

# MC2 PhD council minutes - 2023/05/30

**Time:** 11h30 - 13h00

**Place:** B520

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

## Election of meeting officials

- Chair: Ariadna Soro Álvarez
- Secretary: Núria Alcalde-Herraiz
- Adopt the minutes: Ragnar

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

3. **Meeting notice in due order:** No

## 4. Updates from boards and committees

- The executive board (Ledningsgruppen, LG) – Hanna
  - FUN will clarify what Departmental Duties are in the Rules of Procedure (e.g., is it teaching or taking care of department material?). They will also clarify whether industrial PhD students need to teach.
  - There will be new two director of studies apart from Per Lundgren and there is going to be a committee to decide who will take those positions. Hanna will be part of the committee.
  - Department day 8<sup>th</sup> November at Svenska Mässan about the MC2 20 year strategy.
  - Due to the Chips Act, there may be more courses in chip technology at the bachelor and master level.
  - New HR partner starting after Summer (Helena, the current HR partner is working part time).
- The department's advisory board (Institutionsrådet) – Nermin
  - Department restructuring was talked about.
  - Ongoing discussions by computer science due to Lars Svensson joining MC2, which will increase the teaching of MC2
  - Work towards working in equality.
  - MC2 wants more researchers teaching.
  - Number of PhD students on physics should increase as the ratio per employee is much less than the ones of other Swedish universities which will generate more papers.

- Chalmers to become the first choice to new students at least in the Nordics.
  - MC2 needs to continue producing great press to showcase good science.
  - MC2 gets money for research and education so every PI gets 40% of their salary from it.
  - Senior faculty should also have some continuation funding.
  - There will be a quantum computing testbed: free access to quantum computer for external users.
  - Cleanroom is struggling with cost of energy, consumables and investments – electricity price has doubled in the last 2 years –, but they won't change the rates for now.
  - Insights to MIT where PIs work much more together, why is not happening at Chalmers?
  - The new president will be announced soon.
  - Comparison between Aalto and MC2 were they working model is different from here, MC2 is more open.
  - Next meeting will be together with the management group.
- Chalmers PhD student Guild (Doktorandsektionen, DS) – Ariadna
    - Idea to reinforce support for visas for conferences, maybe ISMO takes care of it.
    - Evaluation of every graduate school every 6 years, there will be someone employed to ensure the quality of the research education. The PhD council will have an opportunity to give their insight.
    - Bystander workshop paid by Genie, 4 hours including lunch, very practical. 17 spots for members of Dr Genie, DS board and PhD councils first, and then for all PhD students. If successful, it'll be organized again.
    - Employee survey team is starting to design the new survey and they want input from DS, Genie, etc. Timeline is moved from September to April.
- The association of graduate students in Physics (Föreningen för Forskarstuderande i Fysik, FFF) – Junjie
    - Joined introduction day happening today (30<sup>th</sup> May) with all new PhDs students who joined since last summer. Then, afterwork at Pripps with all PhDs.
- Equality group (Jämställdhetsgruppen, Jägr) – Ariadna
    - Charlotte Wiberg has asked for a report on what each department is doing about the prevalence study.

– Regarding workshops, three possible candidates have been interviewed.

- Dr Genie – Azega
  - No updates.

## 5. Other issues

- Alumni network – Nermin, Ariadna
  - Ariadna got a list of alumni from AQP's head of division.
  - Let's start a LinkedIn group and invite the alumni we have. It needs to be unofficial and not have Chalmers name. Ragnar takes care of it.
- Course list – Núria Alcalde Herraiz
  - Has Ariadna uploaded it on website.
  - Ariadna will modify the file to include that we can get credits on the Swedish courses from Grow Internationals at Chalmers/GU and include the Track courses in the list.
- Teaching duties allocation
  - QT information should be updated.
  - TML and Photonics are joined together.
  - Updated to partial Swedish speakers options.
  - Goal is to upload the list before summer.
- Facebook group for newcomers – Ariadna
  - A network for newcomers to MC2 would be helpful to get them a place to stay for the first days they arrive at Chalmers before moving to their apartments, help them pick up keys, give advice, etc. We aim to create a Facebook group do so, Erik will take care of it. Linda Brånell could assist us in providing background checks for those who want to join the group.
- Replacements for next council
  - Chair: Ariadna steps down as chair but plans to stay as representative of her laboratory. No one wants to step in as chair.
  - Jägr: Ariadna plans to step down, Erik steps in.
  - Executive board: Hanna stays
  - Advisory board: Nermin stays
  - Members:
    - \* Vittorio and Núria are both thinking on stepping down, it has already been pitched to the PhD students in their laboratory.

- \* Everyone else (except Azega & Junjie, who were not present) plans on staying.
  - \* It'd be nice to get a second representative for QT.
- Sick leave info flyers
    - Ariadna talked to Magnus and Per Lundgren to change the ISP and add a box to specify on the added days of PhD for sick leave.
    - Flyers on info: bully, harassment, sick leave additional days... Ragnar & Ariadna will take care of them.
  - Microfab course – Ragnar
    - Ragnar, Nermin, Vittorio and Núria had a meeting to decide what to pitch to August as a course. August wanted a course where PhD students already knew they whereabouts around the cleanroom, however we aim for a course for new PhD students. A proposal in that direction was sketched.
    - Alternative: let's meet with Magnus to see if there's a more informal way to get credits, e.g., project-based individual course where one writes a report on the process they learned.
  - Cleanroom fares – Hanna/Núria
    - No updates.

#### **6. Actions to take by next meeting:**

- Ragnar launches a LinkedIn-group for MC2 alumni network.
- Ragnar arranges a meeting with Magnus regarding Microfab credits.
- Ariadna & Ragnar will distribute employee info-flyers.
- Joey will add the departmental duties from QT, deadline before next meeting!
- Ragnar and Erik will re-arrange the departmental duties from MEL and Photonics. Deadline before next meeting!
- Ariadna updates course list.

**7. Next meeting:** Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> of June at 12h.

**8. Closing of the meeting:** 13h16