



PhD Chapter - Doktorandsektionen

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

Winter CM
2025-12-11, Kl. 17:30, [T-centralen]



1. Formalities

1.1. The opening of the meeting - Mötets öppnande

Introduction of the PhD Chapter at KTH is given.
The meeting is declared open at 17:50.

1.2. Timely announcement of the meeting - Mötets behöriga utlysande

Summons were sent out on the 20th of November.
The agenda were posted on the 5th of December

*Möteskallelse skickades ut den 20e november.
Mötesprotokollet lades upp den 5e december.*

The meeting was timely announced.

1.3. Election of meeting president - Val av mötesordförande

No objections to having Hilma Karlsson to be the meeting Chairperson.

1.4. Election of meeting secretary - Val av mötessekreterare

No objections to having Kaung Myat to be the meeting Secretary.

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

The meeting chairperson requests Erik Svanberg and Ivo Bruijl for minute checking.

Erik Svanberg rejected.

Ivo Bruijl accepted

The meeting chairperson requests Dita Anggraini for minute checking.

Dita Anggraini accepted.

1.6. Co-optations - Adjungeringar

Saumey Jain and Christoffer Forsberg are co-opted.

1.7. Previous meeting - Föregående protokoll

Minutes from [Autumn CM#3](#)

No objections to the previous meeting's minutes and is approved.

1.8. Establishing the agenda - Fastställande av föredragslista

No additional added agenda. The agenda is established.

2. Reports - Rapporter

2.1. The Board - Styrelsen

2.1.1. Treasurer [5min]

Please view the Treasurer report.

2.1.2. Chairperson [5min]

Please view the chairperson report

Question: How was the decision on the PhD program investigation suggesting to remove the programs made?

Answer: All FAs and PAs said that the programmes only added extra administration. They want to keep the structure but remove the paperwork.

Question: If they want to keep the structure but remove the admin, how would the chain of command continue?

Ans: They will look into it, there is no definite answer now.

2.2. School Councils (Max 5min presentation/Council)

Please view the school reports.

2.2.1. ABE [5min]

Question: When were the PhD students enrolled that have been affected by the rule that makes PhD students lose time when transferring credits?

Answer: The rule was implemented in 2019. The first time it was referred to was in 2021. It was implemented but not mentioned.

The chapter has lifted the issue of transferring credits from masters and from other universities before. The agreement with KTH was then to properly inform, via letter or an official statement, PhD students about the time reduction beforehand. However, there is still an issue that people are not informed.

2.2.2. CBH [5min]

Question: When was the letter regarding working with companies from Israel involved with the war initiated, what was the timeline?

Answer: A first meeting was held in May after a student-initiated motion and another meeting in May. The motion was accepted by the Council at the end of summer. During the autumn, a letter was drafted and a poll was sent out to the students. The students got a chance to amend the document. The final letter was sent out to all doctoral students at CBH with over 45 voted, and over 50 signed. In early-mid December the letter was sent out to THS, PhD Chapter, the CBH school board and the KTH rektor. The letter was reworked from KTH guidelines regarding the Russian-Ukraine war, published by KTH.

2.2.3. EECS [5min]

Comments: Email access will be removed 1 year after graduation.
EECS did not get the memo.

2.2.4. ITM [5min]

2.2.5. SCI [5min]

Discussion about the mentorship program at the SCI school.

Question: Is the idea with the mentorship program to have active PhD students mentoring new PhD students?

Answer: Maybe with alumni, but not so sure. It is too early. The format still is in discussion.

Question: Is it easy to get in contact with KTH Alumni?

Answer: KTH does have a program once every semester. You can sign up to be a mentee and have meetings with alumni, depending on your wishes.

2.3. THS

Info from THS about what is going on

Currently going through the elections. PhD students can take a year off to take this position.

A new head of educational affairs, student welfare, Armada and one more has been filled. They will all have working groups.

One of the board positions is still open, which is a part time position, you can always send in your interest.

First aid kits will be available at all Chapter locations.

THS now has security, it is still in the early collaborations.

15th- movie night: Die Hard

20th Julklubb - christmas party

Jan 10th - tanta pub

Armada happened 18th-19th november. 120 companies and startups.

Funding for sports is open, in partnership with Nordic Wellness. Apply if you are sporty.

THS magazine is out, and can be requested for a copy.

Question: Security, can they be hired to the pubs?

Answer: They have catching rights, and they can be reached out for bigger events.

Question: Is there a launch date for the KTH App?

Answer: No specific date.

3. Propositions - Propositioner

3.1. Proposition of Digital voting [20min]

Please view the proposition.

Digital elections have been done for almost 2 years. It has been going smoothly. The proposition's goal is to add the digital elections into the statutes.

A suggestion is raised by the meeting to clarify that the digital voting will be closed before the chapter meeting

A suggestion is raised by the meeting to close the voting before the agenda point starts. A majority of the meeting suggests closing the voting at a hard time (as suggested on the proposal), or a stronger time so it is easier to process from the auditors perspective.

Motion to vote on this proposition:

18 people voted yes

0 against

1 abstained

This proposition will be voted on at the next meeting.

3.2. Proposition of Funding request [20min]

Please view the proposition.

The funding request can be confusing, the proposition tries to make it clearer.

A suggestion is raised by the meeting to mention 'aimed towards to be done within 5 days' instead of a fixed number of days, to make the board's lives easier.

The proposition will not be added in the chapter policy but will be mentioned on the website.

Moving to voting procedure with the change of wording..
18 approval
0 disagree
1 abstain

Meeting Adjourned till 19:45

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

4.1. Creating working group for budget based financial system [20min]

Shared with the Chapter members about the new plan for how to manage the chapter finances.

According to the current plan, the budget will be shared and split with the treasurers from the school councils.

There are still designated leaders within the chapter board, regarding large events but the smaller decision events can be processed from the school.

The final responsibility will always be the board.

Will the responsibility change with the new system?

No, but there will be designated leaders who will be responsible for that event. The designated leader should handle the receipts but they are only for that specific event. If there were changes, the treasurer and the chairperson will investigate.

From the auditors perspective, the auditors will check and if there are questions, they will come to the chairperson and treasurer. In that case, it does not make sense that the chairperson and treasurer have delegated that responsibility.

Suggestion: Move this discussion to March, and see if it will work.

This is to form a working group, and the idea is to send a concrete plan in March with the suggestions.

Question: Will it be the chapter that allocates funding or the council requests the funding?

Answer: That is up to the workgroup to discuss.

4.2. Creating working group regarding departmental duties [20min]

There are issues regarding departmental duties across various schools.

When looking at the recent PhD survey, there is little data pointing at this as a very widespread issue... One major finding in the survey though is that 13.5% state that the PhD students work more than 20% on departmental duties.

The board raises a concern that both students and faculty do not know what is involved in the departmental duties.

The plan is to create a workgroup consisting of a SACO representative, a PhD Chapter board representative and PhD Council representative of each council.

Question: Is there a limit to the number of people in the working group?

Answer: It has not been decided.

Question: Is it time-compensated?

Answer: Cannot be guaranteed.

Question: When will the information about the working group be sent out?

Answer: Probably in January.

5. Elections - Val

5.1. Ratifying election procedures

Some contradictions in our statutes. Proposal of 3 alternatives, and to pick one at the Chapter Meeting.

Option 1: Continue with the current process

Option 2: Retract one external nominations

Option 3: Withhold external nominations and wait for clarification from THS auditors.

Question: Will this vote impact the current elections?

Answer: Yes

The nomination committee recommends for all 5 spots to be filled.

16 approval for Option 1

2 approval for Option 2

0 approval for Option 3

Motion to ratify the elections.

No objections.

5.2. Announcements of results

80 people voted. 113 people registered. Less than last semester.

Chapter Board Election Results

Position	Voted	Candidate	Approved	Abstained	Disapproved	Elected (Yes/No)
Vice Chairpersons on	66	Uli Rahmlow	66	2	0	Yes
Treasurer	80	Ivo Bruijl	55	8	17	Yes
		Luka Smajila	35	18	27	No
		Ashkan Raki	22	20	38	No
Event Manager	71	Abhilash Kulkarni	66	0	5	Yes
Council Coordinator	69	Dita Anggraini	66	4	3	Yes
Workgroup Manager	65	Aakriti Mohanty	61	4	4	Yes
Education Manager	67	Lena Reimund	66	4	1	Yes
Communication Manager	72	Peiling Wu	67	2	5	Yes
Head of Women's Doctoral Committee	69	Zoé Barjot	69	3	0	Yes
Nomination Committee	64	Abhilash Kulkarni	51	7	8	Yes
Nomination Committee	64	Hemanth Venkatesan	51	7	8	Yes
Nomination Committee	64	Elina Merdymshaeva	56	7	3	Yes

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Nomination Committee	64	Mohit Daga	45	12	9	Yes
Master of Ceremonies	61	Aakriti Mohanty	58	7	3	Yes

5.3. Vote to open or not nominations for the unfilled positions

Opening for one more nomination position to the PhD Chapter Meeting participants.
Explanation of the nomination committee role.

Open position for Standard Bearer and Vice-Standard Bearer.
Explanation of the positions. Have 1 or 2 people nominated for the role right now.

Question: Is it time compensated?

Answer: No

Comment: You have to go to some of the events earlier or for practice.

Abhilash accepts the nomination for the Vice- Standard Bearer.

Ivo did not accept the nomination for the Main Standard Bearer.

Abhilash gives a speech about why he wants to be a Vice-Standard Bearer.

Juan nominates himself for the Main Standard Bearer.

Juan gives a speech about why he wants to be the Main Standard Bearer.

Standard Bearer Election Results

Main Standard Bearer	17	Juan Avendano	16	1	0	Yes
Vice Standard Bearer	17	Abhilash Kulkarni	16	0	0	Yes

6. Other questions - Övriga frågor

7. Conclusion of the meeting - Mötets avslutande

Meeting is concluded at 20:42.

Signed by:

 Hilma Karlsson
817998FDAA034BF...

Meeting Chairperson
Mötesordförande

Signed by:

 Dita Augrain
097C95842025421...

Minutes Checker
Justerare

Signed by:

 Kaung Myat
9B3523EE6B6E4D1...

Meeting Secretary
Mötessekreterare

Signed by:

 Ivo Bruij
317B006BDFDE40D...

Minutes Checker
Justerare