

Meeting minutes

Doctoral Student Union Board, Malmö University (DSU)

Date: 2021-10-21
Location: Niagara
Time: 15.00-16.30

Attendance:

Elsa Andersson, Carolina Robertsson, Roel Roscam Abbing, Sergei Dytckov, Juliana Holeksa, Isobel Squire

Opening the meeting.
Elsa is appointed chair of the meeting
Elsa is appointed secretary of the meeting
Carolina is appointed adjustment person

Agenda

1§ Feedback and info:

- **Network meeting with the doctoral coordinators and collegium chairs.** we have now met with the doctoral coordinators and collegium chairs and gotten some input on the positioning documents. Most sections received some input but the overarching comments concerns making the document shorter and more effectively communicated. We will have to decide how we go about revising the document.
- **Doctoral Ombudsperson,** Elsa have had two more meetings with the student unions at the other southern universities regarding a doctoral ombudsman. These have resulted in a project plan and a work description of a doctoral ombudsperson. The idea is to have someone full time working as an ombudsperson for Linné University, Kristianstad University, Malmö University and Halmstad University. (Blekinge is still pending). The gap that this person will fill is the possibility for PhD students to receive support from an actor that is not dependent on the University for employment, but independently employed by the unions. Since the character of issues that concerns PhD candidates are very specific, few but often difficult to solve, a common ombudsperson will be able to gain better experience since they meet more PhD students and will handle more errands that can be basis for a knowledge bank.
- **The pandemic:** In some of the departments at MAU as many as 70% of the PhD candidates have been on sick leave during the pandemic. This has raised questions whether this might be a problem on the entirety of the University. The issue has been brought up at the KFU and the KFU has decided to look into the numbers.
- **EUA:s Council for Doctoral Education:** Elsa took part in the annual conference for doctoral education. The theme was “Preparing doctoral education for a post-pandemic world,” it concerned the challenges there are for research education in the future. Some interesting themes were: what effects the pandemic has made on research education, the

prerequisites for academic freedom for early career researchers, and, what skills are important for new researchers to be able to have a career as a researcher and how these skills are implemented in research education.

2§ Agenda:

- **Activity documents:**

We decide upon the final documents in the form as Carolina and Elsa last edited.

- **The positioning documents.**

Since we have now met with the faculty doctoral representatives and collegium chairs and gotten a wide variety of inputs, we decide that Carolina and Elsa edit the document and then send it out to the rest of the board members to give inputs. The main goals are to make it shorter and more direct.

- **Doctoral AW presentations, PhD talks**

There was not as many attendees at the PhD talks as we had wished. We discuss some possibilities for reaching out. Can we use our teachers networks?

I Elsa brought this up at the KFU and was suggested that we use the communication department, either for internal or external communication depending on what our target group is. We are also welcomed to use/collaborate with the library, since they already have a series of research presentations that they call "research at a glance", we could do it under their umbrella or use their facilities for our own presentations and they can help us reach out.

- **Planning ahead- roles in the DSU**

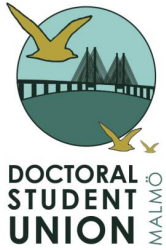
At the moment we have enough people that want to join the DSU board, but so far, we do not have any nominees for the presidency. We have three new nominees (Nada, Caroline, and Barabas). Sergei and Isobel would like to continue as board members. Roel can continue in the role of treasurer if we do not find replacement for him. Elsa can be a part of the board, until June 2022 to help introduce the new presidency (if needed and wanted by the 2022 board), but cannot continue as president/chair 2022. We need to figure out how to get a new presidency.

- **Social events.**

We decide to have a social event on the 18 of November 16.00-18.00 at Niagara. We will serve pizza and soda. / Isobel and Carolina will be planning the event.

- **Memberships and economy**

Right now we have 80 paying members. Our bankbalance is 34000kr.



- **The new University strategy**, Michel asked us to take a look at the new mau strategy and answer some questions. We found it difficult to answer those and decided to invite Michel to our next meeting.

Elsa Andersson _____

Elsa Andersson, secretary

Carolina Robertsson _____

Carolina Robertsson