

Chapter Meeting no. 2 – December 14th 2021

Minutes



PhD Chapter at KTH

Place: PhD Virtual Chapter Hall <https://kth-se.zoom.us/j/69633360195>

Time: Tuesday, December 14th 2021, 17:17-19:45

1. Opening formalities [17:25-17:45]

- a. Meeting opening
Federico Izzo (Chapter Vice Chairperson) declares the meeting open at 17:25.
- b. Attendees
List of attendees is attached to the minutes.
- c. Choice of meeting chairperson
Federico Izzo nominates himself. No other nominations. He is approved to be meeting chairperson, with 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.
- d. Choice of meeting vote counters
Federico nominates Inês Lourenço and Mohammad Abuasbeh. No other nominations. They are approved together to be meeting vote counters, with 13 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain.
- e. Choice of meeting secretary
Federico nominates Jing Jing. No other nominations. Jing is approved to be meeting secretary, with 14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.
- f. Choice of meeting minutes checker
Federico nominates Sina Sheikholeslami. No other nominations. Sina is approved to be meeting minutes checker, with 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.
- g. Approval of the latest protocol
The latest protocol was approved, with 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.
- h. Approval of rules of conduct, motion handling, voting procedure
The rules and procedures were approved, with 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.
- i. Approval of the meeting agenda
There were two adjustments to the agenda:
 - i. *Split the Elections section into two parts, the first which conducts the election of the treasurer and communication manager, to be placed as point 2 (as the candidates had to leave earlier) and the rest of the elections stays in the new point 6. This change was approved with 12 yes, 0 no, 2 abstain.*
 - ii. *Moving the new 6.b.iii to before the new 6.b.i. It was approved with 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.*

2. Elections (first part) [17:43-18.00]

- a. Presentation of the Nominating Committee report
Sina introduces the elections and presented the report from the Nominating Committee.
- b. PhD Chapter Board
 - i. Elections (Jan-Dec 2022)



1. Communication Manager

Fabio De Ferrari was nominated, and accepted the position. Fabio gave a short presentation, followed by a question from Federico, and a reflection from Inês who has worked together with Fabio earlier. Fabio was moved to a waiting room to conduct the voting. Fabio was elected communication manager with 14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

Treasurer

Saumei Jain was nominated and accepted the position. Sina has worked with Saumei as EECS PhD representative at the school council and reflected on the good experience of working with him. Wiebke Köpp seconded the opinion. Saumei was moved to a waiting room to conduct the voting. Saumei Jain was declared treasurer with 15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

3. Introduction and Reports [18:00 - 18:15]

a. Welcome and presentation of the Board

Federico made an overview presentation of the work done by the board.

b. Resigning Board report

Federico gave a presentation, reporting that the chapter has gained financial freedom through having 1 million SEK per year new fund from KTH to the chapter for promoting activities and events. He addressed that a budget was needed to be proposed and approved for.

c. Presentation of the Audit report

Federico gave the presentation. There are 2 auditors of the audit report: one from Södertörn University, one from KI. The participants commented that the transparency of the budget procedure needed to be addressed. One suggestion was to set the budget half a year at a time.

4. Decision Points [18:15 - 18:20]

a. Freedom from responsibility for the resigning board (2020/2021) and functionaries.

Approved with 5 yes, 1 abstain, 0 no.

5. Motions [18:20 - 18:20]

No motions were submitted previous to the meeting.

6. Elections [18:21-19:38]

a. PhD Chapter Board



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- i. Elections (Jan-Dec 2022)
1. Council Coordinator
*Mayank Sewlia was nominated and accepted the position.
Inês, Mohit and Sina endorsed Mayank's competence for such a position, based on their work and interview experience with Mayank.
Mayank was moved to a waiting room to conduct the voting.
Mayank was elected council coordinator with 15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.*
 2. Business Manager
No one moved to open the floor to nomination, therefore this position remains empty.
 3. Vice Chairperson
*Mohit moved to open the floor to free nomination, which was approved with 14 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain.
Mohit nominated Vladilena Gaisina. She declined the nomination.*
- ii. By-elections (Jul 2021-Jun 2022)
1. Events Manager
Sina introduced Sahba Zojaji, who introduced himself. Mohit asked him a question about work experience and plans for organizing events. Sahba responded by addressing his considerations of planning social activities for PhD students, especially the issue of loneliness and isolation that are conditioned by the pandemic. Federico asked about his time planned to be on the position and attitude towards collaborations for organizing events. Sahba responded that he considered organizing a longer time period event using collaborative approaches. Mohammad mentioned the necessity of sharing good local events with the KTH central (with the aim to replicate the successful event experience to benefit more PhD students at the university). A motion was moved forward to open the floor for free nomination and approved with 7 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain. No one was further nominated. Sahba was moved to a waiting room to conduct the voting. Sahba was elected events manager with 14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.
 2. Education Manager
*Daniel Berlin was proposed by the nomination committee. A recorded video of self-introduction was shown. He mentioned that he would like to continue working on having Swedish classes credited as part of the PhD education. Mohammad, Anna-Karin and Sina endorsed Daniel based on their work experience with him at the ITM school council and the interview with the nominating committee.
Daniel was elected education manager with 15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.*



3. Webmaster

No one was nominated, hence the floor was opened to free nominations with 10 yes, 1 no, 2 abstain. No one was nominated.

4. Chairperson

Mohammad Abuasbeh was proposed by the nominating committee, and he presented himself. He mentioned that he would like to continue working on the issues related to the Alien Act/new migration policy. Mohit asked about the nomination procedure since Mohammad was a part of the nominating committee.. Mohammad reported that he didn't nominate himself as the chairperson. Sina claimed the transparency and the rules for the nomination, and that the nominating committee strictly followed the procedures described in section 5.11.4 of the PhD Chapter Statutes, and explicitly reflected on this in the nominating committee report. Mohammad was moved to a waiting room to conduct the voting. Mohammad was elected chairperson of the board with 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

b. PhD Chapter Functionaries

i. Election of 2022 Auditors (2 positions)

Anna-Karin Högfeldt and Kateryna Morozovska were proposed by the nominating committee to be auditors.

Mohit asked how Anna-Karin could uphold the "spirit of democracy" when the Chapter was still structured in a way where this situation was not expected. Anna-Karin responded by saying that she believed that the processes could be really fruitful if good communications happened. She was optimistic about the work in the coming year.

Inês took over the minutes taking.

Kateryna introduced herself and presented her previous roles, including her experience in the board and as an entrepreneur.

Sina moves to elect both auditors at the same time, which is approved with 10 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

There is a remark that there are only 10 voting members left in the meeting, which is the minimum for the quorum.

Anna-Karin and Kateryna are elected auditors with 10 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

ii. Election of 2022 Nominating Committee (2 positions)

No one moved to open for free nominations.



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- iii. Election of Masters of Ceremonies (1 position, Jan-Dec 2022)
No one moved to open for free nominations.
 - iv. Election of 2022 Women's Doctoral Committee: Head of the Committee
Mohit moved to open for free nomination, which was accepted with 9 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain. Mohit nominated Susanna but she declined. No one was nominated.

7. Additional issues and information [19.38-19.45]

Sina pointed out that the number of problems related to bad supervision was increasing. All of us as students should raise awareness for supervision problems amongst our colleagues and incentivize them to write reports about any known cases or problems. Mohammad followed up to mention that conducting surveys might be one of the best ways to get to know about it. He mentioned the survey conducted by ITM that could be reproduced and replicated by others. Based upon the ITM survey, it reflected that some students might have concerns about voicing out themselves due to the fear of things that might happen if they spoke up. It is suggested to enhance the welcoming meetings for PhD students to let them know about their rights and obligations.

8. Meeting closing [19.45]

Federico declares the meeting closed at 19:45.

Protocol,
Meeting chairperson: Federico Izzo

Signature: _____

Secretaries of the meeting: Jing Jing and Inês Lourenço

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Minutes checked by: Sina Sheikholeslami

Signature: _____

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List of attendees

	Name	School	Chapter member
1	Federico Izzo	SCI	Yes
2	Inês Lourenço	EECS	Yes
3	Mohammad Abuasbeh	ITM	Yes
4	Wiebke Köpp	EECS	Yes
5	Jing Jing	ABE	Yes
6	Sina Sheikholnslami	EECS	Yes
7	Amir Abdi	ITM	Yes
8	Anna-Karin Högfeldt	ITM	Yes
9	Emanuel Ström	SCI	Yes
10	Fabio de Ferrari	EECS	Yes
11	José Manuel Gaspar Sánchez	ITM	Yes
12	Mayank Sewlia	EECS	Yes
13	Sahba Zojaji	EECS	Yes
14	Vladilena Gaisina	SCI	Yes
15	Luka Smajila	ITM	No
16	Mohit Daga	EECS	Yes
17	Alessandro Enrico	EECS	Yes
18	Saumeey Jain	EECS	Yes
19	Susanna Pozzoli	EECS	Yes
20	Kateryna Morozovska	EECS	No

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Board composition and Chapter signatories



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Board composition VT22-HT22

Name	Position	Period
Mohammad Abuasbeh	Chairperson	December 14th 2021 - June 2022
Jing Jing	Board member / Workgroups Manager	July 2021 - June 2022
Mayank Sewlia	Board member / Council Coordinator	January 2022 - December 2022
Fabio De Ferrari	Board member / Communication Manager	January 2022 - December 2022
Saumey Jain	Board member / Treasurer	January 2022 - December 2022
Sahba Zojaji	Board member / Events Manager	December 14th 2021 - June 2022
Daniel Berlin	Board member / Education Manager	December 14th 2021 - June 2022

Chapter signatories

As per the PhD Chapter Statutes §4.1 **Account signatories** “The PhD Chapter Chairperson and PhD Chapter Treasurer are each signatory for the PhD Chapter”. Hence, given the current composition, Mohammad Abuasbeh (Chairperson) and Saumey Jain¹ (Treasurer) are both signatories (firmatecknare) for the PhD Chapter (Doktorandsektionen vid Tekniska Högskolans Studentkår); one signature from the signatories is enough to represent the PhD Chapter.

¹ Starting January 2022