federico Izzo

Signature: _____



Attachments

Attachment: Board Reports

Sofia Broomé	<p>Since the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Sent a reminder to Leif about the time compensation commission to go out, and replied to his response later, thought about it * Checked minutes * Prepared for ethics committee meeting * Ethics committee meeting June 14th. They invited me to stay in this committee, if I can be appointed by THS for that. To be discussed at the board meeting on Monday? * Email with Jing about time compensation procedures * Count up my own time compensation records
Saiman Ding	N/A
Gloria Samosir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 02/06 Language Committee Meeting - 03/06 Pre-meeting for University Board - 09/06 University Board meeting - 11/06 Meeting with THS Management - 11/06 Presidium meeting - 18/06 ISP Focus Group Meeting - 18/06 Presidium meeting - Assorted errands and correspondences, e.g. regarding tasks to wrap up before the end of the year, questions from council members, setting up new board member, etc.
Inês Lourenço	<p>Planning activities for a possible welcome reception for new PhD students for the year 2021/22</p> <p>Drafting informative flyers for the next year</p>
Jasmin Höglund Hellgren	<p>Attended UN on 16 June, 3h.</p> <p>Upcoming FU on 22 June, 2h – continued preparation of document on common PhD intro on school level.</p>