



Place: <https://kth-se.zoom.us/j/67374055769>

Time: 16:00-18:00, June 20th 2022

§1. Opening formalities [16:05-16:15]

- a. Meeting opening
16:05
- b. Invited: chapter board and representative from SCI school council point 2.a.
Attendees: Mohammad Abuasbeh, Daniel Berlin, Saumey Jain, Sahba Zojaji, Jana Vasiljevic
- c. Choice of meeting chairperson
Saumey Jain
- d. Choice of meeting secretary
Sahba Zojaji
- e. Choice of meeting minutes checker
Daniel Berlin
- f. Approval of meeting agenda
Approved
- g. The [latest protocol](#) checking and signing
Will be approved after Jing's approval

§2. Discussion points [16:15-16:42]

- a. Funding request from SCI school for 75'000 SEK for a series of scientific communication workshops.
Jana Vasiljevic presented the idea of the workshop to the board. Board asked her to provide more concrete motivation for the request and if they can reduce the price per person (ex. cutting the lunches or reducing the duration of the workshop). The board will discuss this further when the information is received.

§3. Reports & updates [16:42-17:35]

- a. Board reports
 - i. Supervisor of the year award ([SotYA 2022](#))



We announced the winner and organized a celebration party on June 17th at the ITM school.

b. THS Central

- i. Chapter received its share of the membership fee from THS for 2021 to the tune of 53 900 kr.
- ii. Saumey is working on the tax declaration for the chapter.
- iii. Mohammad had a meeting with Teo about handover and improving the communication and interaction with THS. THS would like to include the PhD chapter in the new students' reception activities and Armada.

c. From KTH Central Organizational Bodies

- i. University Board (Sv. Universitetsstyrelsen, US)

Mohammad attended a US conference. First day on strategic planning. RAE report was discussed and schools' deans and vice rektors presented on topics related to challenges and opportunities regarding education and research at KTH covering topics, among others, internationalization, digitalization, sustainability, AI and quantum computing. Among others, the topic of financing research and education was brought up. Given that KTH is heavily reliant on external funding. Some schools have excess funds and external funding opportunities given that there are more current popular topics related to their fields. Other schools may have less opportunities for external funding. Additionally, there are challenges to having enough teachers for the undergraduate courses taught in Swedish as well as having a more clear financing mechanism for PhD courses. Mohammad raised several issues regarding the need to utilize our current resources better, examples:

- KTH internal horizontal communication between departments and schools needs to be improved. Competence that already exists at KTH needs to be communicated better within KTH.
- There should be more incentives to have collaborations between schools (co-supervision of PhD students) to build competence horizontally in KTH in areas that are traditionally thought to be in



specific fields or schools when it comes to basic science research (among others, digitalization and data science were mentioned as examples) but very applicable in many other areas and schools. This can build research competence in these new areas, open more external funding opportunities for those schools and contribute more effectively to KTH long term strategic goals.

- More than 60% of PhD students at KTH are international. Investing more in Swedish language courses for people who would like to stay in Sweden as part of their PhD credits and departmental duties is needed. In addition to the individual development of PhD students, this can be seen as an investment from the schools that would help in having more international PhD students (later in their PhD) able to teach courses taught in Swedish.
- PhD courses should be prioritized when it comes to financing. Mohammad proposed that a certain percentage of the FofU funding should be strictly allocated to fund PhD courses.

Second day was a board meeting: several issues were discussed.

- Addressing comments about the proposal for a new rektor.
 - Rektor's report
 - KTH premises (lokal) budget, forecast and planning report 2022-2025.
 - Presentation of investigation of professor summons procedure, KTH guidelines, all previous cases at KTH and presentation of report regarding the investigation of decision to call professor by rektor to a head of school.
- ii. Employment Council (Sv. Anställningsnämnden, AN)
They had a meeting and they offered to have meetings in English.
 - iii. ASP reading group.
Two from ABE, two from CBH and one from SCI under review.

§4. Decision points [17:50-17:55]

Doktorandsektionen vid Tekniska Högskolans Studentkår

Drottning Kristinas väg 15 – 10044 Stockholm

www.dr.kth.se



- a. Funding request from SCI school council for 75'000 SEK for a series of scientific communication workshops. [Tabled in waiting for further clarifications from SCI school council.](#)
- b. Per-capsulam decision 2022-06-07:EECS PhD Council is organizing a board game night and requests an amended budget of 3200 kr . [Approved with 6 yes.](#)
- c. Per-capsulam decision 2022-06-10: Supervisor of the year award plans to organize a celebration party for the winner of this year on 17th June in ITM school. They request a budget of 4000 kr for up to 50 participants. [Approved with 5 yes.](#)
- d. Per-capsulam decision 2022-06-14: SCI PhD Council is organizing a canoe-kayak event on 20th June for 40 students at SCI school. They request a budget of 4400 kr which will be used to pay rental for kayak-canoe and snacks for upto 40 participants. [Approved with 5 yes.](#)
- e. Per-capsulam decision 2022-06-14: the board organizes summer events as team building activity that may include PhD Chapter Board and functionaries and school councils' members and other PhD representatives. A budget of 8000 kr is to be allocated. [Approved with 5 yes.](#)

§5. Meeting closure [17:55]