

# CPPC board meeting 2021-02-15

by Daniel Erkensten

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**Participants to the meeting** Adriana Canales, Mathias Hoppe, Daniel Erkensten, Andrea Fazi, Björn Lönn.

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## 1 Opening

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

## 2 Establish agenda

The proposed agenda was approved by the board.

## 3 Follow-up on previous meeting

- Genie Representative: We are happy to announce that we are one of the few departments who has got a Genie representative, Rebecka Rilemark.
- Teaching is still an issue. Students do not know what to teach next period. We agree that we should gain more knowledge on the situation and Adriana will contact Jakob directly on the issue, and then also Thomas.
- Covid response: The national DS board, SFS-DK, are currently having discussions with the government on possible extensions of the PhD contract due to the pandemic.
- PhD courses in Physics: the current format of the survey on PhD Physics courses could be slightly optimized. As of now it might be difficult and time-consuming to extract the data. Daniel will look into how to better structure the survey.

- Useful links and information: We have yet not assembled the document on information which could be useful for future PhD students.
- Social activities: Adriana proposes that seminars could be arranged where students can discuss random facts related to their research (or other fun topics). Another proposal concerns speed-dating using Gather Town. Andrea suggests that Gather Town can be used for several different activities at the same time. Adriana will continue discussing this with Matthew (head of FFF).

## 4 Update on Covid-19 survey

Andrea presents the results from the Covid-19 survey and compared those to the survey from April 2020. 47 students responded to the survey this year (compared to 42 students last year). The results were quite similar to last year, but this year more students feel that their mental health has been affected by the pandemic. In particular, students raised comments on possible extensions of the PhD contract, help on setting up a home office of good quality and questioned loose restrictions when it comes to lab supervision at campus.

Andrea has compiled a few elegant slides on the results of the survey which will be sent to Thomas and discussed further in a meeting with Adriana, Mathias and Thomas in March.

## 5 Highlights from DS meeting

- No CHARM for PhD students, but instead separate small-scale events are being organized (similar to the FFF Career Seminars).
- Genie group will be established once representatives have been found from all departments.
- Annual report from the DOMB<sup>1</sup>: supervision issues and work-related illness constitute the main reasons why the DOMB is being contacted. Adriana notes that there is a new committee at Chalmers level which aim to increase the quality of supervision and find ways to evaluate supervision, starting up in March.

## 6 Other matters

No other matters were brought up.

## 7 Next meeting

The next CPPC board meeting will be held on March 15th at 13:00 in Gather Town.

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<sup>1</sup>The DOMB (Doktorombud) is the Doctoral Student's Representative.