

## Department of Molecular Biosciences, The Wenner-Gren Institute

**Agenda for PhD Council meeting – scheduled 2022-04-01, 17:30 – 18:00, E306 and Zoom**

### **1. Election for the meeting**

**1.1. Chairman** - Irene

**1.2. Certifier** - Simon

**1.3. Clerk** - Kanwal

**2. Election of Equality Representative (Swedish not required)** – Irene explained equality officer position and that the language requirement has changed. Emily previously held the position and new reps can ask them. Anaswara nominated herself. She was elected unanimously.

**3. Election of Representatives for Lokalgruppen (2 positions, Swedish not required)** – Irene holds one of the 3 rep positions in the board. She informed about the position that it deals with locality issues and discussions. She also informed that no meeting has taken place this year yet. Sergey and Simon nominated themselves and were elected unanimously.

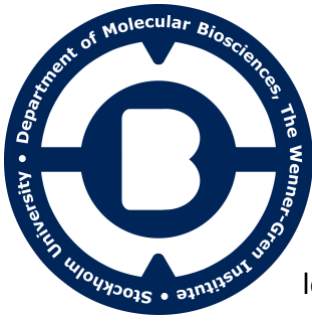
### **4. Teaching updates**

Franziska explains about teaching discussions going on with the department in light of issues arising due to decreasing number of PhD students.

**4.1. Teaching certificate** – Franziska informs about the teaching certificate that came up as an idea rewarding the students for their teaching experience. After finishing the degree, students can apply for the certificate which would hold information about the courses taken and responsibilities. It would be signed by department head and course organizers' comments (optional). This was brought together to offer incentive to PhD students since it can be beneficial in job applications later too.

The latest version was shown to the council. PhD students were welcomed to share their feedback during the meeting and afterwards too. Question was raised about how long before or after the completion of PhD can one apply for the certificate. The board will contact Neus and ask about this.

Another question was brought up that if one applies after five years of teaching, how do we make sure course organizers will remember your duties. Franziska informs that the PhD student is responsible for filling the form and then it will be sent to organizers to check before the department head approves. There are also examples given in the form to help students.



## Department of Molecular Biosciences, The Wenner-Gren Institute

It was also brought up that the certificate can prove to be a reference letter for teaching experience for job applications.

Irene brings up that the certificate should be easily available online and included in PhD guide too.

### 5. Upcoming events

- 5.1. **PhD Day** – Irene informs about the new date i.e. 12<sup>th</sup> May and encourages everyone to register
- 5.2. **MBW summer party** – Neus sent an email earlier, also asking PhD students to write to her if they would like to participate in event organization.
- 5.3. **Return to campus Party** – Irene informed about SUS funding projects that can be applied for return to campus activities. We have applied for a summer event. Budget has been sent but more information is needed. We will also focus on team building activities to encourage students to mingle and focus on improving mental health.

Irene welcomes PhD students to join in organizing the event. Also, students can arrange activities like Zumba classes etc. Irene suggests May 6<sup>th</sup> as a possible date for the event.

Pub team will help organizing the drinks. Laveena mentions that SUS told her that we can apply for money for Pub food arrangements too. Laveena will ask Carl which type of grant will be applied for this.

- 5.4. **Interdepartmental Pub** – Irene informed that she contacted other biological sciences department for pubs as well as other PhD events. DEEP has replied positively. Laveena also informed that Physics department were interested during NFR. Irene will inform them too next time. We might need a bigger location for this. Pub team can talk to DEEP in organizing this.

### 6. Updates from representatives

Franziska informed on Victor's behalf that he is the work environment representative and welcomes students to share any problems or difficulties with work environment like harassment and bullying.

Laveena informs that NFR is organizing a work-group to help PhD councils.

### 7. Additional questions

### 8. Meeting closure