

# **Instructions for Student and PhD Student Councils**

Adopted by the Student Union Representative Assembly on Nov 25, 2021

# **Instructions for Student and PhD Student Councils**

# Sec. 1 Background

The student and PhD student Councils are a part off Stockholm University Student Union (SUS) and shall be formed where education at the undergraduate, graduate and/or post-graduate level is conducted. The councils may decide on more detailed guidelines for their activities within the framework of these instructions.

#### Sec. 2 Duties

- 2:1 The councils' duties are to protect the interests of students in education-related matters in the respective department, section, research school, program or subject.
- 2.2 The councils elect student representatives to the department level, and in some cases also at the section level, and faculty level.

# 3 Organization

- 3.1 The councils must be structured democratically and may not discriminate against or harass anyone on grounds of sex, ethnicity, religion or other faith, gender non-confirming identity or expression, sexual orientation, age or disability. The councils must not subject members to sexual harassment. The council shall respect the equal value of all people.
- 3:2 The council shall hold an annual meeting where the following items shall be addressed:
  - 1. Election of the board
    - a. Election of the chair
    - b. Election of the vice-chair
    - c. Election of the secretary
    - d. Election of the treasurer
    - e. Election of other members
  - 2. Election of student representatives to the preparatory and decision-making bodies within the field of activity.
  - 3. Review of previous operating year.
- 3:3 All students or PhD students studying in the council's field of activity are entitled to attend, speak and vote at the annual meeting.
- 3:4 In order to obtain the status of a student and PhD student council, the council must register with SUS annually. The registration must include the contact details for the board and contact person.
- 3:5 A council must have a chair or contact person during registration.

## Sec. 4 Meetings

- 4:1 All students or PhD students studying in the council's field of activity have the right to attend and speak at council meeting unless otherwise stated in the council's bylaws.
- 4:2 All students or PhD students studying in the council's field of activity have the right to vote unless otherwise stated in the council's bylaws.
- 4:3 Persons from the SUS office or presidium have the right to attend and speak at council meetings.
- 4:4 The councils are entitled to grant outside persons the right to attend and speak at a meeting.
- 4:5 All students or PhD students within the council's field of activity shall be notified in good time of the next council meeting.

#### Sec. 5 Minutes

- 5:1 The councils shall keep meeting minutes. The meeting minutes shall be reviewed and approved.
- 5:2 The councils are responsible for ensuring that the content of the minutes do not:
  - contain incitement against ethnic groups, defamation, insults or other forms of violations;
  - contain the unauthorized personal data of persons including, without limitation, the address, telephone number, e-mail address and pictures, Swedish personal identity number, health and disease data, or other sensitive personal data regulated by the Data Protection Regulation (GDPR),
  - contain material that otherwise is in violation of Swedish law.
- 5:3 The minutes shall be made available to all students or PhD students in the council's field of activity and sent to the SUS office.
- 5:4 In the case where the councils establish other forums for communication, the same provisions apply to their content as set out in 5:2.

## Sec. 6 Financial funds

The councils can apply for grants from the SUS budget for operation and projects. The criteria for grants are set out in the supporting documents of each grant.

# **Sec. 7 Decisions and representation**

7:1 Decisions to elect student representatives take effect after confirmation by the SUS office, according to established procedures.



- 7:2 The term of office for student representatives is one year and corresponds to the operating year, from January 1 to the end of December. If circumstances so require, the student representatives may be appointed for shorter terms of office. By-elections can be held at ordinary meetings.
- 7:3 At the beginning of November, the SUS office sends the councils a list of the representative seats to be filled for the next operating year.

# **Sec. 8** Interpretation of these instructions

Disputes regarding interpretation of these instructions are decided by the SUS board.

# Sec. 9 Modification/revocation of these instructions

These instructions have been adopted by the Student Union Representative Assembly and can only be modified or revoked by a decision of this body.