Protocol – Science Faculty Council
26th of March 2017 at 16.30 in Kårsalen, Studenthuset

Opening of the meeting
Jesper opened the meeting.

Round of presentation
Jesper Norell (chair of NFR)
Yuan Guo (Vice chair NFR)
Michael, PhD at Organic Chemistry
Björn (Astronomy student, member of Infogruppen)
Ludvig Lindström (student at ACES, member of Grundutbildningsberedningen)
Alex (PhD student in DBB (biochemistry), stand-in for Maxime)
Catarina (masters student, GÄR)
Ami Golland (PhD student at Stockholm Resilience Centre)
Erik Lindsund (PhD student at MBW)
Malte Posselt (PhD student at ACES)
Pil (PhD student Physics)
Måns Karlsson (PhD student Math)
Ann-Christine Troberg (Student Union)

Election of chairperson
Jesper Norell was elected.

Election of secretary
Ann-Christine Troberg was elected.

Election of adjustor
Yuan Guo was elected.

Approval of the agenda
No agenda was sent out before the meeting but the standard agenda from previous meetings was used.

Approval of last meeting’s minutes
Protocols from the last four NFR meetings were approved (2017-09-11, 2017-10-23, 2017-12-04 and 2018-01-29).

Concerning NFR’s representation
Nominated since last meeting
Berit Gewert and Inés Rodríguez Leal, both PhD students at ACES, have shown interest in being re-elected for Geo-miljövetenskapliga sektionens lärarförslagsnämnd. The summoner for LFN has also asked whether Johan Gustafsson, who was elected as secondary member in November, should still get callings.

Suggestions for positions

**Election**

Berit Gewert and Inés Rodríguez Leal were re-elected for Geo-miljövetenskapliga sektionens lärarförslagsnämnd. Johan Gustafsson was re-elected as secondary member.

**Reports from advisory committees**

**Student Union**

- The Student Union has been working on written instructions for student representatives, so hopefully they will be sent out to all representatives soon.
- The union has written motions for Sveriges Förenade Studentkärer.
- Preparations are being made for the Student Union election in April. There will be workshops on pubs etc. where you can learn about the different parties and decide upon which one to vote for.

**Central Student Council**

NFR still has no representative.

**Central PhD-Council**

- The humanities faculty council now supports the NFR proposal concerning PhD students getting credits for taking courses in Swedish and other soft skills. All four faculties should reach consensus on the same statement, which needs to be general since different things do not work the same way at all faculties.
- The work concerning a career day for PhD students interested in jobs outside the academia continues. The PhD council is trying to get the deans to take responsibility for it. Still, if people know alumni who want to participate, make contact with Pil.

Related topics

- The next career day for natural sciences will be held on February 13\textsuperscript{th} 2019.
• April 23rd is the deadline for applying money for improving education: https://www.dbb.su.se/polopoly_fs/1.374572.1519728112!/menu/standard/file/Utlysning%20av%20rektors%20medel%20f%C3%B6r%20kvalitetsutveckling%20utbildning%20omg%C3%A5ng%202017%20%20mg%20%C3%A5ng%20pdf

Faculty Board & Arbetsutskottet
The last meeting was a two day internat (January 31st-February 1st) with not so many controversial topics brought up. There was though an interesting discussion about how to reduce the number of students dropping out of bachelor programs and how to make the programs more attractive. One suggestion was to reduce the number of students accepted to a program, which would allow only applicants with good grades to get in, hoping that these have a better chance of completing the studies. Adjacent to this discussion, it was also stated that if one wants to make the education more attractive, it is important that students feel that there are jobs for those who finish their programs. It thus seems like the faculty has a choice to make: either to strengthen the connections to work life outside academia or to proclaim that students are educated with the sole purpose of continuing their career inside academia.

Stipendiekommittén
Pil says that if you’re a PhD student you can apply for different stipends for covering traveling expenses. It is up to the head of the department to share information about stipends and to see that relevant people apply. There will be a meeting with discussion about how to apportion money between departments, so if one has suggestions on how to distribute stipend money more fairly one can get in contact with Pil. At the moment the application forms are in Swedish, which makes it hard for non-swedes to apply. Forms are thus needed in English as well.
Grundutbildningsberedningen

The heads of the departments involved in the Geography bachelor program have asked that the program should be classified as interdisciplinary, belonging to both the natural and social sciences faculties instead of only to the natural sciences faculty. The education committee (GB) thinks it sounds like a good suggestion but that consequences need to be analyzed and discussed before a decision is made.

Infogruppen

The Info group is discussing how collaboration with other universities should be made more visible. The group is also discussing whether Stockholm University should pay search engines in order to be more visible for people searching the Internet.

Department & Section Committees

Måns says that it might be good for PhD councils to oversee the departments’ operational plans, since the parts concerning PhD students often aren’t very well written. Since many PhD students suffer from stress and other forms of mental illness, it should be emphasized that the head master is responsible for surveying the situation. PhD students have the right to talk to professionals about mental health issues for free three times a year, and additional meetings should be offered if needed.

Måns also reports that the merge of NADA into the math department has gone well. The math department is now much stronger in computer science and everyone seems to be happy about this.

Jämlikhetsnätverket

No representatives present.

Studiemiljönätverket

No representatives present.

Information from student- and PhD-councils.
Prior to the Faculty Board meeting

Rektors utlysning av medel för kvalitetsutveckling av utbildning
(Dnr SU FV-1.1.9-0314-15)
One can apply for money for projects aiming to improve the education quality at Stockholm University. Application deadline April 23rd.

Förslag gällande central tentamensorganisation
Fastighetsavdelningen has been working on a new system for central exam registration, common for the entire university. The idea is that all departments should use this system to book rooms, employees etc. for examinations. The Natural Sciences faculty has not been informed about this project until recently, and there is now concern that the new system might not suit the current ways and flexibility of smaller departments. The faculty has therefore requested more information and that the needs of the departments are taken into account before the new system is developed any further.

Digitalt systemstöd för individuella studieplaner
Forskarutbildningsberedningen (FB) has produced a report on digitalizing the ISPs (Individuella studieplaner) for PhD students. FB states that digitalization facilitates the work ensuring that demands of Högskoleförordningen (a law concerning universities) are met, and proposes a simple, mandatory template which could be supplemented with relevant appendices. The system should be developed in a way that later enables interaction with existing tools such as Ladok and Primula.

Other questions
Frescatihallen
Previous to the last NFR meeting Malte brought up questions concerning the Stockholm Sports Center (also/previously known as Frescatihallen). Ann-Christine has since then been emailing representatives from the student union and gotten the following answers:

Frescatihallen is owned by the foundation Aktiverum, co-founded by the University and the Student Union with the purpose of promoting sports and exercise at the University. The Foundation is entirely non-profit.

There are several different actors involved in the hall who are responsible for different aspects. The Student Union-owned company AB Frescatihallen is however the primary
responsible for the operation of the activities in the hall, including the free activities mentioned. It is correct that the company recently had a change of board. Questions regarding the company’s operations can be directed to its CEO Ulf Bjöns at ulf.bjons@gmail.com.

For questions concerning university spending on students’ health and promotion of sports activities, the university should be contacted. They provide SSIF (Stockholms studenters idrottsförening) with about 9 million Swedish kronor yearly.

Jesper suggests that he and Ann-Christine contact the university for more details regarding the university’s view on/spending regarding student health/sport activities.

**Meeting closed**

Jesper closed the meeting at 18:22.

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Yuan Guo
Adjustor

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Ann-Christine Troberg
Secretary
Reports
Bergius Botanical Garden, 20th of February

1. The budget for 2018 and the preliminary financial report for 2017 was presented. The economy looks stable.

2. A small change of the wording in the ordinance of the Garden had to be made since the chairman of the board is no longer necessarily the Faculty of Science dean.

3. The hiring of seasonal gardeners is under way and it looks like they will get the staff they need. Both administrator positions are now vacant and there is ongoing recruitment to fill one of them.

4. A new environmental action plan was presented and approved.

5. Next meeting will be on 29th of May.