

PhD Chapter at KTH

Place: https://kth-se.zoom.us/j/69303912368 Time: 17:00-19:00, December 13th 2021

§1. Opening formalities [17:22-17:25]

a. Meeting opening

Federico (Chapter Vice Chairperson) declares the meeting open at 17:22

b. Invited: chapter board, head of educational affairs and chapter auditors, head of WOP

Attendees: Federico Izzo, Inês Lourenco, Saiman Ding, Jing Jing, Mohammad, Abuasbeh

c. Choice of meeting chairperson Federico is elected meeting chairperson

d. Choice of meeting secretary *Inês is elected meeting secretary*

e. Choice of meeting minutes checker Saiman is elected meeting minutes checker

f. Approval of meeting agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of point 2c)-v.

g. The <u>latest protocol</u> checking and signing *The protocol is approved.*

§2. Reports & updates [17:25-18:27]

a. Board reports

Board reports are attached to the minutes.

b. THS Central

There will be a meeting on Wednesday at 10-11am. The main goal is to introduce the new board, which will be elected tomorrow.

- c. From KTH Central Organizational Bodies
 - i. Faculty Council (Sv. Fakultetsråd, FR)

There was a meeting on Thursday. Since the last meeting a document has been being prepared about what FR does and would like to do in the future, describing the overall goals, e.g., improving quality of research, education, quality assurance, etc. Can be useful for new people joining FR. In 2027, KTH will celebrate 200 years. The vice-rektor for research presented a short report about the Research Assessment Exercises (RAE) that happened during 2021. It's a good source of information about how departments are organised

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and how that affects PhD students. The department will have to propose a plan to overcome the problematic findings pointed out by the RAE. They will be taken into account in quality reports this year.

There was a plan about the continuous quality assurance and the time plan is clear now. The next board should read all documents that the school sent and help the school councils comment them. The future representatives to FU, FR or UN should write some comments about the summary.

ii. Strategic Council (Sv. Strategiskt råd, SR)

The last meeting was two weeks ago. They talked about the JML report and discussed the migrations werket issue. They put gender first and not diversity. There was not an action plan for diversity. Jing commented that the content does not match the titles they announce. The answer is that they focus on the biggest issue first. There was a question about the impact in recruitment of PhD students regarding gender equality.

iii. Third Cycle Education Committee (Sv. Forskarutbildningsutskottet, FU)

Had a follow up on the migration legislation issue regarding the motion of
addressing the contracts of PhD students who are eligible for extension.

Meeting with the head of HR of KTH and Lotta from KTH relocation, Leif
Kari and Chrstina Murray, regarding a proposal from Mohammad.

Update from all councils regarding this issue. SUHF has published a
document regarding the aliens act. It complains about problems in the
previous and new law regarding PhDs and post-docs and their families.

Their conclusion is that there is an urgent need for an exemption. 3 major
institutions published articles in newspapers (see links below) saying that this
is harmful for research and industry. Entities representing both employees
and employers are united in one goal and opinion.

-https://suhf.se/app/uploads/2021/12/Skrivelse-fran-SUHF-rorande-nya-krav-for-att-fa-per manent-uppehallstillstand-2021-12-07.pdf

-https://www.dn.se/debatt/ge-alla-utlandska-forskare-permanent-uppehallstillstand/?fbclid= IwAR0S0XdVOl-YbH0ugd3OWQZPs9X_eEh7VEomZohr0kxk0ni35bAlzOvOeB0 -https://www.svd.se/migrationsreglerna-slar-mot-forskningen?fbclid=IwAR13ggN2z554kD QbZNrrlWdKUNSSGx6ZHV6kfyQexPGcVViV6JLPBOSzeKk

iv. Ethics Committee (Sv. Etiksutskottet)

Kian Shaker (representative to the Ethics Committee) sent the following report:

Etikutskottet was asked to review a PhD thesis at KTH (on artistic

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research) and identify potential ethical concerns in the content. However, we agreed that the role of Etikutskottet should not be to review publications/theses after the research has already been conducted. The role of Etikutskottet is to give guidance in ethical questions to researchers at KTH before actually carrying out the research, so that they can ensure that the data collection is ethically sound.

First meeting next year (25/1-2022) we will discuss the possibilities to organize more seminars on ethics-related topics. Only 1 seminar has been organized this autumn but with very few participants.

To the board: Suggestions of seminar topics that could interest PhD students at KTH are highly welcomed

v. University Board (Sv. Universitetsstyrelsen)

The meeting took place in 08/12. Discussed what happened in the KTH media, etc. Talked about IT security, gender equality, and the REA conclusions - see below.

Conclusions after research assessment exercise

Recommendation on sustainable development

There seems to be a gap between ambitions for sustainable development at central KTH level and the activities at KTH's departments, try to get a better connection between different levels within KTH

Show more clearly that sustainable development is important within KTH by a) awarding prizes, b) appointing a strategic council, c) including sustainable development in tenure track and salary talks, d) and through individual profiled recruitments

Recommendation on increased quality of research at KTH and increased impact

KTH has identified many different ways to achieve impact, it may be good to refine paths to impact to fewer typical ways to do this. Develop key structures that bind together and strengthen all the initiatives taken. There is also no incentive for employees who work with impact, instead this should be built into e.g. career paths and in job appointments, but there should also be incentives for groups, including institutions, to celebrate successes more and develop the role of impact leader



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Recommendation on research infrastructure

KTH's investment in "KTH infrastructures" is commendable and important, but still modest in relation to the importance and costs of the infrastructures. It is desirable that KTH develops a strategy that makes visible the real benefits of working with "KTH infrastructures", what this gives both KTH as a whole and the respective infrastructure

§3. Decision points [18:27-18:33]

a. Per capsulam decision 2021-11-30. Approval of application for funds pending receival of application for funding: EGI Department PhD event and workshop (ITM) - 10000kr. The decision was approved with a majority of votes..

 Decision is ratified.

§4. Discussion points [18:33-19:12]

- a. Testaments for board members whose mandates are ending in December *In progress.*
- b. Short summary of things for the new board to take over

 This is a document that we in the board will all try to fill in. Add links, contact

 persons. What can be forwarded to schools.

 https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IcatP0KLimP3fRwinZyR0mvAEkYpa_Qekt8qtGGcadk/edit#heading=h.6qp504f221sq
- c. Time-compensation for Central and School-level positions HT21

 Mention in the testaments the time compensation with new calculations.

Central level

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MjDzeniUFMqdM-m89lBHrGrLvOVSSblE27RNr3HvsNI/edit#heading=h.7723gql0l1gi

School-level:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1s6H7VdUo9OJwvRaUQrijuMdEforQJ0i KmmcwGmhYl5M/edit#heading=h.gjdgxs

d. Chapter meeting no.2 preparations

Board report from last year, auditors report and elections. Potential roles:

Meeting secretary: possibly Jing

Vote counters: possibly Inês and Mohammad

Meeting minutes checker: possibly Inês

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Meeting Chairperson - Federico Izzo Meeting Secretary - Ines Lourenco Meeting Minutes Checker - Saiman Ding



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Board member	Report
Saiman Ding	Time compensation document US meeting 08/12
Federico Izzo	06/12 FR premeeting 09/12 FR meeting
	Chapter Meeting errands, Operational errands, FF errands, Testaments errands
Inês Lourenco	Time compensation calculations Writing the testament for my mandates: February 2020 to December 2021