PhD council meeting
Department of Psychology

Minutes for the PhD council the 29th of January 2015

Present at meeting: Henrik Nordström, Andrea Niman, Sebastian Cancino, Andreas Jemstedt, Nichel Gonzalez, Kristina Karlsson, Max Larsson Sundqvist.

1. Opening of meeting
Henrik Nordström is the president of the meeting.

2. Election of secretary and certifier
Andrea Niman is secretary. Nichel Gonzalez is certifier.

3. Approval of minutes from previous meeting
Yes.

4. Approval of agenda for the current meeting
Yes.

5. Reports

I. Department Board (Institutionsstyrelsen): Andrea
   i. The applications for course administrator and study counselor are currently being processed.
   ii. The post-doc position is currently being announced internationally.
   iii. Pehr Granqvist, head of advanced studies, presented a 3-point proposal for changes regarding the PhD program. The changes regards future students, i.e., those admitted to the PhD program in 2015 and onward. The suggested changes are to:
       ▪ Reduce the required amount of course credits from 90 hp to 75 hp.
       ▪ Redistribute these 15 hp to the research planning, data collection and analysis of dissertation studies.
       ▪ To change the admission process to the program by:
         o Phase 1: appointing two teams (2 + 2 people) to read half of the applications each and to shortlist around 5 applications/team.
         o Phase 2: select 3 reviewers (new and/or from phase 1) to thoroughly review the shortlisted applications.

II. Professors’ group: Henrik

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i. Further discussion regarding the suggestion to use R instead of SPSS in education at the department.
ii. Current status of the brain imaging platform: project in good progress, only a few costs remain uncovered.
iii. Pehr Granqvist presented the proposal described above (see item 5. i. iii in this document)

III. **Social Science Faculty Council: Sebastian**

iv. Potential differences in conditions for PhD-students that are funded by the department compared to funded by research projects were discussed.
   - Do the departments take students’ funding sources into account when allocating graduate student department resources (i.e., ”ograd“)? Should they?
   - The political science department has the most department funded PhD students.
   - Discussed whether formal agreements of authorship should be implemented, especially between student and supervisor(s).

IV. **Equal Rights Committee: Kristina**

i. The newly elected council had its first meeting.
ii. Stefan Baraldi was suggested to be president of the committee.
iii. Changing the color of the equal rights prize diploma from pink to rainbow colors.
iv. The committee is planning to construct a guideline on using non-discriminative language in teaching for PhD students.
v. The committee plans to review the relative distribution of “ograd” among PhD students.

V. Work environment Committee: Nichel

i. Forskningsservice (the Stockholm University service for research funding) agreed to pay a visit to the department.

VI. **Institute for Applied Behavioral Science (ITB): Ivo Todorov (through correspondence)**

i. A new council was elected. Elisabet Borg remains President.
ii. An overview of the institute’s finances was made, which showed that it is making profit.
iii. Current and future courses were overviewed.
iv. The council suggested to educate a PhD student of clinical psychology to manage leading appraisals (“medarbetarsamtal”). This would reduce costs of
hiring external consultants for the mission.

v. Topics for future courses were discussed.

6. Directions for the PhD council 2015/2016

I. Course credits
i. Pehr Granqvist’s suggestion (see item 5. I. iii. above) was addressed. The PhD council agreed on the standpoint that a re-allocation of required course credit ought to apply to currently enrolled PhD students who, when the decision is made, have not yet met the current course requirements.

II. Booking site for participants
ii. The council discussed the potential need to improve and/or formalize the practice and infrastructure associated with recruiting and booking participants for research studies at the department.

III. Suggestions
iii. The council received a recommendation on useful courses for PhD students. The recommended courses were:
   - Project management (7.5 hp)
   - Working with databases and registers (7.5 hp)
   - Teaching for PhD students (7.5 hp)

7. Other issues
   The next meeting will take place on the 16th of March at 15.00, Gösta Ekman’s Laboratory (Conference Room).

8. Closing of the meeting

Secretary Andrea Niman
Certifier Nichel Gonzalez