

Nominating Committee Report for Chapter Elections

Election errands for Chapter meeting no. 4, 2026/06/03.

Background

Chapter meeting no. 4 of the operational year 2025/26 was summoned to conduct business on June 03rd, 2026, with election errands on eight (8) board member positions and five (5) Chapter functionaries. The [vacancy profiles](#) were established, communicated through the summons, and published on the website.

According to PhD Statutes [Dr2026-CM-01/0001](#), clause §5.11.3, the Nominating Committee shall:

- a) Promote and administer election for PhD Chapter Board vacancies;
- b) Interview candidates for the PhD Chapter Board and if required consult third parties for relevant information;
- c) Propose nominations to the PhD Chapter members. Nominations are established through simple majority of the Committee;
- d) Liaison with THS Nominating 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 concerning gender, study programs, and other backgrounds deemed applicable, such as study mode.

Twenty-three (23) people were nominated for the Chapter Board positions and Chapter functionaries before the deadline, coming from the schools of ABE (5), CBH (2), EECS (4), ITM (7) and SCI (5). Twelve (12) nominations were accepted: seven (7) for the Chapter Board positions and five (5) for the Chapter functionary positions.

The seven (7) nominees whose nominations were assessed and reported in this document are:

- **Ulysse Castet** for the **Chairperson** position,
- **Kaung Myat** for the **Chairperson** position,
- **Kamila Ooppelová** for the **Business Liaison** position,
- **Aakriti Mohanty** for the **Workgroup Manager** position,
- **Henrik Johansson** for the **Education Manager** position,
- **Valentina Quartieri** for the **Council Coordinator** position,
- **Adrian Vågberg** for the **Webmaster** position.



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:

- **Ulysse Castet** for the **Chairperson** position. Ulysse Castet has experience in several student-led initiatives in Stockholm. This includes involvement with SGEM (<https://sgem.se/>), service as a board member of a student housing organization, and part of the PhD School Council. During the interview, Ulysse presented a vision based on a data-driven approach, including the use of surveys to gather input from PhD students and help guide the future direction of the PhD Chapter. Moreover, Ulysse would like to focus on student welfare, student career fair, events for PhD students, and community management.

Nominating Committee Comments: While Ulysse has not previously served on the PhD Chapter Board, prior membership of the Board is not a requirement under the PhD Chapter statutes for assuming the role of Chairperson. Moreover, Ulysse has a preliminary vision for the PhD Chapter and its further development. In addition to that, his previous experiences are relevant to the position. Based on the interviews and the information available, the Nominating Committee recommends Ulysse Castet for the position of Chairperson of the PhD Chapter.

- **Kaung Myat** for the **Chairperson** position. Kaung Myat has leadership experience in organizations comparable in size to the PhD Chapter Board, including two startups in his home country. His academic background includes an executive master's program in management and innovation, and he claims understanding of different aspects of organizational management. Kaung is currently a member of the PhD Chapter Board, serving as webmaster, and has also contributed to other areas of PhD Chapter activity, including representation through the ethics committee and student welfare initiatives such as organizing the PhD football team and the PhD Chapter Pub.

Comments from the Nominating Committee: Kaung's main objective for the Chairperson is to continue working on the current projects of the Chapter that include focus on departmental duties workgroup and migration issues. Furthermore, Kaung expressed his keenness to encourage initiatives from other Board members. Through his current Board role, he is aware of the ongoing PhD Chapter work. Based on the interviews and the information available, the Nominating Committee recommends Kaung Myat for the position of Chairperson of the PhD Chapter.

- **Kamila Ooppelová** for the **Business Liaison** position. Kamila is a 4th year PhD student at the SCI school. She has previously served as the business liaison of the PhD Chapter for the past one year and wants to continue in the role. During her previous term, she organized various events including P-Hired (a career fair for PhD students) as well as business visits and seminars. She finds the work challenging at times but also equally rewarding as she sees how beneficial it is for PhD students to have such events. From past experiences she plans to improve on different aspects and particularly focus on expanding seminar events, in particular targeting the skill of efficient and proper communication of PhD students towards prospective companies.



Comments from the Nominating Committee: Kamila brings solid experience and clear motivation to continue as Business Liaison. She has shown she can execute big events such as P-Hired along with maintaining constant communication with companies for the benefit of the chapter. The Nominating Committee considers her very suitable for the role of Business Liaison.

- **Aakriti Mohanty** for the **Workgroup Manager** position. Aakriti has held the role of Workgroup manager for the past six months and wants to continue in this role. She feels over time she has gotten a better grasp on various aspects of the position. Moreover, she is interested in seeing out the departmental duties workgroup initiated by her. She has played a major role in organizing the previous Chapter retreat and would also like to focus on improving the overall visibility of the Chapter in her upcoming term if elected.

Comments from the Nominating Committee: Aakriti's enthusiasm and commitment to the Chapter and well-being of the PhD students as a whole can be seen by the different positions held by her as PAD at the school level and MC at the Chapter level (apart from the workgroup manager). She seems to be great at multitasking and thrives in roles that are time and energy consuming. The Nominating Committee considers her very suitable for the role of Workgroup Manager.

- **Henrik Johansson** for the **Education Manager** position. Henrik is a 3rd year PhD student at the EECS school. He is interested in contributing to the improvement of student education for PhD students at KTH. He has previously been part of the EECS School Council for a year and has carried out tasks involving discussions with the head of the school. He is well aware of the ongoing initiatives from the Chapter and has been to some extent participating in discussions of the past/current issues taken up by the Chapter for doctoral students such as Swedish courses, salary ladder and integration of eISP. He is committed to working on these issues and more.

Comments from the Nominating Committee: Henrik seems to have a good understanding of internal structure of KTH. His experience in previous roles is advantageous to his proposed role at the Chapter Board. His knowledge of Swedish will additionally prove to be beneficial in various third cycle education committees where doctoral students are represented via the PhD Chapter. The Nominating Committee considers him very suitable for the role of Education Manager.

- **Valentina Quartieri** for the **Council Coordinator** position. Valentina is a 1st year PhD student at the SCI school and is motivated to be part of student activities at KTH. She sees being a member of the Chapter Board as a great opportunity to help in PhD education as she has had firsthand experience in dealing with mandatory course issues. She has had experience from her previous university in organizing student social activities as well as helping out nonnative (and international) students with various problems.



Comments from the Nominating Committee: Valentina shows enthusiasm for the role and brings experience from her previous student activities. Although it is her first year, she seems to have understood a lot of student issues well. She seems to be a very social person, and this quality will be highly appreciated when interacting with the different school councils. She has also attended various Chapter activities during the past year and has volunteered to contribute in a few. The Nominating Committee considers her very suitable for the role of Council Coordinator.

- **Adrian Vågberg** for the **Webmaster** position. Adrian is a 2nd year student at the SCI school. He had previously been engaged with the Physics Student Chapter at KTH before he started his doctoral studies. He has helped organize the Physics Chapter career fair and through that, he has taken roles in business contact and account manager. He has had some experience in the past managing websites and believes this role will fit in well with his research commitments. He envisions improving certain aspects of communication of the PhD Chapter particularly with the planned project of a PhD Student Welcome Handbook.

Comments from the Nominating Committee: Adrian seems to understand the role very well and is comfortable with the amount of commitment needed for the role. His previous experience in a KTH student organization and being a native Swedish speaker can prove to be extremely beneficial to the Chapter Board. He understands this and is willing to help with it. The Nominating Committee considers him very suitable for the role of Webmaster.

- For the positions of **Communication Manager** and **Event manager**, the positions remain open as there were no nominations accepted by any of the nominees. This can be appended during the Chapter meeting with propositions, acceptances, and voting for those positions. Otherwise, these positions remain vacant until the next round.

Additionally, the Nominating Committee received several nominations for Chapter functionary positions, out of which five (5) nominations were accepted by the nominees:

- **Katharina Steib** for the **Head of Women's Doctoral Committee** position,
 - **Comments from the Nominating Committee:** Head of Women's Doctoral Committee did not require an interview. Nevertheless, the Nominating Committee did not find a reason for Katharina Steib to be considered not qualified enough for the position. Therefore, the Nominating Committee recommends the candidate for the position.
- **Athanasia Christou** for the **Master of Ceremonies (DrInK)** position,
 - **Comments from the Nominating Committee:** Master of Ceremonies (DrInK) did not require an interview. Nevertheless, the Nominating Committee did not find a reason for Athanasia Christou to be considered not qualified enough for the position. Therefore, the Nominating Committee recommends the candidate for the position.



- **Peiling Wu** for the **Nominating Committee** position,
 - **Comments from the Nominating Committee:** Member of the Nominating Committee did not require an interview. Nevertheless, the Nominating Committee did not find a reason for Peiling Wu to be considered not qualified enough for the position. Therefore, the Nominating Committee recommends the candidate for the position.
- **Ugne Miniotaite** for the **Auditor** position,
 - **Comments from the Nominating Committee:** Auditor position did not require an interview. Nevertheless, the Nominating Committee did not find a reason for Ugne Miniotaite to be considered not qualified enough for the position. Therefore, the Nominating Committee recommends the candidate for the position.
- **Mohammad Abuasbeh** for the **Auditor** position,
 - **Comments from the Nominating Committee:** Auditor position did not require an interview. Nevertheless, the Nominating Committee did not find a reason for Mohammad Abuasbeh to be considered not qualified enough for the position. Therefore, the Nominating Committee recommends the candidate for the position.

Suggestions

Based on the interviews, the Nominating Committee finds it suitable for the Chapter meeting:

To₁ consider for election (1 person), **Ulysse Castet and Kaung Myat** for the **Chairperson** position.

To₂ consider for election, **Kamila Ooppelova** for the **Business Liaison** position.

To₃ consider for election, **Aakriti Mohanty** for the **Workgroup Manager** position.

To₄ consider for election, **Henrik Johansson** for the **Education Manager** position.

To₅ consider for election, **Valentina Quartieri** for the **Council Coordinator** position.

To₇ consider for election, **Adrian Vågberg** for the **Webmaster** position.

To₈ consider for election, **Katharina Steib** for the **Head of Women's Doctoral Committee** position.

To₉ consider for election, **Athanasia Christou** for the **Master of Ceremonies (DrInK)** position.

To₁₀ consider for election, **Peiling Wu** for the **Nominating Committee** position.

To₁₁ consider for election, **Ugne Miniotaite** for the **Auditor** position.

To₁₂ consider for election, **Mohammad Abuasbeh** for the **Auditor** position.

On behalf of the Nominating Committee,

(Digitally signed)

(Digitally signed)

Hemanth Venkatesan

Elina Merdymshaeva

2026-05-26

2026-05-26



(Digitally signed)

(Digitally signed)

Mohit Daga

2026-05-26

Abhilash Kulkarni

2026-05-26