Participants: Jesper Norell (PhD, Fysikum), Rebecka Töyrä (Student, Geo), Carmine Pasquale Cerrato (PhD, Neurochemistry), Abraham Kumsa (PhD, MND), Lisa Österling (PhD, MND), Cristiana Margarita (PhD, Org. chemistry), Johan Enqvist (PhD, SRC), Efthathios Reppas-Chrysovitsinos (PhD, ACES), Andrea Serio (PhD, Math), Johan Larsson (Student, Biology), Yuan Guo (PhD, MBW).

Protocol – Science Faculty Council
17/10 2016 at 16.30 in Rosa rummet

1. Opening of the meeting
   Jesper opened the meeting at 16:30.

2. Round of presentation
   The participants briefly introduced themselves.

3. Election of chairperson:
   Jesper Norell was elected.

4. Election of secretary:
   Sebastian Östlund was elected.

5. Election of adjustor:
   Yuan Guo was elected.

6. Approval of agenda:
   The agenda is approved with an additional two points (8: PhD-Student Ombudsman (David Rynell Åhlén), and 9: Science Slam (Information)).

7. Approval of last meeting’s protocol:
   The last meeting’s protocol is approved unilaterally.

8. PhD-Student Ombudsman (David Rynell Åhlén):
   David Rynell Åhlén introduces himself and relays the information that he is the new PhD-Student Ombudsman. If there are any questions concerning PhD representation they can be directed to David. He mentions the Student Union’s new website: www.sus.su.se, where David’s contact information can be found (e-mail: david.rynell.ahlén@sus.su.se, telephone: 08-674 62 57). Starting from today (2016-
10-17) it is possible to register PhD Councils, and their contact details. Hopefully, David Rynell states, this will lead to a collection of the PhD Councils at the university. This would give PhD councils the ability to connect with one another.

For now, PhD Councils can register, but it is not compulsory to do so. If registered, however, financial allowances can be given by the Stockholm University Student Union. PhD Councils are therefore incentivized to register themselves with the Student Union. Upon being asked, David furthermore mentions that he is going to cover this position as a PhD Ombudsman for at least two years.


"Naturvetenskapliga Föreningen would like to invite the researchers and students of your department to this year’s Science Slam which will take place on November 9.

Stockholm University Science Slam is a competition in entertaining science presentation where researchers and students from Stockholm University will present their own research in 5 minutes in front of a non-expert audience. The event takes place in a very informal pub environment starting at 17.00 were speakers can eat, drink and mingle before and after the talks, the evening ends with the audience voting on their favorite talk and ultimately a winner will be crowned.

Last year this was a very well visited and appreciated event and hopefully there is the same amount of interest this year! We would be very happy if you could spread this information at your department, everyone conducting research (from Master’s level and upwards) are welcome to participate.

Application to the competition is done to this email (info@nf.su.se) no later than October 31, there is a limited number of open spots and we aim to have speakers from all fields of Science. Please send your name, department, position and title of your talk.

Everyone is of course welcome to attend even if you do not present, you can find the event on Facebook here: https://www.facebook.com/events/1617170511915517/
We hope to see you all at Greens villa at November 9!"

10. Concerning NFR-representation
   a) Nominated since last meeting: none.
   b) Suggestions for positions: See point 14.

11. Reports from advisory committees

   • Faculty Board:
     The Faculty Board meeting started off fairly uncontroversially, Sebastian Östlund states, and it continued in the same manner up to a point. When the branch library situation was discussed, the opinions differed quite a bit within the board. A decision was made by the faculty board to delegate the responsibility of summarizing the board’s discussions during the meeting to Anders Karlhede. Moreover, rental costs for departments was brought up again, only to have any formal decisions regarding the question postponed.

   • Arbetsutskottet (AU)
     Rebecka Töyrä reports that the library situation was discussed briefly again, but that it was just mentioned in passing. AU relays that for those who have completed their PhD studies, the KPU (complimentary pedagogical education) process has begun. Moreover, a quality assurance system is being developed for the entire university. More information is to come. Arbetsutskottet (AU) talked a lot about the bachelor and master in nutrition. Stockholm University (SU) has the master’s in nutrition, but SU wants Karolinska Institutet (KI) to take over the master’s program. KI is not responding to this, however. As long as SU has the master’s degree, KI will not have their own, it seems. AU said that maybe they should have a final date for the master’s program at SU, so as to pressure KI to make up their mind.

   • Grundutbildningsberedningen:
     Sebastian Östlund reports that digital examinations was briefly discussed. The topic was broached in order to gauge the views on this by the members of Grundutbildningsberedningen. Aside from the usual treatments of course plans and the like, the faculty’s strategy was mentioned again. A workgroup has been established in order to treat it more properly. One student
representative is part of this group and is in on-going contact with Sebastian regarding the work that they do.

- **Department committees**
  - Nothing to report.

- **Central PhD-council**
  - Nothing to report.

- **Central Student Council**
  - Nothing to report

- **Student Union**
  - Nothing to report.

- **Jämlikhetsnätverket**
  - Nothing to report.

- **Studiemiljönätverket**
  - Nothing to report.

- **Others**
  Sektionsberedningen (Geo, Rebecka Töyrä): The library situation and departmental rental costs was also taken up in this group.

  Lärarförslagsnämnden (Geomiljö): Procedures of hiring assistant professors is being looked at. The next step is to have some open lectures from candidates. This will take place on the 10th of November.

12. **Information from student- and PhD-councils.**
Efsthatios asks for input on the following matter: The merging of two departments into one, namely ITM and parts of MMK were fused to form the department ACES. Efsthatios has witnessed a serious lack of representation from parts of the new organization. Some of the PhD Students feel isolated (mainly from MMK). This reorganization may not have been conducted in an uncontroversial way. This point
is a sort of follow-up (Jesper notes). Analytically chemistry related PhD Students may be excluded (or only reluctantly included) in relevant groups, Efstathios argues. Now that the two departments is one unit (ACES) some groups are not as well integrated. Perhaps this stems from a problem with communication? The council suggests that they keep being welcoming, remain open to discuss issues, and that they remain inclusive.

Jesper Norell suggests that senior staff might be of help in this case. If they want to lead a strong unit, they (senior staff) should have an interest this matter.

Furthermore, Efstathios wonders how heads of departments are appointed. There should be some amount of regulation. What, though? Sebastian takes it upon himself to investigate this manner and report back to the Science Faculty Council.

Org. chemistry PhD council: The bike shelter question has been turned into a petition, Cristiana reports. They need suggestions from the council regarding how to spread it. Should there be an official petition? Something online? Org. Chem. PhD Council has collected names from their department. Sebastian is going to ask Akademiska Hus or a relevant contact person how they can move forward with this process. Cristiana needs suggestions: Should we get a single document from each council and collate them? Or should it be an open petition online? The Science Faculty Council argues that it should not be an open online petition since it might appear unofficial. Instead a regular (paper) version could be distributed to the relevant departments. Maybe details about its location should be ignored, and the need or wish for one just expressed alone (without a suggestion as to its location).

13. Prior to the Faculty Board meeting
Åsa Borin, Sebastian Östlund and Jesper Norell met prior to the faculty board meeting. One main point of discussion regards the departments of neurochemistry, and NADA (the department for numerical analysis and computer science). The department of neurochemistry is considered too small financially (30 mln SEK/year) to be its own department. Perhaps a merging is on the horizon. Input from NFR is requested. Carmine states that he wants to be part of this investigation that is to be launched by SU. What NFR needs to do at this point is to urge the faculty board to include students and PhD-students in the deliberations regarding
this matter. NADA is a shared department between SU and the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH). There is a small minority of SU staff incorporated into KTH. Now it is being evaluated whether this cooperation is to continue. It looks like the part of NADA that belongs to SU is to be included within the maths department or physics department instead.

Forskarskola för gymnasieelever: PhD students can take in highschool students and have research projects together. This project will be funded by the faculty.

Naturvetenskapliga föreningen (NF) has had serious problems since Akademiska hus raised their rent. The faculty will cover the additional costs for the rent (approximately the difference from 500k SEK to 800k SEK) for NF.

14. Discussion topics

- **The Branch Library Situation:**
  - What happens when the responsibility falls on specific departments? This is highlighted by the Student Union.
  - The central financing for the library activity is withdrawn. The faculty board says that study places is a central issue for the university to take responsibility for, however.

- **Preparatory Remarks Regarding the Available Positions at the Science Faculty Council and the Advisory Committees. (Election is to be held on December 5th.)**
  - The next meeting people will be elected to the faculty council and advisory committees.
  - *All of the positions* (of a student representational kind) within the faculty will be open once more. Any position can be nominated by anyone. Having one position this year does not mean that you automatically keep it next year. You need to nominate (and are very welcome to do so) yourself during or prior to the meeting held on the 5th of December.
  - Sebastian will have the main responsibility of making a document with all the positions that are available for the election that is to be sent out with the minutes from this meeting (2016-10-17).

15. Dates for future NFR-meetings

5/12-16 at 16:30-20:00, Kårsalen bakre
16. Other questions
   None.

17. Meeting closed: Jesper Norell closed the meeting at 18:05.

X
Jesper Norell
Chair

X
Sebastian Östlund
Secretary

X
Yuan Guo
Adjustor