



## **Protocol for the Program Council (programkollegium) for master programs in Microbiology and Molecular Life Sciences**

**Date:** Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2023

**Present:** Andrzej Wojcik, Ann-Beth Jonsson, Jessica Slove Davidson (BIG), Mattias Mannervik, Stefan Åström, Ulrich Theopold, Irene Alvarez Guerra, Sonja Gabrielcic, Ruilan Xu

**Not present:** Tore Bengtsson, Kristina Jonas

**Secretary:** Erika Dahlberg

**Place:** F504

### **1. Choice of adjusterer**

Andrzej Wojcik was appointed to adjust the minutes.

### **2. Approval of the agenda for the meeting**

The agenda for the meeting was approved.

### **3. Approval of the memos from the previous meeting**

The notes from the previous meeting (Program council) 2022-11-16 were approved.

### **4. Information from director of studies – Stefan Åström**

A 15hp course that consists of four modules is suggested to be introduced for all candidate students within science. We have to comment on the course modules by the 29<sup>th</sup> of September. A Gug-meeting to discuss this is suggested by late August. The information must be shared with all the teachers.

### **5. Information from pedagogical council in biology – Mattias Mannervik**

Teachers retreat on June 16<sup>th</sup> – don't forget to sign up!

Poor attendance on teachers corner. However, this can be discussed on another occasion.

### **6. Program council**

#### **a) Admission for autumn 2023 (rapporteur: Jessica Slove-Davidson)**

There are twelve places on each program. A screening was made. Eight students were accepted on microbiology and twenty in molecular biology. If all show up for molecular biology, there will be a problem. More students could be accepted into

microbiology, but there is a risk that they do not pass the degree. It is suggested that we take in more students on microbiology. A third of the applicants are international students that must pay a tuition fee.

The students asked us to be more transparent regarding how many scholarships that are eligible. Why do we say that there are “a few”, when in reality there are only two.

**b) Update on the educational review (rapporteur: *Jessica Slove-Davidson*)**

1. Evaluation: Two years ago an external evaluation was started on both of the programs. A year ago we got recommendations (but no required measures) for changes. An answer will now have to be sent addressing changes that were made. One suggestion from the review was to perform half-time follow up of longer degree projects (60 hp). We do this for external students, but not for our internal students. This can be explained by the fact that internal students have regular lab-meetings instead. The question is asked if we should have regular meetings with external students as well, however, according to Anki we do not have to do anything unless there is a problem. No change is currently suggested, but the question will be further discussed in the future. Regarding female guest lecturers: it will instead be investigated whether there is a balance when it comes to employed teachers. Otherwise, no change is suggested. Balance seems to be fine at MBW, however, gender imbalance might still be a problem in other departments.
2. Follow up: Anki tried to follow up students in their first year to see if they were on track for the second year. The students who drop off usually do this during the first semester. For the Microbiology students, the course “infection Biology” might be considered difficult. If they do not pass this course they can change degree to molecular life-science. It is a problem when students take part-time jobs and skip lectures.
3. Course evaluations: Please make sure the course evaluations are answered!

**c) Update on the immunology and molecular cell biology courses, new education plan, degree description and main subject. (Rapporteur: *Jessica Slove-Davidson*)**

For the Microbiology program, both the MCB and Immunology courses are now obligatory to obtain a Master’s degree in Microbiology. This leaves 15hp as optional courses, if the students chooses to do a 45hp degree project. The Immunology course has a new course plan, emphasizing its transformation to a Masters-level course

**d) Lunch meetings with master students (rapporteur: Ann-Beth Jonsson and Uli Theopold)**

The lunch meetings were not carried through since the resources were limited (not enough teachers). Anki is preparing a document that will describe the responsibilities of the program organizers.

**e) Follow-up of discussion with DBB about cooperation regarding courses between master's programs (Appendix).**

Further discussions between MBW and DBB is necessary to obtain a better coordination of Master's programs with overlapping content. Uli promised to send an email to Anna-Lena Ström at DBB to continue to process. Anna-Lena Ström will send out next invite.

**Other questions:**

We need to recruit more students for the next program council. Please help out by encouraging representation among students. This question will be discussed again later.

Alumni network on LinkedIn: This is perhaps something that can be discussed in lunch meetings. An idea from Uppsala University is to have QR-codes for Whatsapp/Facebook groups.

**7. Other questions**

The next meeting will be held Thursday 17th of August 14:00-15:30 in Runnströmsrummet.

**8. The meeting ended**

Erika Dahlberg

Andrzej Wojcik

Sekreterare

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