Nominating Committee Report for Board Positions

Election errand for the Chapter meeting no. 4 of 2021/22

Background

The Chapter meeting no. 4 of 2021/22 operational year was summoned to conduct business on June 13th 2022 with election errands, among others, on **seven (7)** board member positions and **eight (8)** chapter functionaries. The vacancies profiles were established and communicated through the summon and published at the website committee with reference document Dr2022-CM-05/001. Mohammad Abuasbeh did not participate in the screening and assessment process of the nominating committee for the elections in the upcoming Chapter meeting, as he sent a resignation email to the Chapter board on 2022-05-31.

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.

Twenty two (22) people were nominated for the Chapter board positions and Chapter functionaries on the deadline: eleven (11) females and eleven (11) males, from EECS (10), ITM (6), SCI (2), CBH (1), and ABE (1) and two (2) not belonging to KTH Schools as PhD students.
Thirteen (13) nominations were accepted: eight (8) for Chapter board positions and five (5) for Chapter functionaries.
The seven (7) nominees whose nominations were assessed and reported in this document are:

- **Beatriz Pérez Horno** for the **Event Manager** position,
- **Sahba Zojaji** for the **Event Manager** position,
- **Daniel Araújo de Medeiros** for the **Webmaster** position and the **Workgroups Manager** position,
- **Doğa Gürgünoğlu** for the **Education Manager** position,
- **Mohammad Abuasbeh** for the **Chairperson** position,
- **Mohit Daga** for the **Chairperson** position, and
- **Tage Mohammadat** for the **Chairperson** position.

During the interviews, the candidates were also asked if they would consider other vacant board positions and to provide the contact to a reference person.

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With that in mind, the nominating committee would like to state to the Chapter meeting that the following candidates are suitable for the election as board members:

- **Beatriz Pérez Horno** for the **Event Manager** position, based on her qualities displayed during the interview. **Beatriz** has expressed interest, enthusiasm, and understanding toward this position. She looks forward to organizing interdisciplinary study groups for PhD students from different fields to get to know about each other, as well as groups for different social and technical activities, e.g., sports, general skills, etc. While her main interest is in the organization of events, she is also open to other board positions related to events and marketing.

- **Sahba Zojaji** for the **Event Manager** position, based on his qualities displayed during the interview. **Sahba** has expressed interest, enthusiasm, and understanding toward this position. He is the current Event Manager of the PhD Chapter. If re-elected, he wants to focus on organizing more company visits. He is also open to other board positions related to events.

- **Daniel Araújo de Medeiros** for the **Webmaster** and **Workgroups Manager** positions, based on his qualities displayed during the interview. Daniel has expressed interest, enthusiasm, and understanding toward these two positions. He has accepted both nominations, expressing preference for the role of Workgroup Manager. He has experience in maintaining a blog and representational experience in salary negotiations during his previous employment.

- **Doğa Gürgünoğlu** for the **Education Manager** position, based on his qualities displayed during the interview. Doğa has expressed interest, enthusiasm, and understanding toward this position. If elected, his main focus would be to efficiently convey the feedback on third-cycle education to KTH faculty and related committees. He thinks a way of improving the quality of courses is to make them more research oriented. While he is mainly interested in the role of Educational Manager, he is open to fill other roles.

- **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 Chairperson and the former Treasurer of the PhD Chapter board. He wishes to follow up with the current activities, especially in relation to the new Aliens Act (migration), and would therefore continue in his leadership position. During the interview, he signaled that he would not be interested in covering other vacant board positions.
  If elected, his top priorities would be:
  - Allow PhD students to develop Swedish skills both as credits and as part of departmental duties,
  - Having regular surveys as standard practice to monitor and address issues with the PhD student experience, and
  - Developing better structures and procedures to organize activities at school level.

- **Mohit Daga** for the **Chairperson** position, based on his qualities displayed during the interview. **Mohit** has expressed interest, enthusiasm, and understanding toward this position. He has been a previous Vice-chair and a previous Workgroups Manager of the PhD Chapter board. He has explained in detail how he plans to steer the activity of the board if elected as Chairperson. During the interview, he signaled that he would not be interested in covering other vacant board positions.
  If elected, his top priorities would be:

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Page 2 of 4

- Engage PhD students more: increase the participation of students in the Chapter activities and provide means for networking through organized activities, such as boot camps,
- Enable PhD students more: use increased participation to create communities, and
- Empower PhD students: provide the means and support fro those communities (School Council, Functionaries, and Associations) to become self-sufficient.

- **Tage Mohammadat** for the **Chairperson** position, based on his qualities displayed during the interview. **Tage** has expressed interest, enthusiasm, and understanding toward this position. He has been a board member and Vice-chair of the PhD Chapter board. While he is mainly interested in a Presidium position (Chair or Vice Chair), he is potentially open to fill any vacant board position (except for the role of Treasurer) for the benefit of the Chapter. If elected, his top priorities would be:
    - Support all central-level initiatives that promote good practices in third cycle education and supervision,
    - Strengthen the local level (School council and PADs) to monitor fair treatment of PhD students as individuals and communities, and
    - At a university level, he would like to ensure that KTH starts supporting PhD students regarding the migration laws, and KTH acts in line with the EU Charter for researchers.

Additionally, the nominating committee received a number of nominations for Chapter functionary positions, out of which five (5) nominations were accepted by the nominees:

- **Elina Charatsidou** for the Head of Female Doctoral Committee (WoP),
- **Valentina Leva** for the Head of Female Doctoral Committee (WoP),
- **Federico Izzo** for member of the nominating committee.
- **Mohit Daga** for member of the nominating committee, and
- **Mohit Daga** for Standard Bearer.

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Page 3 of 4

Suggestions

Based on the interviews, the nominating committee finds it suitable for the Chapter meeting:

To_1 consider for election, **Beatriz Pérez Horno** and **Sahba Zojaji** for the position of **Event Manager**,

To_2 consider for election, **Daniel Araújo de Medeiros** for the position of **Webmaster**,

To_3 consider for election, **Daniel Araújo de Medeiros** for the position of **Workgroups Manager**,

To_4 consider for election, **Doğa Gürgünoğlu** for the position of **Education Manager**,

To_5 consider for election, **Mohammad Abuasbeh**, **Mohit Daga**, and **Tage Mohammadat** for the position of **Chairperson**,

To_6 consider for election, **Elina Charatsidou** and **Valentina Leva** for the functionary position of **Head of the Female Doctoral Committee (WoP)**,
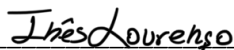
To_7 consider for election, **Federico Izzo** and **Mohit Daga** for the functionary position of **member of the nominating committee**, and

To_8 consider for election, **Mohit Daga** for the functionary position of **Standard Bearer**.

On behalf of the nominating committee,

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Alessandro Enrico
Stockholm, 2022-06-07

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Inês Lourenço
Berkeley, United States,
2022-06-07

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Sina Sheikholeslami
Stockholm, 2022-06-07

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Page 4 of 4