

MC2 PhD council minutes - 2022/12/14

Time: 12h00 - 13h30

Place: B618

Present: Hanna Linn, Martí Gutierrez Latorre, Nermin Trnjanin, Vittorio Buccheri, Ragnar Ferrand-Drake del Castillo, Ariadna Soro Álvarez, Núria Alcalde Herraiz, Joey Frey, Erik Strandberg

Election of meeting officials

- Chair: Ariadna Soro Álvarez
- Secretary: Martí Gutierrez
- Adopt the minutes: Joey Frey

2. **Approval of the agenda:** Yes

3. **Meeting notice in due order:** Yes

4. **Updates from boards and committees**

- The executive board (Ledningsgruppen, LG) – Hanna

– Cleanroom:

- * Background: The flat rate for the cleanroom users is cancelled. Removing the flat rate negatively affects small projects and education in the cleanroom, i.e. master and bachelor (and even PhD) education .
- * The conclusion on the matter is that there are solid reasons why the billing is changing: the pay by the hour is kind of the same in the two billing systems and some people are abusing the system right now. The new system is fairer, you pay for the hours you use. Some groups pay more than they should while other groups don't pay for a LOT of hours that they use. MyFab doesn't get paid for time spent by some groups, but there is an argumentation that the new system really benefits MyFab. Also, they blame the supervisors. It's kind of like the old system made sure some supervisors could abuse the system and now that the system has changed the master students and PhDs get the wrath of bad supervisors that the old system kind of buffered for. Chalmers pays a lot of money for parts of the clean room and in that money, education should be contained, but there is nothing to make sure that it actually goes to education. The end of the discussion was that the manager of the Nanofabrication Laboratory, Peter Modh, is willing to discuss a new model so that it fits everybody's wants and needs. For example, the master students get a heavily discounted rate. He suggested a meeting about it and offered to come to the student

council to discuss it. Hanna suggests a meeting not at the student council, but outside other types of meetings, where we discuss this matter and push for lower rates for master and PhD students (more details on who will attend this extraordinary meeting below, in “Actions to take by next meeting”).

- The ministry of defense demands that any material that could be used for military purposes has to be reported to heads of division non-electronically to leave no trace of the communication.
- The department’s advisory board (Institutionsrådet) – Nermin
 - No update.
- Chalmers PhD student Guild (Doktorandsektionen, DS) – Ariadna
 - There a focus group on the results of the sexual harassment study. The first action they have taken is to spread out flyers around Chalmers wishing people “Happy and safe holidays” and explaining the “safe” part with highlights from the harassment study. There were also links to Safe at Chalmers and to the harassment study.
 - ESP has been delayed again until the new Chalmers webpage is completed.
 - DS helped with the organization of the protest against the Iranian regime on November 30th.
- The association of graduate students in Physics (Föreningen för Forskarstuderande i Fysik, FFF) – Junjie
 - No update.
- Equality group (Jämställdhetsgruppen, Jägr) – Ariadna
 - Ariadna is meeting with other PhD students in Physics, also involved in equality groups/DS/Dr Genie, to kickstart a series of workshops in civility, bystander action, harassment/bullying, etc.
 - Working on a better code of conduct for MC2.
 - There is a meeting with Paul Walton on Friday.
- Dr Genie – Azega
 - No update.

5. Other issues

- Teaching – Hanna, Erik
 - Erik has provided the teaching activities summary from the Photonics division. This together with the one we have from E2 gives us a reference on how to build a more transparent system.

- Ariadna will schedule a meeting in January for the PhD student council with Per Rudquist, Tomas Löfwander, Peter Andrekson and whoever else is responsible for teaching.
- Alumni network – Nermin, Ariadna
 - Nermin made a list of people who have published their thesis at MC2. Let us contact them and start building a network. Ariadna wrote a sample email that can be found in Box.
 - Photonics has a list of alumni that Åsa gathers. Erik will merge it with the MC2-wide network we are building.
 - By next meeting, everyone at the PhD Council should have contacted at least two alumni from the list.
- Course list – Martí
 - Everyone should send courses and summer schools they have done for Martí to collect. Once the list starts to take shape, we will publish it on the website/intranet.
- Visa reimbursement – Joey
 - Visa for living in Sweden count as a living cost and will not be reimbursed by the department.
- Ariadna and others at MC2 (Magnus Karlsson, Göran Johansson, Per Lundgren, Deborah Perlheden) met with the meeting with Charlotte Wiberg, First Vice President and Deputy CEO of Chalmers. She has overall responsibility for postgraduate education, so she asked questions about the logistics of the department and grad school. Ariadna raised the issue from the PhD survey that >80% MC2 PhD students are dissatisfied with the graduate course offer. In the end, it was deemed not a big problem and that it falls in our competence as PhD students to find/create courses that are relevant for our education.
- Ragnar will take a lead in reopening a graduate course in microfabrication. Step 1: find 7 PhD students interested in taking the course. Step 2: find a professor willing to be the course examiner. Step 3: approach Peter Modh.

6. Actions to take by next meeting:

- Hanna, Núria: set up a meeting about the cleanroom fares with Peter Modh (NFL), Dag Winkler (QDP), PhD students that have been doing fab for years— Ivo Cools (QDP) and Adriana Canales (Physics)—, affected PIs—Saroj, Samuel, Floriana, Timur (Physics)—, and maybe cleanroom engineers.

- Hanna: bring up at the next LG meeting to convert Canyon to a student kitchen. If they want ideas on how to turn it into a student-friendly area, we can discuss further (e.g., offer tutoring, coffee, etc.).
- Ariadna
 - set up a meeting with Per Rudquist, Peter Andrekson, Tomas Löfwander and the other guy about allocation of teaching duties.
 - Contact Adriana Canales Ramos and get Physics to join the cleanroom fare fight.
- Ragnar: send email to all MC2 PhD students about the microfab course.
- Erik: get the alumni list form Åsa.
- All: contact at least 2 people for the alumni network.

7. **Next meeting:** 25th January, 11h30, Room B618.

8. **Closing of the meeting:** 13:44