



PhD Chapter - *Doktorandsektionen*

Drottning Kristinas väg 29
114 28 Stockholm
www.dr.kth.se

Autumn CM

2025-10-15, Kl. 17:30, [T-centralen]



1. Formalities

1.1. The opening of the meeting - Mötets öppnande

Meeting opens at 17:41

1.2. Timely announcement of the meeting - Mötets behöriga utlysande

Summons were sent out on the 3rd of October.

The agenda was posted on the 8th of October

The meeting was found to be timely announced

Möteskallelse skickades ut den 3e oktober.

Mötesprotokollet lades upp den 8e oktober.

1.3. Election of meeting president - Val av mötesordförande

No one objects, Hilma Karlsson was elected as meeting president

1.4. Election of meeting secretary - Val av mötessekreterare

No one objects, Kamila Oppelova was elected as meeting secretary

1.5. Appointment of Minutes checkers and vote counters - Val av justerare tillika rösträknare

Ugne Miniotaite and Mohammad Abuasbeh were suggested by Hilma as minute checkers and vote counters. No objections.

1.6. Co-optations - Adjungeringar

THS representatives, Nils Wilkström, Daniel Medeiros were co-opted

1.7. Previous meeting - Föregående protokoll

Minutes from [Summer CM#2](#)

Previous meeting minutes were shown and approved. It was mentioned the minutes were published at the chapter's website

1.8. Establishing the agenda - Fastställande av föredragslista

Agenda approved

PhD chapter introduced (structure, hierarchy, meeting procedures)

2. Reports - Rapportier

2.1. The Board - Styrelsen

2.1.1. [Treasurer](#)

Not present, the chair spoke in his name. Presentation given. Expenses income and expenses for each school, Jubileum gasque budget presented in detail. Question whether there's a comparison to actual vs. budgeted expenses of the gasque. Yes, the budget went under expected.

2.1.2. [Chairperson](#)

Presentation by the chair. Salary ladder (time based), PhD survey, Phired Clarifying questions: What is Phired?

What's the difference between the current and new salary ladder?

Discussion whether only time based is the correct attitude as it might prevent getting a higher salary before the defined time.

Where were observed cases that students weren't getting a higher salary based on time?

Strictly calendar based? How department duties covered? Should follow time in Ladok

Announcement of new elections for PhD chapter in winter. Open positions introduced.

2.1.3. [Event Manager](#)

Event manager gave a presentation. Jubilee gasque last week (over 300 people, mostly KTH PhD students), Halloween pub as a next event (31st Oct), pub quiz (14 Nov), Beer tasting (28th Nov), Christmas pub (16 Dec). Suggestions for upcoming events?

Who can join, non-THS for Halloween party? Yes, as plus ones.

Tennis tournament suggested

Is a ski trip going to be organised? Yes, maybe even this year

2.2. School Councils (Max 10min presentation/Council)

2.2.1. [ABE](#)

ABE representative spoke. Summarising latest report. Election to the council soon, new PhD programs, lunch with ABE student council, deduction of PhD time with transferred credits, group visit to Fotografiska, newsletter sent

2.2.2. [CBH](#)

CBH representative spoke. Summarising latest report. Discussion on department duties (students doing them but not having them in their ISP and later not getting contract extensions), reported high level of stress and low work-life balance (men have slightly better balance). Brunch on

boat for students, Julbord, KTH Hallen booked. Trying to improve student engagement. Targeting for smoother handover between previous and new councils. Discussion if January is the best time for new council elections.

2.2.3. [EECS](#)

No representative from the council. Hilma read the EECS report. Main topic: Moving from Kista to KTH Main Campus. School is having issues for social activities, may ask PhD chapter for funding.

2.2.4. [ITM](#)

ITM representative spoke. Summarising latest report. 3 council meetings. Want to recruit more PADs. PhD survey evaluation, program structure might change (having only 1 program), self-plagiarism discussed - guidelines probably coming soon. Summer BBQ, afterwork hangout, laser tag event as social activities.

2.2.5. [SCI](#)

SCI representative spoke. Summarising latest report. JML issues, times compensation (reduction of time compensation for council members), Social event - climbing event, JML workshop.

2.3. THS

Info from THS about what is going on.

Open positions in THS. Moving chapter hall - the Tcentral is about to be demolished. In 2026-2027 (start 2027) new chapter hall. New chapter hall in B (?) building. Chapter should get more details and present them at the next chapter meeting. Armada in November.

After the meeting it was announced that the plans to demolish the building have been paused

Meeting paused between 18:54 to 19:30

Meeting restored at 19:31

2.4. Student Union Council - Kårfullmäktige

Info from the Members

4 full positions and 2 deputies. None of the full position were presented (1 needed to leave the chapter meeting before we got to this point of agenda)

3. Propositions - Propositioner

3.1. Proposition of [Digital voting](#)

Board suggests that we do use the digital voting system for upcoming elections. No questions from the plenum were asked. Voting on preposition. The preposition was approved.

**4. Discussion - Diskussion
(Max 20 min/discussion)**

4.1. [Information about Evaluation of Doctoral Programs](#)

Definition of PhD program was clarified. KTH decided to carry out an evaluation of PhD programs. PhD chapter was asked to give an opinion. Discussion on the chapter meeting on this topic

- 1) Why are programs good?
 - Programs have certain goals, requirements, mandatory courses, objectives.
 - It would be good if KTH could offer courses for these programs. At this point KTH cannot -> having programs does not make much sense
- 2)
 - ITM 6 programs: 1 program expected to publish in 4 journal, other programs only 1 paper as the first author -> risk of merging not only programs but also making general requirements for finishing PhD
 - EECS is a large school - already now in one division over 50 PhD..... how would they make a program for over 100 students (other divisions) that would more or less fit everyone
 - By having 1 program you would significantly decrease the difficulty of taking any course of your liking without unnecessary paperwork.
 - People do different kind of research - ethics courses should be target for the specific program -> having specialised programs is important
 - What's considered quality? In different fields the difficulty of publishing differs, having a central rule of 4 publications might be problematic.
 - Historical problem having a lot of mandatory courses but with limited capacity -> programs similar enough merged into one... suggestion from the plenum: not having mandatory courses if not necessary... maybe one mandatory course with ethics in your area
- 3)
 - Based on ITM: rule of thumb having as little programs as possible is good for not wasting resources but every field needs to be represented
 - When merging programs you need to think about it might be reasonable to have PA (who can support students) that is not having too many students
 - Sometimes communication between student and supervisor is problematic. Removing programs would remove one of the natural barriers that protects students
 - Some students are overloaded with paperwork because some centralisation is missing
 - This would give more control to PA and less to students themselves

Questions:

Why to merge programs at the first place?

-some schools would like to only have one program but the questions was raised what KTH gain from these PHD programs

What's the next step of this discussion?

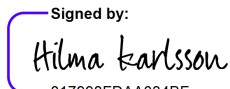
- Will have discussion session for all PhDs and then the PhD chapter board will formulate a summarised view

5. Other questions - Övriga frågor

- SVG doesn't go to all doctoral students. Can the board provide the whole email list?
The board does not manage the email address, suggested to talk to division manager
- Onedrive limit - 50 GB might be an issue for some projects. Has anyone had some experience with this? Is there a way to deal with this?
The board will look into it.
- Does KTH keep track of how the alumni are doing? Is there a survey?
No, not now but old ones.

6. Conclusion of the meeting - Mötets avslutande

Meeting closes at 20:22

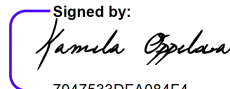
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Hilma Karlsson

Meeting Chairperson
Mötesordförande

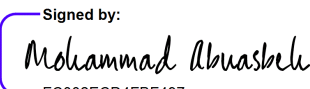
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Meeting Secretary
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