

## **Agenda PhD committee meeting – Thursday, 14 May 2024 from 14.15 to 16.00**

**Meeting room: 1520-732 City View**

### **1. Meeting information:**

Participants:

Brian Julsgaard, Christian Saugbjerg Lange, David Terrence Nkansah, Ditlev Egeskov Brodersen, Duncan Sutherland, Jens Kristian Refsgaard Schou, Lasse Messell Desdorf, Malthe Kjær Bendtsen, Mariam Schani Khelifa, Marie Vogel Kolte, and Ole Bækgaard Nielsen

Participates online:

Jeppe Bayer Pedersen

Apologies for absence:

Mathias Østbjerg Vang, Hans-Jörg Schulz, and Mads Ramsgaard Stoltenberg

Guest during item 9:

Mathilde Skarum-Johnsen

The secretariat:

Rikke J. Ljungmann and Mie M. Christensen

### **2. Approval of agenda**

Agenda was approved.

### **3. Presentation of Head of School**

Head of school introduced himself.

### **4. Announcements – Overview of assessment committees, exemptions, etc. for the period 6 January 2024 to 3 May 2024**

At each committee meeting an overview is presented of the following:

- Defences – assessment committees
- Qualifying exams
- Requests (incl. credit transfer granted during the PhD study, if any)
- Credit transfer granted in connection with admissions process (NB: None have been granted during the period – therefore no appendix)

Ole Bækgaard Nielsen pointed out important cases, including mentioning that the reasons for getting a study time extension must be related to issues outside the control of the PhD student, i.e. it is not possible to get a study time extension e.g. due to a high-risk PhD project or non-registered absence due to long-term illness.

### **5. The transferable skills PhD course portfolio GSNS and GSTS for 2025**

The PhD Committee approved the suggested transferable skills PhD course portfolio for 2025.

**Action:** All members are encouraged to ask their fellow PhD students if there are any specific suggestions to new PhD courses and inform the PhD administration.

## **6. PhD Courses**

A PhD course in BSc/MSc supervision was discussed in the Course Committee in April 2024, and they found that the course could be beneficial for PhD students at GSNS and GSTS.

The PhD Committee discussed the focus of the course and found that it might be beneficial to also include more content on feedback, giving the PhD students skills they can use at a later point in their work life as well as during their PhD studies.

It was also mentioned that it would be necessary to include a teacher on the course with experience in hands-on skills for supervision in an experimental/laboratory context.

**Action:** The PhD Committee at GSTS will also discuss the suggested course and based on that discussion and the discussion in this PhD Committee, the PhD administration will contact Centre of Educational Development (CED) regarding the option of teaching a course to the PhD students at GSNS and GSTS.

## **7. News from the Course Committee (Ditlev Egeskov Brodersen) – ca. 10 min.**

In addition to recommending that the PhD committees approved the transferable skills course portfolio for 2025, the Course Committee also came up with different recommendations.

The PhD Committee approved the recommendations and agreed that planning statistics courses and a PhD course in 'Data Visualisation' can proceed.

**Action:** The PhD Committee at GSTS will also discuss the suggested recommendations and based on that discussion and the discussion in this PhD Committee, the Course Committee will proceed.

## **8. VIVE's report**

The head of school gave a short presentation of the report's results, and how the Faculty will proceed with the issues, including establishing a 'Code of Conduct' to be used faculty-wide, involving Nat's Diversity & Gender Equality Committee, and providing information to GSNS and GSTS supervisors at the 'Foundational course in PhD Supervision'.

The PhD Committee discussed the issue, and a well-being sub-committee focusing on initiatives helping the well-being of PhD students across GSNS was suggested.

Relevant information about what to do and how to react can be found here:

<https://medarbejdere.au.dk/en/administration/hr/workingenvironment/psychological-work-environment>

**Action:** The head of school will look into having PhD students involved in the work in the Diversity & Gender Equality Committee, as this committee works across all the departments at Natural Sciences and includes most of the employee groups.

It will be discussed at a later PhD Committee meeting how to proceed.

### **9. GSNS seminar fall 2024**

A GSNS seminar will be held again in 2024, and the planning has already started. Various topics for the seminar were discussed.

**Action:** The PhD administration will continue with planning the seminar. If you have ideas, please contact PhD partner Mathilde Skarum-Johnsen, e-mail: [matsj@au.dk](mailto:matsj@au.dk)

### **10. Teaching hours for supervision**

Due to lack of time, the item will be postponed to the next PhD Committee meeting.

### **11. Retreats and autumn schools at MBG and iNANO**

Due to lack of time, the item will be postponed to the next PhD Committee meeting.

### **12. Support groups at the programmes**

Due to lack of time, the item will be postponed to the next PhD Committee meeting.

### **14. News from the PhD students**

Due to lack of time, the item will be postponed to the next PhD Committee meeting.

### **14a. Equality and transparency of ECTS points – ca. 10 min.**

Due to lack of time, the item will be postponed to the next PhD Committee meeting.

### **15. For your information**

#### **15a. The Well-Being Committee**

Due to lack of time, the item will be postponed to the next PhD Committee meeting.

#### **15b. URIS**

Due to lack of time, the item will be postponed to the next PhD Committee meeting.

#### **15c. Hoodies**

The well-being initiative has been introduced and more than 150 PhD students have already ordered a hoodie.

### **16. Any other business**

Due to lack of time, the item will be postponed to the next PhD Committee meeting.