



KTH Fysik

Department of Physics Management Group meeting

Monday 31st January 2022, 13.00 – 15.00, Zoom <https://kth-se.zoom.us/j/63378450358>

Participant: Pär O, Mats D, Andrea B, Bo C, Elina C, Jens B, Jonas S, Josefin L, Tommy O, Walter V replacing Sevostian B, Torbjörn B

Apologies: Sevostian B

Guest: New HR responsible for SCI – Ove Strind

Ove introduced himself to the management group. A quick introduction around the table was held.

Agenda

- **PhD student representatives**
 - The PhD chapter has a formal process to select PhD representatives and for 2022 we will have
 - Elina Charatsidou and Andrea Ludovico Benfenati.
 - Congratulations to both and warm welcome to Elina in this new capacity!

- **Covid status**
 - The current policies are extended to Feb 8, see kth.se/corona
* **As of February 9, most restrictions due to COVID-19 will be lifted. For those who temporarily have been working from home due to the pandemic, a gradual return to the workplace on campus applies. The responsible manager plans the return.**
 - We should work from home when possible until then. See last message from SCI regarding this.

- **FoFU allocation 2022**
 - The school has transitioned from dispensing the PhD-performance fund (*doktorandpinnar*) smeared out over three years to now implement a direct allocation model.

- For the transition year (2022) this means our normal FoFU allocation will be a little bit lower than expected.



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- For coming years, it means we will have stronger oscillations. We can either use the department to smear out oscillations or use direct allocations.
 - Pär urged the Division heads to discuss this with their division and decision will be made next Management group meeting.
- **AlbaNova issues**
 - The locks should be replaced during Q1 according to plan.
 - There will be an Energy revision of Alba by Akademiska Hus during the spring. They will need access to offices and labs (and have been told to contact lab responsables ahead of time).
 - For the server room, the current proposal is to retire the left one and move essential resources into the right one, and to renovate that as well. Left one will need to be emptied.
 - In order to build the walkway to Nova, the left one cannot be operational. The department has expressed that it has no need for a full (and very costly) server room renovation.
- **Skyddsround labs**
 - The safety inspection round of the labs on the main campus was (again) postponed due to covid. Will look for a new date in late Feb.
- **Excellence PhD program**
 - The school is launching an excellence PhD program.
 - 4 PhD students will be fully financed from the program, starting during 2022.
 - The applicants will be instructed to contact a supervisor in advance and jointly formulate a project plan.
 - Announcement planned for February – more information will be forthcoming.
- **Faculty/staff meetings**
 - **RAE follow-up**
 - We will hold a workshop to discuss the findings of the RAE panel regarding our Department and regarding relevant cross-panels.
 - The workshop should be held during the spring term and should focus on our plans and actions that follow the panel report(s)

- One specific outcome of the workshop is to respond to the KTH verksamhetsplan which has a section on follow up after the RAE
 - All staff to be invited; all faculty expected to attend
 - Proposed date range: mid march (e.g. 25/3)
 - Follow-up workshop with school management and Physics MG to discuss our conclusions and action plan for VP-2022 on 29/4, 2/5 or 4/5 (to be confirmed)
- **Faculty renewal**
 - We will discuss principles of faculty renewal and recruitment with the faculty
 - Overview of faculty composition and time evolution
 - Update on current recruitment processes
 - Modalities of faculty recruitment
 - Faculty recruitment as a strategic tool
 - Zoom meeting (with break out rooms)
 - Proposed date 18/2 at 13:00-16
- **New deputy GA**
 - Torbjörn Bäck and Anna Burvall are the two new deputy GA (Deputy directors of undergraduate education) for the school, starting 1/2.
 - Congratulations to Torbjörn!
- **Director of undergraduate studies**
 - Change of studierektor to be performed during spring 2022. Start of process and announcement to faculty out soon.
- **Outreach (Josefin)**
 - Summer student projects: Call sent out: deadline 7/2 for supervisors. Josefin will sent out reminder.
 - No other outreach activities
- **JML (Josefin)**
 - [Nordita Gender, Diversity & Inclusion Symposium](#) on 10/2 at 9.30-12.45

- SCI JML meeting mid February.

- **Undergraduate education** (Torbjörn)
 - Teaching: Period 3 ongoing.
 - Correcting exams from January period
 - If there are issues regarding the exams between examiners and teachers. In case of questions of exam practicalities, always contact exam administration.
 - Flexible läsårsindelning in pilot study at CTFYS and TNEEM

- **Ph.D. programme** (Tommy)
 - Advance reviewer for PhD thesis's – new interpretation of eligibility. The management group discussed the issue and agrees to voice a protest regarding the new policy.
 - Oséen medal nomination from the Department: Philipp Rybakov

- **Ph.D. student representative** (Andrea/Elina)

The first council meeting this semester was brief, with introductions.

- **Physics administration** (Sefora)

Nothing to report.

- **Personnel news**
 - Postdoc, nuclear engineering: transients in lead-cooled reactors (Janne) S-2021-1073. Alejandra Perez accepted, awaiting migration office.
 - PhD students, nuclear power safety (Weimin) S-2021-1484. Disen Liang offered position.
 - PhD student, nuclear engineering (Pavel) S-2021-1404. Govatsa Acharya offered position.
 - PhD student, nuclear engineering (Pavel) S-2021-1406. Kin Wing Wong accepted position.
 - Postdoc, nuclear engineering: SUNRISE (Janne/Pavel/Pär) S-2021-1570. Ignas Mickus & Sumathi Vasu offered positions. Ignas starts 1/2; Sumathi awaiting migration office.
 - PhD students, nuclear power safety (Walter) S-2021-1555. Evaluation of candidates.
 - Researcher in applied nuclear physics, (Bo) S-2021-1767. Deadline 2022-01-03.
 - Researcher in two-dimensional materials (Pär) S-2021-1934. Kostas Sarakinos starts on 1/3.