



**PhD Chapter at THS | Doktorandsektionen vid THS
Board 2023/2024**

Minutes for Board Meeting #07

Place: Lindstedtsvägen 5, 4th floor (Room: Ingrid Mellinder)

Date: February, 15th, from 15:00 to 17:00

Attendees: Daniel, Andressa, Matt, Emil (THS CFU), Mattias, Kiran, Ugne, Sina

Formalia: [5 min – 10 min]

1. Election of Meeting Chairperson, Secretary and Minutes Checker.
Daniel was elected as Meeting Chairperson, Andressa as Secretary and Mattias as Minutes Checker.
2. Approval of Agenda.
Approved with modifications.
3. Eventual matters related to formalities.
Protocols from previous meetings are signed and uploaded to the webpage.

Inform:

4. Research propositions at Riksdagen
Daniel informed that SFS-DK has been constantly informing in the meetings that there is a bill to change how research will be funded. SFS-DS is saying that there is a will inside the "Research Committee" (*forskningberedning*) to change the format of employment of PhD students to scholarship. However, this was not put up as a formal question yet.
5. General informs from Chairperson: Next board meeting, Time compensation, THS x PhD Meeting, University Board
 - Daniel informed that since the time between the meetings is short, the Board will alternate between online and in-person meetings.
 - Daniel informed that the time compensation report from Jul/2023 to Dec/2023 and the prognosis for the next six months were sent. Sandra di Rocco asked about the discrepancy between schools in time compensation. Daniel explained...
 - Ugne and Daniel will have a meeting with Alice Eklund from MO to discuss time compensation guidelines for the board.
 - Daniel informed that the next University Board meeting is happening on Feb 20th, and the agenda covers mostly the budget, KTH Holding and the Internal Auditing about Research Education.
6. Language Committee
Mattias explained what the Language Committee is, even the name is not fully agreed upon yet and established officially. A document explaining what they should

do has been formulated but must be approved for the language committee to start taking action. Language Policy cannot be proposed yet, even though the 2.0 document exists and has already gone through an iterative development process, because the Language Committee has not been established within the new KTH structure. A meeting on the 6th of March of 2024 should take care of the latter and then the committee can start acting.

Discussions: [60 min – 120 min]

7. Chairperson: Future Faculty processes (JML, Not Elected, Sustainable).
Daniel informed that Future Faculty responsible at schools have been requesting a specific gender from the councils, which is illegal as KTH has no right to recommend or appoint any student. Furthermore, there were multiple cases of students participating in errands or committees that were not appointed by THS. Emil will have a meeting later with Sofia Ritzén about this.
8. Survey on PhD Salary Ladder
Ugne said that Doga plans to reach out to the school councils. Daniel pointed out that some divisions have different criteria to go up on the salary ladder and there is a lack of action on the supervisors' end. The desire is to have a survey on this sent out by March.
9. Communications Manager: Welcoming Letter (Appendix 3).
A new welcome letter was shown and discussed. In particular, the idea was to have a more timeless design with no (personal) signing from the current chairperson. It was also decided to use the term "research student" instead of "doctoral student", as the former also include students stopping at the licentiate degree.
10. Communications Manager: Newsletter.
Andressa has been working on the newsletter and plans to release it every two months. Ideas on whether it would be interesting to merge this with THS or a KTH newsletter were discussed, but a point was raised that these newsletters go straight to waste. Some people could be invited to write, for example, Boel about the Labour Unions. Try to release the first newsletter in 2 months. Ugne will write about the survey. Andressa will decide on sections for the newsletters and we will assign them at the next board meeting.
11. How to incorporate JML and Sustainability in our positions? Motion: Change WoP to JML committee vs create new position?
Daniel introduced the question, Andressa mentioned that WoP needs to gather more people and also the problem with TC. Suggestion that "JML Head" should attend Equality Council by default.
12. PhD Ski trip 2024
Mattias contacted Brommabus and Romme Alpin. A better price would be if the ski trip happened on Sunday instead of a Saturday. Everyone agreed. It was also agreed that accepting Romme's complete offer was better than dealing with multiple agencies. The trip is set to March 24th.
13. Comedy Night: Usage of Reaktorhallen? Acceptance of contract conditions.
Daniel mentioned that T-Centralen fits only 70 people and Reaktorhallen fits 140 people, but the latter is too expensive. Not clear if moms are covered in the price for the comedian. Will take a better look later.
14. Working group for overseeing events during Spring 2024

Postponed.

15. Summer plans

Matt wants to acquire a membership to a boat service to plan events for the summer. Possibility for PhD students to go around the archipelago. Many inputs were given and Matt will work on an updated proposal.

Decisions: [10 min – 30 min]

16. To approve the list of participants for KTH Central level representation. (Appendix 2).

Approved, with 7 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstained.

17. To approve the time compensation prognosis, together with its claiming plan, for the Chapter Board with the modifications described in the previous section. (Appendix 1).

Approved, with 6 votes in favor, 0 against and 1 abstained.

18. Appoint Mattias Åstrand and Sina Sheikholeslami as Stewards of DrInK until December 31st, 2024.

Approved, with 7 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstained.

19. Fabio Marco Monetti (ITM) requests 2500 kr (10 people) for a Social event including dinner at a restaurant and date to be decided upon between doctoral students of the IPU department, also to include and receive a new Ph.D. student. Dinner will take place at Magari Pizza Vanadisplan.

Rejected, with 1 vote in favor, 5 against and 1 abstained. Main reason was that the organizer went ahead and held the event even though his application for funding had not gotten approval from the chapter.

20. Sebastian Myrbäck requests 10 900 kr to fund an Osqvik + Annexet visit for 40 PhD students in the department of mathematics.

Approved, with 7 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstained. Requirements: a photo from the event; no alcohol will be reimbursed.

21. Giovanni Marco Saladino (SCI) requests 6554 kr for T-shirts for all the SCI PhD council members (15). Approved, with 7 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstained.

Approved *per capsulam* decisions:

2024-02-07: Ebba Ahlgren Cederlöf (SCI) requests 6250 sek (50 people). The event will consist of a short informal presentation of the new SCI council, followed by free pizza. The purpose of the event is to make the members of the SCI council visible to our PhD students and to give some insights into what the council does.

2024-02-08: Kaan Etikan (ABE) requests 6000 kr (for 30 people) to cover the tickets to play 1 boule match at Uglan for a gathering with PhD students from ABE school for an afterwork.

2024-02-08: Kaan Etikan (ABE) requests 4800 Sek (24 people) to cover 2/3 of the ticket cost for a escape room event for students of ABE school.

2024-02-12: Giovanni Marco Salaldino (SCI) requests 474 sek (15 people) to order a fika for the monthly council meeting.

2024-02-15: Mohammad Abuasbeh (ITM) requests 3000 sek (20people) to fund food for a meeting at MSE to introduce the ITM council to MSE Students and discuss educational & work environment issues relevant to MSE PhDs.

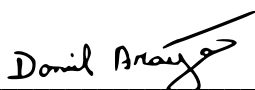
2024-02-15: Giovanni Marco Saladino (SCI) requests 6554 sek for T-shirts for all the SCI PhD council members (15).

2024-02-15: Charlie Börjeson requests 2565 sek to fund food for a Get-to-know with board games to PhD students in Unit 2 (Applied Physics) + PADs (19 people).

2024-02-15: Sebastian Myrbäck requests 10900sek to fund a Osqvik + Annexet visit for 40 PhD students in the department of mathematics.

2024-02-15: Steffen Hammer (ITM Chair) requests 570 kr for a small fika among Learning Dept at ITM. The money will be used to buy kanelbulles at 45 kr from Mr Cake. 12 students.

Signed by:



Daniel Medeiros - Meeting Chairperson



Andressa Mazur - Meeting Secretary



Mattias Åstrand - Minutes Checker