

# MC2 PhD council minutes - 2022/05/09

**Time:** 12h00 - 13h00

**Place:** A504

**Present:** Martí Gutierrez Latorre, Ivo Cools, Ariadna Soro Álvarez, Junjie Li, Hanna Linn, Nermin Trnjanin, Joey Frey, Ragnar Ferrand-Drake del Castillo, Azega Rajendra Babu Kalai Arasi, Israel Rebolledo Salgado

## 1. Election of meeting officials

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

## 2. Approval of the agenda: Yes

**3. Meeting notice in due order:** No. It was decided in the previous meeting, but Ariadna forgot to send the invite and the agenda.

## 4. Updates from boards and committees

- The executive board (Ledningsgruppen, LG) – Martí
  - CHAIR AI (7 year) initiative starting and looking for collaborations in MC2. Quantum computing and Materials areas seem likely.
  - E-commons initiative is going to centralize access and usage of electronics resources, storage, and data management. A GTS course is proposed to teach PhD students how to use the new system.
  - Results from the country-wide survey on harassment in academia have been discussed and are very worrisome. Discussions on finding out the origin and measures are ongoing.
- The department's advisory board (Institutionsrådet) – Nermin
  - No updates.
- Chalmers PhD student Guild (Doktorandsektionen, DS) – Ariadna
  - Student Union is starting a health clinic (Vårdcentral), with services tailored to Chalmers' students and employees. Primary focus on mental health issues. Might be up and running in December.
    - \* The student union pays for the project up-front and eventually it will be co-founded by Chalmers kommun.
  - Open discussions with the DOMB. From the PhD survey we know that about 30% people don't know about the DOMB or don't know what the DOMB can do for them. So the DOMB can host some workshops

or fika/lunch where students can get informed. Would you like to organize this together with Physics? Or for introduction day? Ideas?

- \* Tell Magnus to include DOMB at the introduction day for new PhD students.
- \* Ask DOMB to participate in the MC2 coffee and introduction for PhD students.
- If you don't get emails from the Doktorander\_vt22 list, check that your email on Ladok is correct.
  - \* Ask around in the divisions if PhD students are receiving emails from DS.
- We reopened the PhD survey for those departments with very low answering rate (~20%): IMS, E2, K, SEE.
- The association of graduate students in Physics (Föreningen för Forskarstuderande i Fysik, FFF) – Junjie
  - General assembly was well attended (20 participants), next assembly will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June.
  - Important documentation will be translated to English.

## 5. Other issues

- Department Day: unsure whether it will happen this semester. Might be in September after all.
  - People are needed to organize activities for the department day. We can apply to GENIE for money to fund this.
  - We would like Paul Walton to join.
- MC2 equality group (JÄGR)
  - We met with the equality groups at SEE and Physics, and a lot of ideas came out of that. Let's hope some will be implemented.
  - We met with the MC2 leadership group to define the MC2 strategy for the future. We talked with Paul Walton (University of York, Genie) and he showed why striving for gender balance and striving for excellence go together. The main initiatives that will be implemented are 1) general calls (contrary to specific recruitments), and 2) an external survey about the culture in gender equality at MC2.
- Dr Genie
  - The GENIE committees from different departments have met and there have been many ideas for activities, such as:
    - \* Having an observer (uninvolved member of the faculty) for recruitment
    - \* Having general calls for PhD recruitment
    - \* Getting an external entity to study the department culture and report on it
  - We are meeting on May 13 to decide what Dr Genie should do. Ideas?

- \* Check with DOMB
- \* HR exercises on harassment were organised by HR and done during pandemic times, but there was no follow-up
- \* Fika with an invited speaker!
- The council can apply FFF for funding of PhD activities such as:
  - Breakfast
  - Fika
  - Lunch at Wijkanders or CanyonThis is to be done as soon as possible, to be ahead of other divisions in getting funding
- PI Data collection: have we finished?
  - Hanna will make some charts to correlate nationality and gender of supervisor with those of their PhD students

## **6. Next meeting:**

8<sup>th</sup> of June 12:00

## **7. Closing of the meeting**