

CPPC board meeting 2020-05-05

by Adriana Canales

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Participants to the meeting: Sara Nilsson, Adriana Canales, Mathias Hoppe and Nitesh Raj Jaladurgam.

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1 Opening

The meeting was opened by Sara. Adriana was made secretary.

2 Agenda

- **The current agenda was approved by the board.**

3 Follow up on previous meetings

- Last time we proposed trying *zoom fika* in our divisions. For some divisions it has worked better than others, but everyone is making an effort to improve communication in isolation times.
- **Nitesh** confirmed that the DS survey results will not be further analyzed, unless there is a specific issue to address. If that is the case, we can ask and they will share more information.

4 Summary of the Covid-19 survey

- 37 students answered the survey. Accounting for the $\approx 75\%$ of total current students. From which, 40% are 1st year students.
- 65% of the students consider their work is being delayed by the current situation.
- 68 % of the students can do all or most of their work from home. But, 50% of the students consider their efficiency is between 50-80% of their usual efficiency.
- On the bright side the supervision quality has not been very affected and almost everyone knows where to find guidelines regarding Covid-19
- An alarming issue is that 75% of the students consider that this situation could be affecting their mental health. Regarding this issue, Adriana mentioned a webinar, to be held in June, to target stress and sleep management during difficult times. As soon as more information is available **Adriana** will convey it for physics students to join it.
- We discussed the possibility of *extending contracts* due to COVID-19. The DS board is trying for Chalmers to accept such extensions on an institutional level, but we have not had news about that matter. **Sara** will ask Thomas how this could be addressed.
- For the moment, taken from the *Impact of COVID-19 on PhD students* document from the DS, the suggestion is for students to log on their ISP all the activities that could not take place due to the pandemia.
- **Sara** will ask Thomas about how they will handle the extensions. In the meantime, we will encourage students to discuss with their supervisors delays due to the situation. In extreme cases, a discussion with the study director and/or Thomas will be suggested.
- **Adriana** will make a presentation summarizing the main points of the COVID-19 survey to share with Thomas. She will also draft an email with the results to share with the PhDs.

5 Information from Lena

(i) Introduction day

- Lena suggested PhDs to give an introduction to their division and a short tour to their labs. A tour to the cleanroom and CMAL should also be included.
- We agreed on 1 hour per division being enough to summarize the work. Depending on the organization of the event, we suggest 2 or 3 half-days of visits (2 or 3 divisions per half-day). **Sara** will inform Lena about this decision and will ask her if we will get teaching hours for this.
- Depending on the size of the division, 2 or 3 PhDs will be required for a tour. **Each one of us** will organize the visits to their own division. **Nitesh** will coordinate the visit to CMAL. **Sara** will inform the Condensed matter and materials physics division about this so that they coordinate their visit.

- The next introduction day will take place next Autumn.

(ii) Routines for reporting credits

- Lena said it is up to the examiner in the end which courses to approve for the student. If the examiner changes his/her mind there is not much that can be done about it, regardless what is written in the ISP. The best suggestion for PhDs is to regularly check Ladok and make sure the promised courses are reported there.

6 Informing Thomas about the DS survey results

- We decided to share with him the presentation Sara has made about the survey attaching the highlights written in the minutes of the 02-04-20 CPPC meeting. We agreed on showing the DS and COVID-19 survey results at the same time. **Adriana** will send Sara the summary of the later.
- Due to the fact that females tend to respond lower in the *realtion to supervisor* and *openness and trust in the division/department*, **Sara** will ask Thomas about the gender group.
- Regarding the mental health issues, **Sara** will discuss with Thomas the possibility of offering a workshop given by Déborah Rupert during the next Department Day.

7 Other matters

- **GTS evaluation.** We agreed on sharing with the PhDs a summary of the GTS evaluation with a link to further information. **Nitesh** will draft an email for this.
- **DS survey results.** We decided not to share the results of the survey until they are available on the DS website. When they are ready we will share the link in an email.

8 Next meeting

The next CPPC meeting will be held on the 8th June, 13.00. It will be most probable, still online.