

Graduate School of Natural Sciences (GSNS)

PhD committee meeting

Time: Wednesday, 1 December 2021 at 10.00-12.00

Place: Ny Munkegade 120, bldg. 1520, room 732

Minutes

1. Meeting information:

Participants:

Ernst-Martin Füchtbauer, Henrik Stapelfeldt, Anders Møller, Louise Marie Dalskov Kjerulff, Mads Blichfeldt Amdisen, Ragnhild Ørbæk Laursen and David Lundbek Egholm

Apologies for absence:

Irfansha Shaik

The secretariat:

Maria Fauerby Iversen and Rikke J. Ljungmann

2. Approval of minutes from the PhD committee meeting on 2 November 2021

Approved

3. Approval of agenda

Approved, with one adjustment. Items 6 and 7 were switched around.

4. News from the PhD students

Following the university elections in November, it was mentioned that it was great that so many PhD students would be part of the PhD committee in 2022 either as members or as observers.

Ernst-Martin Füchtbauer mentioned that at the upcoming opening meeting he would bring up for discussion whether it will be possible to have an observer from each programme from amongst the PhD students.

5. Follow up on any corona-related issues

As the number of corona cases are on the rise again, it was discussed which elements were important to bring into play if we were to face another lockdown at some point. It was agreed that communication is key – especially in the light of the fact that a large proportion of our PhD students are newcomers after the last lockdown and therefore have not experienced a lockdown.

It was also mentioned that it was important to look at how matters were communicated and coordinated down through the system as much information comes from university management level.

7. Follow-up on Head of school dialogue meeting with AUPA and PhD committee members

On 27 October 2021, the Heads of school, AUPA and representative PhD student members of the PhD committees met to follow up on KIP21, including discussing the open comments from the survey.

In particular, well-being among the PhD students was debated at the meeting. It was decided to set up a well-being committee consisting of all the Heads of school, representatives from AUPA and PhD students from all the five graduate school PhD committees. The first meeting takes place 7 December 2021. One of the purposes of the committee is to learn from each other and exchange ideas on how to work with and create better well-being among the PhD students.

6. Follow-up on report from the international panel and KIP21

David Lundbek Egholm first mentioned that the international panel's review report together with the KIP21 results had now also been debated in the Heads of programme committee and the Academic council.

Drawing on the review report, the KIP21 results and all the committees discussions, he had prepared a first draft version for an action plan to be discussed at the present meeting. Before the discussion, David Lundbeck Egholm stressed that nothing was carved in stone and that everything could be debated.

Overall, it was agreed that the five actions in the action plan created a solid foundation, and that only one more action should be added, i.e. one that covered a more political issue of debating the time and study structure set up through the Ministerial PhD Order.

After that, the committee discussed each action and its sub-actions, and the suggested changes were incorporated in the action plan.

Finally, it was decided that David Lundbek Egholm should make final adjustments after the meeting, and the PhD committee members read through them before the action plan draft will be ready for the hearing process.

Following the discussion, there were a few follow-ups for a future committee meeting:

Action: The secretariat will look into the distribution between programmes with regard to number of screening grants applied for.

Action: The secretariat will look into whether it is possible to provide an estimate of the cost of the Planner system.

8. GSNS news e-mails

Postponed until next meeting.

9. Any other business

None