Protocol – Science Faculty Council
Monday 10th of September 2018 at 16.30 in Rosa rummet, Studenthuset

1. **Opening of the meeting**
   Jesper opened the meeting.

2. **Round of presentation**
   Jesper Norell, PhD student in Physics (chair of NFR)
   Måns Karlsson, PhD student in Mathematics
   Ami Golland, PhD student at Stockholm Resilience Centre
   Per Calissendorff, PhD student in Astronomy
   Michael Oschmann, PhD student in Organic Chemistry
   Malte Posselt, PhD student at ACES
   Abraham Begene, PhD student at MND
   Martin Säflund, student in Biology (representative from BÄR)
   Patrik Tengné, student in Physics (representative from FÄR)
   Pil Saugmann, PhD student in Physics (chair of CDR)
   Erik Lindsund, PhD student at MBW
   Elis Wibacke (Student Union)

3. **Election of chairperson**
   Jesper Norell was elected.

4. **Election of secretary**
   Elis Wibacke was elected.

5. **Election of adjustor**
   Måns Karlsson was elected.

6. **Approval of the agenda**
   The agenda was approved.

7. **Approval of last meeting’s minutes**
The approval of last meeting’s minutes had to be tabled because they seem to be lost in cyberspace. Elis aims to retrieve and present the minutes in time for NFR’s next meeting.

8. **Concerning NFR’s representation**
   a) Nominated since last meeting: –
   
b) Suggestions for positions: There is a vacant position for a PhD student representative in a workgroup under REBUS, Säkring av pedagogiskt utvecklingsarbete och lärares kompetensutveckling. The group meets approximately once a month. The representative has to speak Swedish. Pil asks for suggestions before the CDR meeting on the 11th of September.
   
c) Election: –

9. **Reports from advisory committees**

**Student Union**
- The Student Union has an informative event called *Engagera dig som student* on Tuesday 11th of September for students who want to join e.g. a student council or club.
- The Student Governance Officer Elis will take part in a conference with Science representatives from other universities’ student unions next week.

**Central Student Council**
- The first Central Student Council (CSC) meeting this semester will take place on the 10th of October at 16.00. The meeting will be fun and informative and open for everyone. The aim of this new CSC format is for students and PhD students from different councils, departments and faculties to meet and discuss topics with each other and specially invited guests.

**Central PhD Council**
- The first meeting of this semester will be held on Tuesday 11th of September.

**Faculty Board & Arbetsutskottet**
There was an ‘internat’ for AU in August, but no student representative was there.
At the pre-meeting with Katariina Kiviniemi Birgersson, Jesper was informed about the topics of the next ON meeting:

- As part of Stockholm University’s goal of ‘broader recruitment’ of students, a new campus will open in Tensta, where the Faculty of Science will give a course in Geology. The aim of this is to recruit students who would otherwise not have thought of an academic career as an option.
- Pair-PhD-project at the Department of Mathematics: Two PhD students per pair (one from Mathematics, and one from another department).
- There are plans to move the field of Analytical Chemistry from ACES to MMK. However, there was a rearrangement of departments not so long ago, which led to rumours and a sense of uncertainty among the PhD students. Malte says that the PhD students have been informed this time, but the NFR thinks it is important that information regarding the rearrangement is made available to regular students as well. The NFR also discussed the issue of prolongation for PhD students affected by the changes.

**Grundutbildningsberedningen**

- The last GB meeting discussed the education plans for the new Master’s programmes at ACES which will replace the present programmes. A variety of other syllabuses were also put forward, including for a course called ‘Traineeship in Environment and Health Protection’ with rather harsh criteria regarding suspension of misbehaving students. However, the GB decided not to change the standard criteria which are used in other Traineeship courses.

**Department & Section Committees**

From the Department of Mathematics:

- The rearrangement of the field of Computer Science proceeds according to plan. NADA used to be a shared department with KTH but is now merged with the Department of Mathematics.

From ACES:

- Malte asks for ways to improve the PhD Handbook that is used by the department. Instructions regarding the structure of the thesis and how many publications you have to include vary between departments. Is there
a legally binding document that regulates when you are allowed to defend (ISP)? Malte will contact the PhD Student Ombudsman.

Bolin Centre for Climate Research
- This year’s Bolin Days will be held on the 21st and 22nd of November. All research areas of the Centre will present their ongoing research through presentations and posters to facilitate interdisciplinary collaborations but also to reach out to people outside the Centre.

Jämlikhetsnätverket
- The ‘Jämlikhetsnätverket’ of the Student Union has been merged with the ‘Studiemiljönätverket’ (see below).

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10. Information from student- and PhD-councils.
- GÄR (Geovetarnas Ämnesråd) has noticed that the amount of information regarding IT support varies significantly between different departments. The members of NFR assume that certain departments are more specialized in IT equipment than others, depending on what kind of software is needed for its research and education. Elis will ask GÄR to specify what the problem is, and then Elis and the presidium can discuss it with the dean at their next meeting.

11. Other questions

PhD students seminar
- A PhD student at the Department of Mathematics, Andrea Serio, has written a proposal for a PhD seminar at faculty level. The proposal was sent to all NFR members prior to the meeting. NFR agrees that the proposal is good and it was decided to ask Andrea to investigate the interest in this proposed seminar series among PhD students through a short survey that will be sent via email to all PhD students at the faculty. When we know how many PhD students that intend to participate, we can figure out the details regarding the seminars, e.g.
if they will be held in connection with the inter-departmental PhD pub, and if so, whether other students and/or professors will be able to join.

Prolongation days
- How many prolongation days you get and how you apply for them varies between departments. Is there a standard for applying and what you need to present as ‘proof’?

Core Values
- Every employee at Stockholm University has received information from Rektor about the ‘Core Values’ at SU. Input from employees is currently gathered on departmental level.

Elsevier
- The subscription of Elsevier by Stockholm University will end in the summer of 2019. In fact, no university in Sweden subscribes to Elsevier anymore. What this will mean for the researchers at the Faculty of Science is yet unclear.

Salary plans
- According to Måns, all PhD students have the same salary plan, which gives them an increase when they reach 50 % and 80 % of their degree requirements. However, how 50% and 80% is defined varies from department to department – for some PhD students it is solely time-based, for others the Licenciate is seen as the 50 % threshold. A PhD student in Mathematics applied for an early increase in salary but was denied, which led to the directors of study of the PhD programmes at the department of Mathematics to specify the requirements for salary increase. Måns’ recommendation for every PhD student present is thus: If you do not have clear-cut rules, propose to the director of studies to create such to minimize the risk of future conflicts.

Central PhD Council related issues
- The proposal that international PhD students will be able to include Swedish language courses in their research studies still has to be approved by the CDR and all four faculty councils.
- There is a new proposal that the chairpersons of the faculty councils might meet and exchange ideas between the CDR meetings.
- The CDR might also discuss the university's diversity policy when it comes to research, e.g. different perspectives in global research.

12. **Meeting closed**

   Jesper closed the meeting at 18.25.

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Jesper Norell  
Chair

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Måns Karlsson  
Adjustor

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Elis Wibacke  
Secretary