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## Nominating Committee Report 2024

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Vladilena Gaisina

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ZOÉ LOUISE BARJOT

Signed with BankID 2024-12-04 11:13 Ref: 135a657a-08ba-473a-bc50-c900aa57f864

ANDRESSA MAZUR

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DANIEL ARAÚJO DE MEDEIROS

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# Nominating Committee Report for Chapter Elections

Election errands for Chapter meeting no. 2, 2024/12/11.

## Background

Chapter meeting no. 2 of the operational year 2024/25 was summoned to conduct business on Dec 11th, 2024 with election errands on five (5) board member positions and nine (9) chapter functionaries. The vacancy profiles were established, communicated through the [summon](#), and published on the website with reference document [Dr2024-PB-10/0400](#).

According to PhD Statutes [Dr2024-CM-02/0001](#), clause §5.11.3, the nominating committee shall:

- Interview candidates for the PhD Chapter board and if required, consult third parties for relevant information;
- 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 of the Working Directives [Dr2019-PB-01/0004](#), 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 grounds for recommendations: suitability of a candidate to the vacancy, representativeness, and diversity with regards to gender, study programs, and other backgrounds deemed applicable, such as study mode.

Twenty-four (24) people were nominated for the Chapter board positions and Chapter functionaries before the deadline, coming from the schools of EECS (3), CBH (3), ITM (4), SCI (8), and ABE (6). Twelve (12) nominations were accepted: five (5) for the Chapter board positions and seven (7) for the Chapter functionary positions.

The four (4) nominees whose nominations were assessed and reported in this document are:

- **Hemanth Venkatesan** for the **Treasurer** position,
- **Hilma Karlsson** for the **Vice-Chairperson** position,
- **Liv Breivik** for the **Communications Manager** position,
- **Abhilash Kulkarni** for the **Events Manager** position,

Nominations for the **Council Coordinator** position are assessed and reported in a separate document Dr2024-CF-04/V1.

The nominating committee members hereby inform the Chapter meeting that:

- Andressa Mazur and Daniel Medeiros currently have or previously had working relationships at the PhD Chapter Board with Hemanth Venkatesan and Zoé Barjot, however they do not assess this as a personal relationship that could cause a potential conflict of interest.
- Zoé Barjot is currently a member of the nominating committee and was nominated by someone else, in compliance with section §5.11.4. of the PhD Chapter Statutes, for consideration in the role of Council Coordinator. Upon receiving the nomination, the other members of the nominating committee took appropriate measures to prevent any conflict of interest.



Hence, her suitability as a candidate is assessed separately as the nominations for council coordinator were handled by the remaining members of the committee and reported in an additional document.

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:

- **Hemanth Venkatesan** for the **Treasurer** position, due to his past experience as Treasurer in the PhD Chapter and his willingness to implement new organizational procedures and take a bigger role in helping out with the funding of events. Hemanth has recently taken the accounting course offered by THS and therefore he wants to have a chance to put this new knowledge into practice. Hemanth also recognizes that the Board has ultimate authority on financial decisions. All of this makes him a suitable candidate for the position he is being nominated for.
- **Hilma Karlsson** for the **Vice-Chairperson** position, due to her past experience in student organizations in Linköping, focused on dealing mostly with students and events and her willingness to make a difference for doctoral students. Hilma is fluent in Swedish and willing to represent PhD students in the decision bodies in which the PhD Chapter takes part. She has expressed interest and willingness to learn more about academic organisations during the nominating committee interview. She showed enthusiasm for PhD Chapter activities and believes she would stand up for the interests of PhD students in high-level meetings. All of this makes her a suitable candidate for the position she is being nominated for.
- **Liv Breivik** for the **Communications Manager** position, due to her past experience at NTNU newspaper and activities such as running a football team and a podcast for students, as well as her lively motivation to contribute to the chapter's communication strategies. Liv was previously the captain of her football team, for which she successfully ran an Instagram page, and collaborated with two others to organize games. Liv understands Swedish to a large extent and has expressed interest in representing PhD students in different committees the chapter takes part in. Liv has a skill set (i.e., audio editing) that is relevant to the current projects of the PhD Chapter, and she displayed a willingness to learn and collaborate during the interview process. These experiences and energy make her a suitable candidate for the position she is being nominated for.
- **Abhilash Kulkarni** for the **Events Manager** position, due to his past experience in organising student events as part of Tech Committee for a student fest during his bachelor's, as well as enthusiasm in contributing to the PhD Chapter and PhD social life by organising events. Abhilash has been previously active in joining the chapter's events and has shown motivation in preserving the amount and diversity of events the chapter has organised in the past year. Abhilash does not speak Swedish but would be willing to join committees the chapter takes part in. He also indicated a willingness to take the STAD and FEST certifications. All of this makes him a suitable candidate for the position.

Additionally, the nominating committee received a number of nominations for Chapter functionary positions, out of which seven (7) nominations were accepted by the nominees:

- **Markella Zacharouli** for the **Head of Female Doctoral Committee (WoP)** position,
- **Hemanth Venkatesan** for the **Master of Ceremonies (DrInK)** and **Standard Bearer** positions,
- **Zoé Barjot** for the **Steward (DrInK)** position,
- **Ugne Minotaite** for the **Nominating Committee** position,



- **Andressa Mazur** for the **Nominating Committee** position, and
- **Joel Kronborg** for the **Nominating Committee** position.

## Suggestions

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

**To<sub>1</sub>** consider for election, **Hemanth Venkatesan** for the position of board member of directors: **Treasurer**, and the functionary positions of **Master of Ceremonies** (DrInK) and **Standard Bearer**;

**To<sub>2</sub>** consider for election, **Hilma Karlsson** for the position of board member of directors: **Vice-Chairperson**;

**To<sub>3</sub>** consider for election, **Liv Breivik** for the position of board member of directors: **Communications Manager**;

**To<sub>4</sub>** consider for election, **Abhilash Kulkarni** for the position of board member of directors: **Events Manager**;

**To<sub>5</sub>** consider for election, **Markella Zacharouli** for the functionary position of: **Head of Female Doctoral Committee (WoP)**;

**To<sub>6</sub>** consider for election, **Zoé Barjot** for the functionary position of **Steward** (DrInK);

**To<sub>7</sub>** consider for election, **Ugne Minotaite** for the functionary position of **Nominating Committee**;

**To<sub>8</sub>** consider for election, **Andressa Mazur** for the functionary position of **Nominating Committee**;

**To<sub>9</sub>** consider for election, **Joel Kronborg** for the functionary position of **Nominating Committee**.

On behalf of the Nominating Committee,

*(Digitally signed)*

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Vladilena Gaisina  
Stockholm, 2024-12-04

*(Digitally signed)*

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Mohammad Abuasbeh  
Stockholm, 2024-12-04

*(Digitally signed)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andressa Mazur  
Stockholm, 2024-12-04

*(Digitally signed)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zoé Barjot  
Stockholm, 2024-12-04

*(Digitally signed)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Medeiros  
Stockholm, 2024-12-04