

## Introduction

During the year 2018/2019 the Doctoral Student Guild (DS) board has been actively representing the doctoral students in several different committees and activities within and outside Chalmers. This report will briefly highlight what has been done in the different committees, as well as summarize the internal activities. General information about the activities and committees can be found on the DS webpage (<http://www.dokt.chs.chalmers.se/>).

During the year 2018/2019 the board consisted of:

Giulio Calcagno	Chair	K
Anna Köhler	Vice chair	SEE
Siri Jagstedt	Board member	TME
Tomasz Kosinski	Board member	CSE
Maria Landqvist	Board member	TME
Govindan Induchoodan	Board member	ACE
Mursalin Sajib	Board member	Bio
Nadja Holtryd	Board member	CSE
Joakim Strandberg	Board member	SEE
Dan Li	Board member	IMS
Sobhan Sepehri	Board member	MC2
Jiacheng Xia	Board member	M
Anand Harihara Subramonia Iyer	Board member	F
Ananda S. Kannan	Board member	M2
Samar Hosseinzadegan	Board member	E2
Nitesh Raj Jaladurgam	Board member	F
Raphael Ferreira	Board member	Bio
Carlo Negrato	Board member	M2
Agin Vyas	Board member	MC2
Julia Orlovska	Board member	IMS
Anton Kersten	Board member	E2
Johanna Merisalu	Board member	ACE

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## Continuous activities of the DS board

### DS Board Meetings

The Board has met four times for Board Meetings and two times for General Assemblies. During the Board meetings the members report from their different activities and discussion regarding strategic topics of the doctoral studies are discussed. The Vice Chair Anna Köhler has been responsible for the accounting for the year 2018/2019. Her experience in the board was also fundamental for a continuous support of the other board members and Chair.

### Chalmers University Board (Chalmers Universitetsstyrelse)

The chair of DS is representing the voice of PhD students at Chalmers in the university board. The university board is the highest decision-making body within the university, and DS is given the right to have the chair attending and speaking, but not the right to vote. DS and the Student Union representatives have preparatory meetings before each board meeting to discuss the current agenda and what to bring up. The university board discuss and take decisions regarding topics of strategic value to Chalmers.

During the year 2018/2019, Giulio Calcagno was the responsible for this activity. This year focus topic was “HR questions”, so questions regarding leadership, work environment and competences development. The university board has agreed that more focus should be given to PhD role within the university research development and the doctoral studies quality assurance. A more focused quality evaluation is meant to improve the conditions for obtaining licentiate and PhD degrees in the right time frames.

### Research education council (FUN)

During the year 2018/2019 the DS representatives in FUN were Giulio Calcagno, Nadja Holtryd and Johanna Merisalu. The representatives have taken part to the FUN meetings, but also joined different topic specific work groups: transfer of credits from master education, course evaluation, routine regarding failure of doctoral dissertation and internal evaluation of doctoral schools.

Some highlights from the year 2018/2019:

- FUN work has widely focused on the preparation towards the upcoming UKÄ evaluation. A work group was set to review the internal evaluation of the graduate schools from a central perspective. In connection to that, the DS chairman has written a report based on the doctoral inserts contained in the self-evaluation reports made by the local PhD students council during the year 2017-2018:  
<https://www.dokt.chs.chalmers.se/documents/2019/06/phd-students-report-from-chalmers-internal-evaluation.pdf/>  
The topics are presented through three main areas: strengths, good examples and weaknesses/challenges. DS suggests that by working on the weaknesses/challenges and taking as a model the good examples, Chalmers has the possibility to further improve the PhD studies process and create and harmonized environment.
- Revision and update of the local degrees' requirements.

- An insert to the rules of procedure was added to regularize the handling of doctoral dissertation failure:  
“As Chalmers applies a preview of theses, failing during the disputation is very infrequent. In case of failure, the Head of Department is responsible for informing the Vice President for Research Education and that the motivation of the Grading Committee is analyzed. In case of failure, the doctoral student will be able to apply for a new dissertation at a later date. Decisions to approve or reject the application shall be taken by the Head of Department in consultation with the Vice President for Research Education, after considering the motivation of the Grading Committee and the department's analysis of the case.”  
Moreover, a work group has discussed how to avoid the case of a dissertation failure. It was suggested to introduce additions to the previewing of the preliminary thesis.
- It has been decided that the PhD courses require a course evaluation system, which will be based on the one at the undergraduate level.
- The aim of the working group regarding transfer of credits from master education has been to try to get a consensus on the credit calculations, with respect to the need for differences and for an individual assessment to be made. The working group considers that the transfer should be regulated in the rules of procedure and has produced a proposal for such writing. Clearer guidelines for what a vice / pro prefect may require for supporting documents to approve exemptions / credits for compulsory elements are requested. An important principle of the proposal is that credit calculations should be discussed during study follow-up.
- In addition, DS has brought some topics to FUN's attention:
  - 1) The actual times for acquiring the licentiate degree and the doctoral degree are typically higher than the times reported in the rules of procedure, leading to stress. FUN has agreed on investigating more the reasons behind this and to actively try to reduce the difference.
  - 2) The rules of procedure contain some inaccuracies, especially in the area relating to the discontinuation's procedure.
  - 3) The connection between licentiate degree and increase in salary can lead to unfair treatment (a problem coupled to the long time required to achieve the licentiate degree). Moreover, the half increase in salary, present in the old agreement, has been removed.
  - 4) The first few months of the doctoral studies are very intensive and not always very efficient; therefore, it was suggested to introduce more support with the help of the local doctoral students' councils.
- The vice-president for research education has suggested the need for a change in the study follow ups in order to assure quality in PhD education and reduce the problems presented in the previous points. It was suggested that the study follow up needs a clearer structure, decided at the beginning, and a committee of seniors which will follow the doctoral students progress. The process for deciding the new meeting format will take several months and DS will take an active part in it.

### Work Environment and Equal Opportunity Committee (AJK)

Maria Landqvist was representing DS in this position.

Her role for this year has been to speak up for the PhD student on different issues brought up during the meetings. Moreover, the PhD student representative has reported back to the DS board and facilitated the communication between the board and the equality representative. Unfortunately, this year the employee survey has not been evaluated together with the PhD student representative, but this should be the case the coming year. The work environment for PhD students has been a topic discussed throughout the year because the employee survey showed some negative trends. An initiative was taken a couple of years ago by Magnus Åkerström (Coordinator for work environment at Chalmers) and GTS to start an e-learning course on work life balance for PhD students. This year the PhD student representative has tried to find both PhD students and supervisors to participate in the project and some suggestions were sent to Magnus just before summer. Next year's representative should preferably take an active role in forming this online course to make sure it suits the needs of the PhD students.

### Focus equality group

Maria Landqvist was representing DS in this position.

The focus equality group is an umbrella under which different Chalmers groups and initiatives connected to gender equality meet and synchronize their activities. It is a two-year project led by first vice president Anna Dubois to increase gender equality and activities free from sexual harassment at Chalmers. The project's reference group meets once a month to discuss the ongoing projects at Chalmers with the aim to act like a sounding board towards the different initiatives. Two examples of initiatives currently running at Chalmers are 'Geenie' and 'Chalmers against sexism'.

<https://www.chalmers.se/insidan/EN/about-chalmers/equality/fokus-jamstalldhet-focus>

### PhD student committee of the Swedish National Union of Students (SFS DK)

Swedish National Union of Students (Sveriges förenade studentkårer, SFS) is the collective student voice in Sweden, currently acting as an umbrella organization for 47 student unions at Swedish universities. The PhD student committee of SFS (SFS DK) works as advisors to the SFS board, on matters of both research education and research in Sweden as well as on a European level.

Every year (usually April/May), SFS holds its General Assembly, which is the highest decision-making body where all the member unions are represented. Except for electing the board and deciding on the operational plan for the upcoming year, it is also at SFSFUM the SFS DK is elected.

### Supervisor of the year

The committee for the Supervisor of the year award consisted of Agin Vyas, Raphael Ferreira and Samar Hosseinzadegan. The award is based on the initiative from Chalmers centrally. The committee posts a call for nominations, and then evaluates all nominations, followed by thorough interviews with the PhD students of the nominated supervisors.

This year, we decided to collect more information about the candidates who made it to the interview phase. We interviewed the head of the research schools. This could be

valuable, as typically PhD students are unaware of some problems within the department. The interviews were about 30 minutes long.

The committee for the SotY award has nominated Johan Larsbrink as supervisor of the year for the academic year of 2018/2019.

### Chalmers research foundation

The foundation (Chalmerska forskningsfonden) aims to financially support young scientists. The fund is one of several administrated by Chalmerska stiftelsen. A working group consisting of two representatives from the DS (this year: Mursalin Sajib, Ananda S. Kannan) and a senior researcher is appointed to provide suggestions for how the fund should be distributed.

### Ethics and Research Misconduct Committee (Etik- och oredighetsnämnd)

Chalmers' Ethics and Misconduct Committee addresses ethical issues related to research and education, as well as misconduct in research. The Committee offers support and advice on ethical issues related to research, education and utility, and it is available to all employees. The Committee also addresses cases pertaining to misconduct in research. When tasked by the president to do so, the Committee will investigate suspected misconduct in scientific activities that are or were conducted at Chalmers, and in single cases determine whether scientific misconduct has taken place. An increasing role in education for researchers is forecasted for the upcoming years.

Key points from this year's activity:

- Reported issues to the committee: one case of the research misconduct and one case of ethic problem in HBS living lab. Both cases investigated and closed during the year.
- Continued the work of mapping of all the departments and research divisions at Chalmers that are concerned with ethics questions in their research projects in order to be able to give better support and to monitor that good practice is followed. So far, those divisions considered to be relevant:
  - BIO: division of Food and Nutrition Science
  - E2: division of Signal processing and biomedical engineering
  - IMS: division of Design and Human Factors
  - IMS: division of Product Development
  - IMS: division of Production Systems
  - K: division of applied surface chemistry
- The M2 internal committee contacted Ethic committee and ask for support. They suggest utilizing each other as resources since many journals and financiers already follow ethical testing laws in different countries. M2 looking for the way to get a formal approval that ethical guidelines are followed which are usually written by the head of the department. The committee will, therefore, follow the M2 ethics group with contact persons representing the Ethic committee. The results of this collaboration will be discussed and used to investigate and structure possible activities and eventual issues that need to be communicated on the level of whole University.
- There is a plan for arranging informative seminars/workshops at each department, to educate researchers about ethical issues and good research practice. The first

department will be IMS in autumn 2019. The first meeting was held in May. All activities and program will be discussed during the next meeting in autumn.

### **SACO and wage negotiations**

DS representative was Joakim Strandberg. The Swedish Confederation of Professional Associations, is a trade union confederation of 23 affiliated associations out of which six are represented at Chalmers. SACO represents trade union members in issues like job security, rights, salaries and the working environment. The most important task for DS representative is to take part in the wage negotiation, which is held between Chalmers and the trade union organizations SACO and ST in the beginning of every autumn. The DS member is responsible for the views and opinions of the DS board and members in this negotiation. There are about six meetings per year. The DS representative also has opportunity to take part in education programs organized by SACO.

### **Faculty Council**

The faculty council is the representative body for Chalmer's teaching staff (i.e. Docent, associate professor, and full professors) and acts as an advisory body to the president and management of Chalmers.

It consists of 2 members elected from each of the 13 departments, one PhD students representative, one undergraduate student representative, and the president and/or vice president of Chalmers attends the meetings. The Faculty Council should be a forum where questions of long term and strategic character, with importance to the development of Chalmers, can be initiated and handle. These can be raised both by the members but also by external parties wanting input. In the 2018-2019 period, the council started new focus groups (equality, administrative load, faculty model).

For more information about the council and to take part of meeting minutes, visit link below (in Swedish):

<http://www.chalmers.se/insidan/SV/om-chalmers/moten/fakultetsradet>

### **CHARM**

To present PhD education as a potential career, DS is responsible for a booth at the Chalmers work fair CHARM. All board members in DS stands in the booth for one or two timeslots during the fair, so that there is always 2 persons present to talk to students and to answer questions. The PhD representatives explains about what PhD education is, that you are employed by Chalmers etc., and there are usually many students coming to talk to us. Nitesh Raj Jaladurgam and Agin Vyas were responsible for organizing the DS contribution to Charm this year.

### **Pre-CHARM PhD alumni event**

Carlo Negrato was the responsible for the activity. The event is a social dinner where current PhD students can gather with PhD Alumni of Chalmers, now working in industry. The aim of the event to improve the the offer of CHARM towards doctoral students and the interaction with industry. The 2019 edition was the second edition. The event was organized by DS during the week preceding the CHARM Work Fair. The event took place on Friday 01 February 2019, from 5.30PM. Six PhD Alumni gave short presentations, concerning their experience after obtaining the PhD Degree. The speakers were: Emma

W. Janco (Bim Kemi), Behrooz Sangchoolie (RISE), Thomas Petig (Qamcom AB), Nai-Xian Lu (Volvo Cars), Alberto Alamia (ÅF) and Naga Vishnu (Eriksson). The presentations took approximately one hour, followed by a light dinner, which gave the chance for mingle. About 95 PhD students joined. Room KE of the Kemi building was reserved for the presentations while the adjacent lounge area was used for dinner and mingle.

### DOMB

The Doctoral Student's Representative (DOMB) has been contracted by the board of DS to advise, support and/or represent doctoral students at Chalmers. In any situation the progression of the DOMB's actions, from remaining in the background to active intervention, is guided by the doctoral student. The DOMB is neutral with respect to the rules but acts in the interests of the doctoral student. The DOMB's communications with doctoral students and all case files are confidential.

The annual commitment in Year 3 of employment was consistent with Year 2. The DOMB annual report can be found here:

<https://www.dokt.chs.chalmers.se/documents/2019/02/annual-report-of-the-domb-2018.pdf/>

The contact person from DS for the DOMB has been the DS Chair Giulio Calcagno, whom has also been involved in several cases where the DOMB and DS has been pushing for changes together. The DOMB has also been invited for several meetings of Chalmers councils (like FUN) to report highlights of her work, in the frame of confidentiality. Three aspects have been particularly important:

- 1) A new area of concern is related to different aspects associated with a possible and unexpected, i.e., non-standard, end of the PhD position. With respect to these issues the DS Chair, the DOMB and the Vice President for graduate education had a long discussion and several recommendations have been made from the DOMB. Moreover, the DS Chair and Vice Chair have written an opinion concerning the "Guidelines for discontinuation of a doctoral student position" to the Head of Departments. The ROP reports that those guidelines should be followed as procedures, however we found that not to be the case.
- 2) The DOMB has also given several recommendations to the VP regarding inaccuracies in the rules of procedure.
- 3) By the end of 2019 the contract with Moyra will come to a conclusion. The DS Board has decided unanimously to renew the contract of Moyra for other two years starting from the first of December 2019. We believe that her efforts and knowledge are an incredibly valuable resource for DS and for Chalmers research education.

### Web page

This task involved updating and maintaining the DS webpage based on content supplied by other board members and occasionally the DOMB. This involved e.g. updating links, updating the website security, updating the process of obtaining the PhD student emailing list to include also non-student union associated PhD students.

This year the DS webserver migration to a new and fully independent setup was finalized, allowing for the addition of services such as DScloud, DSoffice, DSchat. Tomasz Kosinski and Anand Harihara were responsible for this task during the year.



### Newsletter

For the current year, Mursalin Sajib and Nitesh Raj Jaladurgam were responsible for the newsletter. The Newsletter is the platform for sharing information to all PhD students in Chalmers. It covers information from legalities, activities of various student councils, social activities. The contents of the newsletter were document with comments and approval from the Board members.

Three newsletters were published for last year, one in March 2018, one in October 2018, and another in March 2019.

Topics covered in March 2019 newsletter were

- CHARM Career Fair impression
- CHARM Chalmers PhD Alumni event
- DS movie
- Vacation, parental leave, changing contract to part-time and its implication on vacation supplement
- Interview with DS Chair Giulio Calcagno
- Interview with DS and Chalmers PhD Alumni Naga VishnuKanth Irukulapati
- Ended Elsevier deal, New health service PE3 (replaces FeelGood), Employee survey, Introduction day, GTS Courses etc.

Topics covered in October 2018 newsletter were

- Vacation rules
- Equality at Chalmers
- FeelGood and Doktor.se
- DS General Assembly
- Leadership program with gender focus for PhD students
- Introduction day, GTS courses, miscellaneous etc.

Topics covered in March 2018 newsletter were

- PhD survey reminder
- FeelGood and Doktor.se
- CHARM event impression
- DOMB Report 2016/2017
- Interview with DS Vice-Chair Anna Köhler
- New Vice President, Anders Palmqvist
- DS general assembly, Introduction day, GTS courses, miscellaneous etc.

All newsletters can be found in DS Website: <https://www.dokt.chs.chalmers.se/newsletters/>

### Introduction Day

DS representative during the 2018-2019 academic year was Sobhan Sepehri. There were two introduction days (mandatory GTS task for PhD students): November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Initiations have been taken to make grave changes in the introduction day and change its agenda. For the first time, DS got to open the introduction day and welcome the students to Chalmers. The DS time at the introduction day increased this year from 20 minutes to 30 minutes. Based on the agreements with the GTS, DS will take a much bigger role in the introduction day. DS delivers the content: (practical information on a must know basis which is requested by the PhDs)

- Rules of procedure
- Who is the boss
- When to do what
- Mandatory steps to take
- Accommodation
- Health care
- Spots in GBG to have fun/meet friends
- Information from the Handbook
- A PhD's rights and obligations

Some students came forward who had problem with their student registration and paying to the right Section of the student union. The issues were resolved by discussing with the student union.

### Social Activities

This year's representatives were Dan Li and Jiacheng Xia. The activity is meant to organize social events for both the DS board members only, to improve the cooperation of the board members with each other, as well as for all PhD students at Chalmers, to get more PhD students involved in the work of DS.

During the year 2018/2019 regular lunch meeting have been organized in addition to mingling event in the evening.

In addition, a workshop with the departmental local councils was organized. The workshop was very successful and consisted on two presentations followed by discussions. One presentation regarded the doctoral part of the self-evaluation report, while for the second the DOMB was invited to report her insights. We believe this workshop must be repeated yearly to keep a high level of interaction between DS and local councils.

### Election Committee

Anand H. S. Iyer, Carlo Negrato, and Anton Kersten were the representatives for the committee. The organization and the responsibilities of the committee are stated in the DS statutes. Article 2.7 of the statutes reads:

*"The nomination committee prepares elections of board members and auditor by nominating candidates for these positions. At the meeting, free nomination is applied. If multiple general assemblies are held within one year of activity, by-elections can be held until all positions are filled."*

The committee members started enquiring the current board members on whether they were interested in continuing as a board member for the next term. Depending on the responses, a chart was prepared highlighting the number of board members required for

the next term. According to the statutes, the board can have maximum 2 members from each department. There was a requirement to search for a new chair and vice-chair, which is typically more intensive. The committee started by asking the board members who were planning to continue for the next term whether they were interested in being chair or vice-chair. This is mainly because the chair and vice-chair hold more responsibilities and a knowledge of the working of DS would be very useful. Mursalin Sajib expressed his interest to be vice-chair. Ananda Subramani Kannan expressed his interest to be chair of the council. The committee received an interest for being chair from another candidate as well. Interviews were conducted for both the chair candidates separately and based on it, the committee decided to nominate Ananda Subramani Kannan. For the rest of the board members, the task of finding representatives were split between the three committee members, with each person handling the filling of 3 to 4 positions. The committee managed to find nominees for all the departments.

The general assembly was held on May 22nd 2019. The election committee started with the election of auditor, for which there was one nominee, Yixiao Wang. This was followed by the election of chair, vice-chair and other board members. In each of the above cases, the members of DS who were in the audience were asked if anyone was interested in nomination themselves. Since there were no other nominations from the audience, the members were asked to approve the nominees with a yes/no vote. All of the nominees suggested by the committee were thus elected to the DS board for the 2019-20 term.

### Local PhD student council reach out

DS representative during the 2018-2019 academic year was Jiacheng Xia. According to point 1.1 of the DS statutes, DS should "[...] provide a forum for contacts between doctoral students at Chalmers". We interpret this as both social activities (see the social activities committee), as well as facilitating excellent liaison between local PhD student councils of departments and the DS board. This is an activity which we call "local PhD student council coordinator". The goal of this activity is to provide a platform in its various forms for the PhD councils to exchange information while necessary, and at the same time to make DS's work more visible to them. Different departments have very different setups regarding the local PhD student council. Some departments do not have a local council yet, due to the department restructuring in 2017 (from 17 departments down to 12), while a few new councils are formed based on some newly founded departments. In general, the local councils should represent the PhD students of those departments and serve as a platform of regular meeting and useful information.

The main target in this activity period was to assimilate all the local Ph.D. council related data (web pages and contacts). This was done in order to solve two possible problems: first of all, it was not so easy to find these information when we needed to search for a specific local file, and secondly the structure and liaison between these local councils were not so clear. It was suggested that DS should try to start hosting the local councils on its own web platform. Now with the help of our IT group, we have successfully hosted most local councils and the goal is to continue the work in this direction, and if possible, in the near future our DS webpage could try to feature more social events and local council meetings as part of the work.

### Doctoral student portal

This year's representative: Raphaël Ferreira, from BIO. The Chalmers contact responsible for the Portal is: Sara Eriksson.

The Doctoral Portal gathers information about research education at Chalmers, as well as the services that facilitate your studies, e.g. a handbook, information about graduate courses and graduate schools and Generic and transferable skills training (GTS). There's also plenty of information for you that are not a doctoral student, but still engaged in doctoral studies in one form or another.

This year's tasks have been focusing on trying to implement several addons to the portal (and will, still, need to be negotiated in the following year(s)):

- Possibility to temporarily keep your email address after the contract
- Seamless access to master courses
- Possibility to generate a certificate for teaching
- Reminder for incoming exams (similar to what exist for master students)
- Provide feedback to courses
- Better information available on PhD Portal

### Electronic Study Plan, ESP

Upon request from FUN, a committee has been working with an electronic version of the individual study plan (ISP), harmonized for all PhD students. The platform would be called ESP, connected to the PhD student portal and to e.g. Ladok. A detailed proposal of the functions and the overall framework (for such a platform) had been put forward by the committee with a big part of the design developed by the DS Board of 2015/2016 (<https://chalmersuniversity.box.com/s/1kns6g2r4gtwklf0lacszroii32d6da3>)

Finally, in 2018 Chalmers centrally has decided to implement the ESP. In relation to this, the project manager (for the ESP) and the DS chair proposed the formation of an ESP committee, that would help in incorporating PhD student feedback at every stage of the implementation. This committee would be composed of one representative from each local council and will be chaired by a member from DS, who would be also an adjunct member of the ESP steering committee. Furthermore a PhD will be hired to be part of the ESP project development committee. A platform for PhD students, from PhD students!

## **Specific and new activities of the year 2017/2018**

### **Internal evaluation**

This is a working group under the Board of Research Education (FUN). Dan Li was the representative. Since 2008, the graduate schools at Chalmers should be evaluated every four years, hence Chalmers should have conducted the evaluation during 2016. However, during spring 2016 the Swedish Higher Education Authority (UKÄ) started a pilot run of evaluations, involving ten research educations in various fields (not at Chalmers). At this point, a new decision was made at Chalmers to postpone the 2016 internal evaluations until 2018 to incorporate possible experiences from the national pilot evaluations. During 2018, the graduate schools that are included in the contemporary ordinary national UKÄ evaluations are not included in Chalmers' internal evaluations.

The purpose of the evaluations of graduate schools at Chalmers are:

- To describe how the graduate schools, assure qualification of the national goals and the general study plan
- Contributing to the development of the research education's prerequisites, processes and results
- Examine how the research education is conducted in accordance to various policies
- Contributing to the continuous development of quality work in research education

The evaluation consists of three parts:

1. Self-evaluation
2. Collegial assessment
3. Follow-up

In 2018/2019 the self-evaluation process has been completed and a final self-evaluation report has been written and sent to UKÄ.

<https://chalmersuniversity.app.box.com/s/804k9wrdg8pv2qh94712h6t0cbq3hqpx>

### **PhD Survey**

For the year 2017/2018, a PhD specific survey was planned from the DS Chair of the year 2016/2017 (Linnea Qvirist) and the DS Chair of this year (Maria Ekström). This was initiated to catch important parts of the PhD employment, which are not covered by Chalmers employment survey, such as for example supervision, follow up of studies and teaching duties. The survey was drafted during the spring of 2017 and was sent out during the fall of 2017. The survey was drafted during the spring of 2017 and was sent out during the winter 2017/2018 to the PhD students (active in Ladok).

The results from the survey were analyzed in the year 2018/2019 by Anton Kersten, Julia Orlovska and Samar Hosseinzadegan. A presentation summarizing the results on a general level and respecting confidentiality has been produced and shared on the DS webpage.

## **Final remark**

*This report presents briefly the work performed by the DS board during the activity year of 2018/2019. While some activities and projects are mandatory for the board to perform, as defined by the frame work agreement from Chalmers, others are electable for the board. Each new year, the new board decides on a Plan of Operations document, which more specifically decides which activities to work on for that year. Some years it is not possible to perform all projects that we have, mainly due to time constraints and a tight budget for the working hours for DS.*

*Giulio Calcagno*

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DS Chair 2018/2019, Giulio Calcagno