

MC2 PhD council minutes - 2022/04/04

Time: 12h00 - 13h00

Place: C511 (hbar)

Present: Ariadna Soro Álvarez, Martí Gutierrez Latorre, Hanna Linn, Joey Frey, Nermin Trnjanin, Ivo Cools, Junjie Li

1. Election of meeting officials

- Chair: Ariadna Soro Álvarez
- Secretary: Ariadna Soro Álvarez
- Adopt the minutes: Ivo Cools

2. Approval of the agenda: Yes

3. Meeting notice in due order: Yes

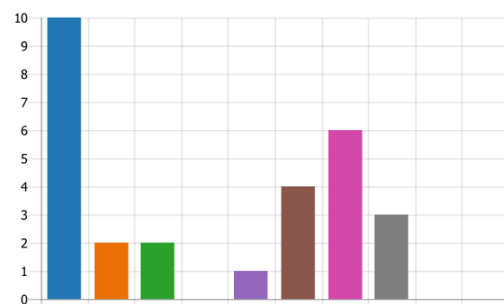
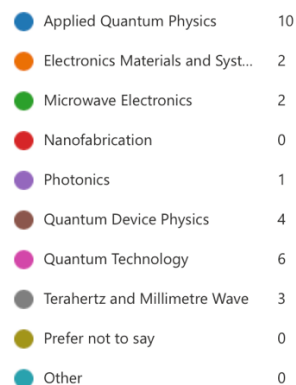
4. Updates from boards and committees

- The executive board (Ledningsgruppen, LG) – Martí
 - MC2 teaching should be 20-25%, but creating new courses is expensive, so none will be created. This means MC2 needs to take on teaching from other departments. MC2 will have yet another meeting with Chalmers Central to discuss how to redistribute this. This percentage applies mostly to undergraduate courses, which have a lot of students and few lecturers. Master's courses have few students and therefore are very expensive.
 - The Electronic Study Plan will be implemented for real after summer.
 - The Innovation and Ventures Office wants to meet with all PhD students and hold an information meeting.
 - The administrator in Floor 6 is retiring. We don't know who will replace them.
 - MC2 wants to move from specific recruitment calls to general calls. This will hopefully improve diversity and excellence of candidates.
 - The satellite at the entrance of MC2 will be taken out. Maybe some old dilution refrigerator will replace it.
- The department's advisory board (Institutionsrådet) – Nermin
 - SSF will grant Ukrainian researchers funding opportunities.
 - Chalmers has cancelled (or is in the process of cancelling) all collaborations with Russian and Belarussian organizations.

- There will be a fixed number of tenure track positions to enforce the pyramid model. The rector says this will help Chalmers place better in the rankings.
 - New 15-year budget comes into place for Cleanroom.
 - MC2 has 20% more personnel, so new offices are being built. The terraces on the B side might be converted to lounge space, which could replace the kitchens.
 - Café Canyon might turn into microwave/lunch space, to attract undergraduate students. They will not sell food, to not compete with Bra Nyfiken and Wijkanders.
 - Discussions on how to hire qualified women for higher positions.
 - [Camp Vera](#), an outreach initiative to recruit undergraduate female and non-binary students, is not working so well for MC2.
 - EU Chips Act: programme to invest in the semiconductor industry to fight the semiconductor shortage. MC2 is taking a strategy towards more semiconductor-focused topics, through courses and liaisons with industry and the government.
 - New female professor starting in May (Genie position).
- Chalmers PhD student Guild (Doktorandsektionen, DS) – Ariadna
 - For the academic year 22/23, Yin is stepping down as MC2 representative and Ariadna will continue. Therefore, the DS is looking for a new member from MC2. Joey is considering joining. The next member will be appointed at the next DS General Assembly, on May 5th.
 - CHARM is taking over the Student Union building on April 5th and 6th. Hanna Linn and Timo Hillmann from AQP will be representing MC2.
 - The PhD survey has closed with a low answering rate of 34%. 319 answers were received, compared to 468 answers in 2020. The MC2 answering rate is slightly higher than average, with 28 answers. Those are distributed between the divisions according to the plot below:

8. Which division do you belong to?

[More Details](#)



- Other information has been sent out in the DS Newsletter, like the PhD Alumni Event, which will take place on April 13th.
- The association of graduate students in Physics (Föreningen för Forskarstuderande i Fysik, FFF) – Junjie
 - FFF will take the following structure next year: 4 members of FFF in 4 departments (Chalmers MC2, F and SEE, and GU Physics). GU Physics still needs to solve their issue with having no budget for an FFF member. MC2 will take the biggest workload by having the FFF treasurer. FFF will hold 2 general assemblies before summer (May 2nd, June 3rd) to approve the changes in structure –emails will be sent out.

5. Other issues

- Job portal
 - We decide to forward all job offers to Susannah Carlson, who will publish them in the newsletter.
- MC2 equality group (JÄGR)
 - JÄGR has now statues which will be approved on April 6th.
 - In April 6th, JÄGR MC2 will meet with the equality councils at SEE and Physics to define a common strategy. Among the discussion topics will be how to recruit more female high-schoolers as undergrads.
- PI Data collection
 - Needs to be done by our next meeting, so we can discuss what to do with the data before Department Day.
- Dr Genie
 - There was a nation-wide study on sexual harassment in academia and the data has been made available to Genie. We are discussing which conclusions to draw from the data and which actions should we take. A report will be available soon and sent out to everyone.

6. Next meeting: May 9th at 12h00.

7. Closing of the meeting: 13h20