Minutes - DS General Assembly
# December 2014-12-15

Time: 12:00-13:00
Location: HA1
Attendees: As attachment
Number of pages: 2 + presentation (23 slides) + Attendees(3)

Points on the agenda

§1. Opening of the meeting
Oskar opened the meeting

§2. Election of meeting officials
Oskar is elected as the Chairman, Ceena is elected as the secretary and Virginia is elected to adopt the minutes.

§3. Approval of electoral register
The electoral register is approved.

§4. Approval of agenda
The agenda was approved.

§5. Meeting notice in due order
The assembly approved that the meeting notice has been in due order.

§6. Minutes from previous meeting
Previous meeting minutes were approved with no comments.

§7 Annual report and financial statement DS board 2013/2014
The annual report was summarized by Ronja.

Representation from the previous board and the activities were briefly introduced to the whole assembly. The topics highlighted were
- New rules of procedure
- Flag from HR for licentiate/midterm seminar
- Salary negotiation
- Analyzing DS survey
- Ladok (transcript)
- Visa issue

Ronja also presented the Financial statement and the Auditors report for the year 2013-2014.

Ronja presented that a number of financial and accounting issues had been discovered from previous years and were adjusted accordingly.
DOMB has been taking more resources than the allocated funding given by Chalmers. From 2014-2015 Chalmers will take the full costs for the DOMB.

The total amount of DS Board man-hours was mentioned, it was 945.

The assembly approved the decision of freedom from liability for the last years board.

§8. Proposition: Change of doctoral student division fee
Virginia discussed the raise in student fee from 30 SEK to 40 SEK per semester from Fall 2015. It was approved by the assembly and DS will bring forward the proposal to the Student Union.

§9. Election of new board members
Naghmeh Deilami and Toni Gutknecht were elected as the new representatives from TME respectively KB (from future Chemistry dep.part of KB).

§10. Report on current issues
Salary negotiations:
- The negotiations resulted in a 3.75% salary increase. This increase is meant for a longer period i.e. effective from October 2014 until April 2016.

Supervisor of the year
- Oskar asked the audience to nominate candidates.

The visa issue for non-EU PhD students:
- Permanent residency issue has been solved
- Currently the visa has to be renewed every year despite of having a 2 year contract. DS will continue addressing this issue inorder to align with the contract duration 1+2+2
- Citizenship issue was briefly discussed, but more information will be communicated after discussion with SULF and migrationsverket.

Investigation of departmental work duties:
There has been many complaints about how the departmental work is distributed. The scope of the investigation is to gain a clear picture at various departments at Chalmers overall.

Satisfaction of PhD studies
Virginia presented the work group for satisfaction of PhD studies. She illustrated three main tracks that the group intends to work with. Follow up, Publicity and Policy.

§11: Other issues:
None.

§12. Closing of the meeting
Meeting closed.

Chair: Oskar Thulin

Secretary: Olena Joseph

Adopt the minutes –
Virginia Claudio
General Assembly
Chalmers Doctoral Student Guild

DS Chair Oskar Thulin
Chalmers University of Technology
December 15, 2014
1 Opening of the meeting
2 Election of meeting officials
   • Chairman
   • Secretary
   • Someone to adopt the minutes
3 Approval of electoral register
   • List of attendees who have the right to vote
4 Approval of agenda
5 Meeting notice in due order
   • Preliminary notice should be sent out no later than 2 week before the meeting, and final notice and documents no later than 1 week before
6 Minutes from previous meeting
   • General assembly May 2014
7 Annual report and financial statement DS board 2013-2014
   • Including statement from the auditor
   • Decision of freedom from liability for last year’s board

8 Proposition: Change of doctoral student division fee

9 Election of new board members
   • Naghmeh Deilami, TME
   • Toni Gutknecht, KB (from future Chemistry dep. part of KB)

10 Reports on current issues
   • Salary negotiations
   • Supervisor of the year
   • Permanent residency and citizenship for non EU PhD students
   • Workgroup for satisfaction in PhD studies
   • Investigation of departmental work duty policies

11 Other issues

12 Closing of the meeting
• Annual report and financial statement
• Including statement from the auditor
• Decision of freedom from liability for last year’s board
Annual report and financial statement
DS board 2013-14

• Summary of the annual report
• Financial summary
Summary of the annual report

Representation in the different bodies at Chalmers (and beyond)

- University board
- Faculty Senate
- Board of Research education (FUN)
- Library council & Repub
- National PhD council
- Supervisor of the year
- Committee for work environment and equal opportunities
Summary of the annual report

Board of research education:

- New rules of procedure
  - Clear statement about licenciate / midterm seminar
  - Change of supervisor
- Flag from HR after 2.5 years concerning licentiate / midterm
- Input to the next generation “Supervisor development” - activities
Summary of the annual report

Other activities:

- Salary negotiations
- Analyzing the DS survey / Workgroup on PhD student satisfaction
- LADOK-transcript
- PhD student questions for Employee Survey
- Visa for non-EU PhD students
Financial summary

- Two pots: DS Board and DOMB
  - DS Board revenues: 294146 SEK
    - PhD student division fees: 63170 SEK
    - Chalmers: 230976 SEK
  - DS Board costs: 299326 SEK
  - DS Board deficit: 5180 SEK
Financial summary

- Two pots: DS Board and DOMB
- DOMB revenues: 100424 SEK
- DOMB costs: 161725 SEK
  - Of which from previous year: 53391 SEK
  - Real costs 2013-2014: 108334 SEK
- DOMB deficit: 61301 SEK
- DOMB real 2013-2014 deficit: 7910 SEK

From 2014-2015 on Chalmers will take the full costs!
Financial Summary

Additionally:
• We adjusted the books such that the grants from Chalmers accounted for actually match the time period they are intended and accounted for by Chalmers side.
• Corrected other (minor) mistakes in the bookkeeping.

Deficit originates from:
– Changed accounting principle: 125000 SEK
– DOMB deficit 2012-2013: 53391 SEK
– DOMB deficit 2013-2014: 7910 SEK
– DS Board deficit: 5180 SEK

DS 2013-2014 deficit: 191481 SEK
Financial summary

DS Board worked 945 manhours
Auditors Report

Auditors report 2013-2014

Doctoral Students Guild, part of Chalmers student union

I have audited the balance sheet of Doctoral Students Guild as of 2014-06-30, total assets 496 587,07 SEK, and the related profit and loss statement as well as verifications and minutes from general assemblies and board meetings. The financial statements are the responsibility of the board. My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit.

I have conducted the audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in Sweden. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Doctoral Students Guild as of 2014-06-30, and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Sweden.

The profit and loss statement shows a loss of -191 480,56 SEK, of which 125 000,00 are due to changed accounting principle. There has been an unclarity as to which time period the grant from Chalmers referred to. The present treasurer has commendably cleared this up.

Paul Holmström
(bachelor of business administration with major in finance and accounting)
Fallströmsgatan 8
431 41 Mölndal
Annual report and financial statement
DS board 2013-14

Decision of freedom from liability for the last year’s board
Proposition: Change of doctoral student division fee

- Currently 30sek per semester (in total including the student union fee 180sek)
- Has been held constant during a number of years while costs have been increasing
- Previous year’s commitment in the committees representing the PhD students and especially the DOMB work has been taking on our savings
- Have increased representation from more Chalmers departments
- All other Chalmers student divisions have 40sek
- Proposal to change the student division fee to: 40sek (in total 190sek) from fall (2015)
- This is a guiding vote to the Chalmers Student Union general assembly
Election of new board members

Naghmeh Deilami, TME

Toni Gutknecht, KB
(from future Chemistry dep.
part of KB)
Reports on current issues

- Salary negotiations - 3.75% Valid until April 2016
  
  Entry level  27835 sek/month (from 26828 sek/month)
  Licentiate  31500 sek/month (from 30261 sek/month)
  PhD  32660 sek/month (from 31480 sek/month)
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- Supervisor of the year
  
  Deadline Sunday, 1st February 2015
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• Supervisor of the year
  Deadline  Sunday, 1st February 2015

• Permanent residency (PR) and citizenship for non EU PhD cand.
  PR  Possible after 4 years, including retroactively
  Visa duration  Currently 1 year
    - Target same as contract period, 1+2+2 years
  Citizenship  Suppose to be possible after 5 years.
    - But PhD students need to have stated intent to stay in Sweden from start.
Reports on current issues

- Workgroup for satisfaction in PhD studies
  - Follow-up
    - Employee survey as a tool for feedback on satisfaction and impact of interventions
  - Publicity
    - Raise awareness of real and potential issues among PhD students (preventive measure and empowerment tool)
    - Engage local councils
  - Policy (long-term)
    - Inform Chalmers
    - Initiate a serious discussion on the necessity of intervention to improve status quo
    - Catalyze changes in policies and procedures to ensure fair and equal treatment
Reports on current issues

- Investigation of departmental work duty policies
  - Multiple reports from PhD candidates that there are problems with distribution of departmental duties
  - Examples of unfairness, unclear rules, and arbitrary decisions about what to count and how to count hours
- Collect information about how departmental work is distributed in different departments
Final part

- Other issues
- Closing of the meeting
## Attendance list – General Assembly 2014-12-15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oskar Thulin</td>
<td>AM</td>
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<td>Ronja Thules</td>
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<td>Cecre Joseph</td>
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<td>Maria Ekström</td>
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<td>ALBERTO ALAMIA</td>
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<td>Yemoa Man</td>
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<td>Alexandra Bergman</td>
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<td>Sebastian Samuelsson</td>
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<td>Ragnar Lärnson</td>
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<td>ELKE MLECZAHA</td>
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<td>Volodymyr Kuzmenko</td>
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<td>Freddie Johnson</td>
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<td>Virginia Claudio</td>
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<td>BENSAMIN SÁNCHEZ</td>
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<td>Jens Christine Nielsen</td>
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<td>Soneil Sothani</td>
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<td>Manfred Kerner</td>
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<td>MAXIME VAN DEN BOSCHE</td>
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<td>Johan Nilsson</td>
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<td>Nils Odebo Linke</td>
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<td>Sarker Ramen</td>
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<td>Magnus Johansson</td>
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<td>Fatemeh Ayatollahi</td>
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<td>Hamid Ebad</td>
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<td>Lu Sun</td>
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<td>Yuanmei Wang</td>
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<td>Hanna Landquist</td>
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<td>Hamidreza Abedi</td>
<td>Applied Mechanics</td>
<td>Hamid Abedi</td>
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<td>Dimosthenis Floros</td>
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<td>Maheswaran Vattur Sundram</td>
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<td>Emma Karlsson</td>
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<td>Hennrice Hobel</td>
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