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The Ph.D. Chapter Finances



Submitted for consideration to the PhD Chapter Meeting

The Phd chapter at KTH/ Doktorandsektionen vid Tekniska Högskolans Studentkår

Doktorandsektionen vid Tekniska Högskolans Studentkår

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Background

The PhD chapter is the only chapter out of the 21 chapters of THS, where its board members get time compensated for attending a board meeting, and even chapter meeting. The KTH rector has given 2 full-time PhD positions to run the PhD chapter. This costs nearly 2Mn SEK every year to KTH. The PhD chapter also gets 1Mn SEK grant from KTH to organize activities. The PhD Chapter also has a school council at each school, where each council roughly has 1 PhD position. If one does an underhand calculation this is nearing 8Mn SEK in costs to KTH, or about 8000 SEK per PhD student at KTH; or about 40K per student throughout the 5-year program. Where is the money coming from? From the research grants received to hire PhD students and other research money for doctoral education at KTH. To put the cost-figure into perspective, in one chapter meeting, a student complained that his supervisor is not paying 1000 sek for publishing one extended page in his research article produced after months or years of hard work

Section 11 of Chapter 4 of the Swedish Higher Education Act states: A student union shall be democratically organised and able to represent the students within the union's area of activity. Section 3.6.b of the PhD Chapter statutes asks the PHD chapter board to Remit more important decisions to the PhD Chapter Meeting. The exercise of expenditure of the 1Mn SEK should be considered as an important decision. Section §3.6.b of the PhD chapter statutes require important decisions to be remitted to the Ph.D. chapter meeting.

In lieu of a large sum of money being spent on Doctoral student representation, and a duty of the PhD chapter to adhere to the acts passed by the government, PhD Chapter statutes, KTH Code of Conduct, it is fitting that the PhD Chapter shows the highest standards in use of the public money.

The PhD chapter finances

Historically, the annual budget of the Ph.D. chapter was about 50,000 SEK only. This was only enough to organize small events. Even then, the annual financial report was presented. Due to the efforts of the Ph.D. Chapter board of 2020, the Ph.D. chapter received an annual grant of 1 Mn SEK per year to spend on the Ph.D. students.

Suggestions

To₁ Add §4.3 to the Ph.D. chapter statutes

All expenses of SEK 1000 and above shall be reported to the forthcoming Ph.D. Chapter Meeting. The chairperson and/or treasurer of the Ph.D. Chapter shall be responsible for this.

Mohit Daga

PhD Chapter Member, Stockholm, 2022-11-06