



Department of Physics Management Council meeting

Monday 17th Feb 2025, 12.00–14.00, A5:1003

Participants

Jens Bardarson	Tommy Ohlsson
Mattias Blennow – via Zoom	Pär Olsson
Torbjörn Bäck	Jonas Strandberg
Johanna Swedin	Oscar Wistemar – PhD student representative
Edwin Langmann	
Josefin Larsson	
Weimin Ma	

Meetings notes February 2025

News & general items

- The plan is that SSM will visit KTH on Thursday 20/2.
- The department has two remittances due in April:
 - Deadline 9/4: Kärnkraftsprövningsutredningens delbetänkande Ny kärnkraft i Sverige – effektivare tillståndsprövning och ändamålsenliga avgifter.¹
 - Deadline 11/4: Statskontorets förslag till en ändamålsenlig och effektiv organisering av det tekniska stödet för kärnsäkerhet och strålskydd.²
- WISE positions – The WISE board is expected to decide on the positions on 26/5.

¹ <https://www.regeringen.se/remisser/2025/01/remiss-av-sou-20257-ny-karnkraft-i-sverige--effektivare-tillstandsprovning-och-andamalsenliga-avgifter/>

² <https://www.regeringen.se/remisser/2025/02/remiss-av-statskontorets-forslag-till-en-andamalsenlig-och-effektiv-organisering-av-det-tekniska-stodet-for-karnsakerhet-och-stralskydd/>

KVA nomination Göran Gustafsson/KVA prize in Physics

The council had a closed discussion. (Josefin and Mattias was not present during this agenda point). Pär will discuss the proposal with the head of Applied Physics and present it to the Head of school.

Career path report

Discussions about the report “Utredning av KTH:s karriärsystem”. Based on the feedback, Edwin will compile a response to the referral and sent it to the school.

JML

No news since last meeting about a JML Physics/SCI workshop/seminar.

Undergraduate education (Tommy)

- Consolidation of GRU laboratories: Decision that Mark Pearce is authorised to proceed with moving all labs into main house.
- Jan Dufek and Tommy plan to start a new Master's degree project in the master program Nuclear Energy Engineering.
- Physics needs to ensure the quality of the new/revised preparatory course in mathematics and physics. Decision that multiple people can share the responsibility for quality assurance, but it would be good if one person takes an overall responsibility.

Information

- There have been issues with the English translation of the course information for courses on advanced level. Jens will raise this with the faculty board.
- Tommy has submitted applications to discontinue eight courses (now four is left). It is possible to approve students that are already registered.
- Under 'Internal' on the website there is a new webpage titled 'Education – Utbildning'. Here you can find course descriptions and templates.
- Discussions on the challenges of AI and exams:
 - A potential future policy should, in that case, be implemented at the KTH level.
 - We need to clarify to students if using AI during exams is not allowed.
 - How can exams be adapted to address the challenges posed by AI?
 - It would be good to have a general discussion within the faculty about the usage of AI.

Faculty renewal (Edwin)

Edwin is working on the annual update of the recruitment plans (0–2 years and 2–5 years). These plans serve as a foundation when the faculty board opens a position (Jens). Edwin and Pär will plan workshop with the faculty on future recruitments.

Outreach (Josefin)

Josefin has sent out information about the summer school, as proposed in the last meeting.

Doctoral programme (Mattias)

- All doctoral students have been offered individual meetings with PA.
- The doctoral conference in physics is part of the mandatory course FSH3000/FSH3900. The conference is scheduled for June 11. The doctoral students have been notified via the course room in Canvas.
- The Oseen Medal 2025 – Svenska fysikersamfundets (SFS) medal for the best doctoral thesis in physics of 2024: SFS invited the Department of Physics to nominate a thesis. An internal nomination process was held. All supervisors with doctoral students who defended their theses in 2024 were invited to nominate these, with justifications to PA for discussion in the program council. Two nominations were received. The program council considered both theses to be strong candidates. However, unanimously, Julia Hannukainen's thesis was assessed to be slightly better based on both the thesis and the supervisor's (Jens Bardarson) justification. Therefore, PA has nominated Julia Hannukainen to SFS for the Oseen Medal 2025.

PhD student representative (Oscar)

- The PhD contract states that they have annual working hours (årsarbetstid)³, which is somewhat different from trust-based working hours (förtroendearbetstid). Johanna has contacted HR, and they already mention this to the PhD:s during the introductions.

Physics administration (Johanna)

- The department now has nine KTH t-shirts in different sizes that you can borrow.
- KTH will be 200 years in 2027. The KTH's anniversary office is invited to the next MGM-meeting March 17th at 13.30.

News or issues from Divisions (all)

- Jens raised that the policy for expense approval (sakattest) is unclear, particularly for postdocs.
- Jonas suggested that the department could collaborate to host PRAO students by splitting the days among several people. Jonas will look into how to organise this.

³ 1980 h/year