

Meeting minutes: DS Board Meeting #VT21-2, 2021-10-26

Time: 13.00 - 16.15

Place: Gamma, teams

§1. Election of meeting officials and approval of agenda

Chair – Elin

Secretary – Andri

Reviewer – Paul

The agenda of the board meeting was presented and approved by the board.

§2. Meeting notice

Decision: Meeting notice was in due order.

§3. Minutes from previous meeting

Decision: Minutes approved.

§4. State of the departments – round table

M2: The alien act is discussed, and a new prefect is being recruited.

Chemistry & Bio: One prolongation due to Covid, otherwise fine

MC2:

ACE: One BBQ organised, well received.

Computer Science and Engineering: New head of department, setting up buddy system.

Electrical Engineering: New phd council, system for new phds

Industrial and material sciences: 80% of phds outside EU, significant concern for new residence law.

No activities for phd students.

Mathematical Sciences:

Physics: Economy in balance over, back to normal. Publicly available extension info in intranet. New

buddy system: Get name and email of all new phds, contact during first week. When 3-4 new ones:

Find a buddy for them based on volunteers. Do info meeting + tour of department + afterwork.

SEE: Also trying to get a new system for new phds, will get inspiration from Physics and others!

TME: Looking for new head of department, hopefully new one in January. Planning of social activities, have had some afterwork and phd breakfast.

§5. Permanent residency

Decision last week from parliament not to exempt academics from 18 month work requirement. Expected, but sad. Information about this was going to go out to everyone, but the email list is down, will be out through departments soon. No residency decisions made after new law yet.

Suggestion to change to 12 months, but would maybe not help very much because very hard to time application exactly. Still much frustration about this, how can we help people who feel lost and frustrated in this situation? Inform about long term residency option. Refer to for example Elin, who has latest information. Could we start arguing for at least not having this law work retroactively, so that the people who were promised this when they moved here could get a permanent residency?

§6. DOMB recruitment update

Announcement out, 6-7 applicants, 3 interviews promising. Will be invited to campus for in person meeting and meeting with Moyra. All academics, background in phd studies and psychology, all good candidates. 3 different candidates, with different strengths. Not sure what to value in the final hire, what do we value in a DOMB? If you have any input on this let Elin or Chris or anyone else in the DOMB group know! You will get to know about the final candidate when it is clear!

§7. Event with strategic partners in IKT

Information out today. All in Swedish...

An event will be organized by the council together with the student union and styrkeområde IKT together with collaborating companies. "pre-pre-charm". Mingling event with companies planned, 3h with mingle, bring CV. Maybe more concrete career opportunities than Chalmers Alumni. The proposal was well received across the board, but we should make sure that DS does not put too much resources into helping companies, but since the detailed work will be performed by Chalmers promotion this should not be a problem in this case.

§8. Key topics from the committees and activities

- 1) **Accounting:** Not over budget yet. Everything fine so far. Remember to let Elin or Masoud know if you might go over budget in the number of hours you spend.
- 2) **PhD webinar:** Webinar well received from Student Union, this is something we should keep doing! Now longer time than last year to discuss, from feedback from last year. Info here: <https://www.dokt.chs.chalmers.se/navigate-academia-and-maximize-your-potential/> Deadline tomorrow!! Remind people you know and sign up if you are interested. Unfortunately not that many signed up, would be good to have more to justify cost of this webinar! Done more rarely or with varying content in the future to keep the seminar interesting?
- 3) **Introduction day:** Might not be mandatory in future. Current version is too long, and often comes too late. But the DS part of the intro day has been valued by participants, and also seeing the DOMB and having a chance to meet other phd students and ask questions. Possibility to have a shorter intro day with just this? 1 credit? Mandatory? Through HR? Andri will discuss with head of GTS.
- 4) **FUN:** Mostly occupied with GTS discussion, see under §10
- 5) **AJK:** Work environment and equality committee to be restructured, in place beginning of 2022, more info soon. Discussion of employment survey: EIB nor pandemic seem to have much impact, but pandemic big impact on students.
- 6) **SACO:** Working with aliens act. Also working with rules of procedure requirements discrepancies. Considering requirements of supervisors to have done a good job to continue supervising. Document for review. Adriana: Is there any follow up/checking of performance of professors? Meeting to discuss what is good supervision, initiated last year, continue now soon? Wheel of supervision used in supervisor of the year.
- 7) **Chalmers AB board:**
- 8) **Forskningsnämnden (FN)**
- 9) **Faculty council**
- 10) **Social activities/ PhD student outreach:** Now possible to do indoors social events for many people! What should we do?? If anyone has input and want to help organise, let Andri know!! Board game night? Sittning (dinner with swedish drinking songs)? Anna & Daniel has info! Alternating dinner parties?
- 11) **Chalmers research foundation:** Deadline last friday, will review submissions next week and make decisions on distribution of funds.

- 12) CHARM:** Live event + digital. We are registered and can decide what to do. DS will have a booth where we try to have one phd student from every department to stand there and talk about how it is to be a phd student at chalmers. Promote doing a phd at Chalmers to undergraduate students. All DS board members expected to volunteer :) 8th-9th of february. CHARMtech, preCHARM not participating this year.
- 13) PhD alumni event:** Usually friday before CHARM, fex 4th of Feb? But up to group, decisions to be made.
- 14) Media communication:** Newsletter being discussed, first draft within 2 weeks sent to DS board, possibility for feedback. Then probably will be sent out by end of November.
- 15) DS IT support and webpage:** troubles with IT, email list down right now. Not so good documentation, hard to contact previous people. Would be easier to have this sorted by Chalmers IT but we need DOMB things to be independent. Phd handbook by SFS-DK (<https://phdhandbook.se/>) to be linked on DS website!
- 16) FUM – Student union board**
- 17) ESP:** Last few development sprints coming up. Still no functioning ESP, people are unable to log in! Those who are able to test it really like it. Omkar not very hopeful. No funding after December! Funded together with external web. The work on this has come far and we should put pressure on Chalmers to finish it!
- 18) Institutional council:** Nothing to report now.
- 19) Local PhD council coordinator:** Discussion on good supervision, how to measure.
- 20) Chalmers ethics committee**
- 21) PhD survey:** Good hand over from Jannik. Started to work on this. Also checking with KTH and employee survey at Chalmers.
- 22) Nomination committee:** Will decide when we will start.
- 23) Supervisor of the year:** Call out mid-November.
- 24) Focus group equality**
- 25) Climate strategy:**

§9. Positions to fill

§10. GTS – decision and statement

See attachments. In Swedish.. A decision has been made in FUN on a new GTS structure to be implemented fall 2022. Details were given to the board on the content, but more details will be sent out when the full decision has been made. We are concerned by some of the implications and will monitor the issue carefully.

The latest release of seat in GTS courses was not done in a decent manner. Very bad how registration is opened and that seats are filled, without the opening being properly announced and the courses opening at different times throughout the day. Very difficult to plan. This needs to be solved! But this is a separate issue to the new GTS package. Needs to be pushed for with GTS when we talk to them.

§11. Other matters

SFS-DK: Anything Chris should bring to the meeting?

They will talk about: Internationalization, Career paths and Academic freedom and research integrity. Let Chris know if you have input by answering his email!

DS AW every second Thursday? This Thursday. Maybe alternate days?

Communication: DSchat not ideal. Poll will be sent on what works best.

Issues with booking places in Student Union building.

Master thesis supervision, how are phds reimbursed in time for this? Varying. Needs to be looked into. The local PhD council coordinators are asked to take care of it.

§12. Actions for next meeting

See committees and activities above.

§13. Closing of the meeting

Meeting closed at 16:15.

X *Elin Malmgren*

Chair
Elin Malmgren

X *Andri Spilker*

Secretary
Andri Spilker

X *Paul Imgart*

Reviewer
Paul Imgart