

Nominating Committee Report for Board Positions

Election errand for the Chapter meeting no. 2 of 2021/22

Background

The Chapter meeting no. 2 of 2021/22 operational year was summoned to conduct business on 14 December 2021 with election errands, among others, on **nine (9)** vacant Board member positions and **eight (8)** Chapter functionaries.

The vacancies profiles were established and communicated through the Chapter meeting summon and published at the website committee with reference document [Dr2021-CM-12/001](#). Two (2) of the five (5) members of the nominating committee, Deniz Yildiz and Tage Mohammadat, did not participate in the activity of the nominating committee for the elections in the upcoming Chapter meeting.

According to PhD statutes, clause §5,11,3, the nominating committee shall:

- a) Interview candidates for the PhD Chapter Board and if required consult third parties for relevant information;
- b) Propose nominations to the PhD Chapter Board. Nominations are established through a single majority of the committee.

Furthermore, according to §11.2 and §11.3 clauses working directives, the nominating committee shall:

- be responsible for preparing election errands and other vacancies appointed by the Chapter meeting with the following scope of work:
 - to promote the elections that are administered during the current year of operation.
 - to collect nominations and candidacies
 - to interview candidates and verify the candidates' references
 - to declare statements and reports about the candidates before the Chapter meeting.
- Unless otherwise specified in a separate policy document, shall be considered as ground for recommendations: suitability of candidate to the vacancy, representativeness and diversity with regards to gender, study programs and other backgrounds deemed applicable such as study mode.

The nominating committee has received thirty-three (33) nominations for the Chapter Board positions and Chapter functionaries on the deadline: seventeen (17) females and sixteen (16) males, from EECS (15), ITM (9), CBH (4), SCI (2), and ABE (2) and one (1) not belonging to KTH Schools.

Out of the 33 nominees:

- nineteen (19) candidates declined the nomination;
- three (3) candidates neither confirmed the nomination nor responded to the invitation for an interview;
- nine (9) candidates accepted the nomination, of which seven (7) for Board positions and two (2) for functionary positions;
- two (2) candidates were nominated twice

The nominating committee interviewed the seven (7) candidates nominated for the vacant Board positions, listed below:

- **Eleonora Iunusova** for the **Events Manager** position
- **Sahba Zojaji** for the **Events Manager** position
- **Fabio De Ferrari** for the **Communication Manager** position
- **Mayank Sewlia** for the **Council Coordinator** position
- **Daniel Berlin** for the **Education Manager** position

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- **Saumey Jain** for the **Treasurer** position
- **Mohammad Abuasbeh** for the **Chairperson** position

During the interviews, the candidates were also asked if they would consider other vacant Board positions. Each candidate also provided the contact to a reference person.

The nominating committee members hereby inform the Chapter meeting that:

- **Mohammad Abuasbeh** is currently a member of the nominating committee, and he was nominated for consideration in the role of Chairperson. The nomination came from a person outside the nominating committee (Federico Izzo), in compliance with section §5.11.4. of the [PhD Chapter Statutes](#).
- **Alessandro Enrico** would like to inform the Chapter that two of the assessed nominees, **Fabio De Ferrari** and **Saumey Jain**, have personal and working relations with him.

In light of the above, the nominating committee proposes the following candidates as suitable for the election as Board members:

- [Eleonora Iunusova](#) for the **Events Manager** position, based on her qualities displayed during the interview. **Eleonora** has expressed interest, enthusiasm, and understanding toward this position. Her previous related experience includes organizing several events at her previous university, including concerts with 100+ participants, in which she was leading teams of event organizers. She also expressed her interest in the Webmaster position as well.
- [Sahba Zojaji](#) for the **Events Manager** position, based on his qualities displayed during the interview. **Sahba** has expressed interest, enthusiasm, and understanding toward this position. His previous experience related to this position includes organizing social activities for the [Stockholm Doctoral Students Meetup Group](#) and active involvement with organizing a summer school. He considers himself a social person, and he wants to address the loneliness and isolation issues that PhD students might experience during their studies.
- [Fabio De Ferrari](#) for the **Communication Manager** position, based on his qualities displayed during the interview. **Fabio** has expressed interest, enthusiasm, and understanding toward this position. His previous experience related to this position includes being Webmaster of the MST Division at the EECS School and organizing the Planning Conference of the MST Department of EECS. Additionally, he has experience and interest in organizing Acroyoga classes and events in his free time. He also was a student representative during high school.
- [Mayank Sewlia](#) for the **Council Coordinator** position, based on his qualities displayed during the interview. **Mayank** has expressed interest, enthusiasm, and understanding toward this position. His previous experience includes organizing social events for his department and sport activities for PhD students. The nominating committee finds him suitable to be a point of contact of the Chapter Board with different school-level councils.
- [Daniel Berlin](#) for the **Education Manager** position, based on his qualities displayed during the interview. **Daniel** has expressed interest, enthusiasm, and understanding toward this position. His previous experience related to this

position includes being the PAD of his doctoral program since early 2020, being a program representative during his master studies at KTH, and active participation in ITM PhD Student Council (part of the management group, organized monthly meetings titled “Doctoral Student Dialogue” and group web for doctoral students, and helped with organizing the ITM PhD Survey).

- [Saumey Jain](#) for the **Treasurer** position, based on his qualities displayed during the interview. **Saumey** has expressed interest, enthusiasm, and understanding toward this position. His previous experience related to this position includes being a member of the EECS PhD Student Council since and PAD of his doctoral program since early 2021, program representative during his master studies at KTH, and a board member of his SSSB housing association. He also has prior minor studies in economics and finance that he believes are beneficial for the role of Treasurer. Also, he has recently been elected as a Vice-chair of the EECS PhD Student Council for 2021-2022.
- [Mohammad Abuasbeh](#) for the **Chairperson** position, based on his qualities displayed during the interview. **Mohammad** has expressed interest, enthusiasm, and understanding toward this position. He is the current Treasurer of the Chapter Board and Chairperson of the PhD student council at ITM, and has experience of working with student unions work (studentkår) and other non-profit (ideel) organisations (e.g., housing/tenants association or bostadsföreningen). He considers as highlights of his current representational works 1) the organization of the ITM PhD Survey, and 2) ensuring the allocation of time compensation for PhD representatives of the ITM PhD Student Council. He has been actively involved at both the local level (KTH management) and the national level regarding the recent changes to the Swedish Aliens Act, and plans to continue this activity at the central level (PhD Chapter Board) and national level.

Additionally, the nominating committee received the following nominations for Chapter functionary positions :

- six (6) nominations for members of the nominating committee: four (4) declined, one (1) did not respond, and one (1) was an invalid nomination since the nominated person has already been elected as a member of the nominating committee for 2022 during the Chapter meeting no. 2 of 2021/22 operational year.
- four (4) nominations for PhD Chapter Auditors: two (2) declined, and the following two (2) accepted the nomination:
 - [Anna-Karin Högfeldt](#)
 - [Kateryna Morozovska](#)

Suggestions

The nominating committee finds it suitable for the Chapter meeting:

To₁ consider for election, **Eleonora Iunusova** and **Sahba Zojaji** for the position of **Events Manager**

To₂ consider for election, **Fabio De Ferrari** for the position of **Communication Manager**

To₃ consider for election, **Mayank Sewlia** for the position of **Council Coordinator**

To₄ consider for election, **Daniel Berlin** for the position of **Education Manager**

To₅ consider for election, **Saumeey Jain** for the position of **Treasurer**

To₆ consider for election, **Mohammad Abuasbeh** for the position of **Chairperson**

To₅ consider for election, **Anna-Karin Högfeldt** and **Kateryna Morozovska** for the functionary position of **PhD Chapter Auditor**

On behalf of the nominating committee,



Alessandro Enrico

Stockholm, 2021-12-07



Mohammad Abuasbeh¹

Stockholm, 2021-12-07



S. Sheikholeslami

Sina Sheikholeslami

Stockholm, 2021-12-07

¹ Mohammad Abuasbeh was excluded from the decision regarding his own assessment and had no influence in the decision of the nominating committee regarding his suitability other than attending the interview and providing the committee with a reference.