

Minutes of the PHD council 5. March 2015

From PFF:

- discussion on more administrative staff for the PHD program. The PHD council will forward a suggestion on this to the faculty board. **Olaf** will write a suggestion for statement of support from the PFF.
- Discussion on applications for extension of the PHD period due to problems with data collection, access to institutions etc. There has been an increase in such applications. The PFF made no principled decision on the issue, but the general attitude towards such applications is that some problems regarding such issues should be foreseeable when planning the projects, and will only be cause for extension in exceptional circumstances.

From the faculty board

- The Faculty is experience increasing external funding and it is projected to increase further in the future.
- The Dean will invite the PhD Council for discussing potential solution of optimizing the annual allowance (driftmedel) for PhD Fellows.

Key cards/access

- Today: The institute leader makes the decision and "vaktsentralen" gives access.
- The administration is aware of how there may be trouble getting into the buildings one needs access to and how the system of case-by-case access granting is a little cumbersome. Possible to get a "smoother" system?
- **Anders** will follow up

PHD seminars:

- New guidelines on seminars:
 - o Dates for seminars will be announced in october for seminars in the spring semester (february and may), and in april for seminars in the autum semester (november). Final program and list of literature shall be announced one month in advance.
- Language: seminars are held alternately in norwegian and english. **Olaf** will discuss with Gøril the possibility to improve information about this.
- Relevance of literature: Comments on relevance of literature for seminars will be encouraged. They can be sent to the PHD consul, and will serve as basis for feedback to persons responsible

Mid term evaluation

- discussion of mid term evaluation.
- **Johann** will make a summary note
- **Olaf** will propose changes to mid term evaluation to PFF based on this

Socio-professional event:

- Given the trend of increasing proportion of external funding at the Faculty and thus the benefit of enhancing the skills of PhD fellows to attract such funds, the socio-professional event is suggested to focus on issues concerning practical aspects of applying for funds and building partnerships for such purposes. It is expected that such focus also would benefit the practical work of existing PhD projects and that the event could be combined with a discussion on how to optimising the annual allowance.
- Suggested to be held in June.
- **Daniel** will explore the interest and potential contribution of non-PhD staff.

Financial:

- Deadline for Applications to Lovsamlingsfondet: 13. April 2015.

Next meeting

- 7. april – 0830