

Graduate School of Technical Sciences (GSTS) PhD Committee meeting

Time: 24 November 2023 at 10.00 – 12.00.

Place: Online – Microsoft Teams

Minutes:

1. Meeting information

Participants: Stefan Hallersted, Morten Frederiksen, Lis Wollesen de Jonge, Thea Quistgaard, Anne-Cathrine Storgaard Danielsen, Aaron Hurst, Brian Vinter.

Apologies for absence: Julie Frost Dahl, Marianne Hammershøi, Ida Marie Gerdes.

Secretariat: Rikke J. Ljungmann and Frederikke Kongsted Hansen.

2. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

3. Approval of minutes

The minutes were approved.

4. Announcements – Overview of assessment committees, exemptions etc. for the period 04.09.2023- 14.11.2023

Approved with no comments. If anyone has any comments or corrections, they should be sent to Frederikke Kongsted Hansen.

5. Writing camp retreat

Thea Quistgaard told the committee about a local “writing camp retreat” that they have held at the Department of Environmental Science. It was the experience that it strengthened the cohesion and community among the PhD students. Thea asked if it could be possible to arrange something similar at Faculty level.

The PhD Committee supported the idea of a writing camp retreat at Faculty level.

Action: It was decided to set up a working group when the new PhD Committee for 2024 has been appointed. It will be on the agenda for the first PhD Committee meeting next year. All PhD students in the committee will be encouraged to join, including one member from the academic staff.

6. A course on ‘How to manage your PhD project’

The PhD Committee discussed the course idea again, including the different sources of inspiration. It was agreed that the course provided by University of Copenhagen (KU), “Scientific project planning”, was interesting, and that this content could be useful for the PhD students at GSTS. It was mentioned that such a course at GSTS should also include something about well-being.

Action: It was decided to contact the lecturer at the course at KU. It was agreed to discuss the course again when there is news. The PhD Administration will follow-up.

7. Financial support for social activities for PhD students

Brian Vinter asked if the PhD students have any ideas on how to improve the well-being of the PhD students. It was mentioned that socializing is important. It was also discussed whether it would be

possible to share ideas among programmes, e.g. on the website, or whether a survey among fellow PhD students asking for suggestions for activities might be useful.

Brian Vinter concluded that it should be an option to apply for financial support for social activities also next year.

8. News from the PhD students

- *Development of emission inventories at department level*

Thea Quistgaard mentioned that the Department of Environmental Science has recently set up a working group to focus on sustainability, climate, and environment at the departmental level. The working group recommends other departments to develop their own emission inventories.

Action: Thea Quistgaard will send a document to Frederikke Kongsted Hansen, who will pass it on to Brian Vinter and the PhD committee.

- *Proposal for the PhD assessment committee*

Aaron Hurst mentioned that it is sometimes seen that PhD students are asked by their supervisors to make the proposal for the assessment committee in connection with the evaluation of their own PhD thesis, including contacting the potential members.

Brian Vinter underlined that this is unacceptable. He will remind the supervisors about their role in the process.

9. News from the Well-being Committee

Stefan Hallerstedte presented the summary from Julie Frost Dahl, who could not attend the meeting.

10. For your information

• *Permission for lending/How to guide*

This item was postponed to the next meeting as it awaits final clarification.

• *The Epigeum course*

The Epigeum course is an online course on research integrity and research ethics, which all staff must take. Likewise, all PhD students must take it. It used to be 8 modules. Brian Vinter said that it has been decided to reduce the requirement for PhD students from 8 modules to 2. This means that the PhD students must complete the same modules as other permanent staff and postdoctoral students.

11. Any other business

Brian thanked the members of the committee for their work this year.