

Meeting on: 4 November 2020
Place: Microsoft Teams meeting
PhD committee meeting

Minutes

Participants: Helena Skyt Nielsen (Chair, ECON), Torsten Kolind (SOCSCIBUS), Peter Krøjgaard (PSY), Lars Frederiksen (MGMT), Søren Højgaard Mørup (LAW), Christoffer Green-Pedersen (PS), Torben Andersen (observer, BTECH), Emily Rose Tangsgaard Christensen (PhD representative, PS), Kristoffer Holst Ibsen (PhD representative, ECON), Allan Rye Lyngs (PhD representative, SOCSIBUS), Pernille Clausen (observer, BTECH), Raian Burgos Razal (observer, MGMT), Inge Lise Lundsgaard Kongshøj (observer, PSY), Per Baltzer Overgaard, Randi Groslier Bjælde (Aarhus BSS HR & PhD)

Absent: Peter Istrup (PhD representative, LAW)

Aarhus BSS HR & PhD

Ref.: rgb

Date: 18 November 2020

1. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved without comments.

2. Appointment of new vice-chair of the PhD committee (recommendation to the Dean)

As the current vice-chair is on maternity leave Kristoffer Holst Ibsen (PhD representative, ECON) was appointed new vice-chair for the remaining period until 1 February 2021.

3. Approval of observer

Raian Burgos Razal (observer, MGMT), Inge Lise Lundsgaard Kongshøj (observer, PSY)

The observers were approved.

4. Briefing on the current situation at Aarhus BSS Graduate School due to COVID-19 by Per Baltzer Overgaard

The PhD School Head gave a status on the current level of applications for extension and applications for dispensation for ECTS points and research environment change. Currently, 16 applications for extension of enrolment and employment has been received; 1 is in process, 8 has been fully or partially granted and 7 has been rejected. This amounts to app. 14.3 months extension, in the range from 14 days to three months. The PhD school administration has received 9 applications for dispensation from 30 ECTS and 28 dispensations for research environment change. All received applications for dispensation has been granted. In case of research environment change, all dispensations contained either a suggestion for a stay in Denmark or some sort of virtual element. *(Data per 2 November 2020, ref.)*

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The PhD students raised serious critique on the handling of applications for extension and dispensation. The PhD School Head invited the PhD students to a meeting to discuss the critique. Before the meeting, the PhD students will write up their comments and examples, so that an agenda can be drawn up.

5. Briefing on guidelines for dealing with offensive behaviour by Helena Skyt Nielsen

There is zero tolerance on offensive behaviour at AU.

In case of offensive behaviour, please see this website for more information for employees: <https://medarbejdere.au.dk/en/administration/hr/workingenvironment/psychological-work-environment/offensivebehaviour/>
And for students: <https://studerende.au.dk/en/zero-tolerance/>

6. Briefing on the enrolment and recruitment of PhD students following the round of applications in autumn 2020 by Per Baltzer Overgaard

A total of 330 applications were received for the autumn of 2020 open call, and 62 applicants were assessed as qualified. 29 candidates are recommended for enrolment with grants, distributed as follows: ECON (8), LAW (4), MGMT (4), PS (4), PSY (4), BTECH (3), SOCSIBUS (2). Of these, 28.5 is expected to be financed by the graduate school.

Furthermore, 4 candidates were recommended for enrolment at the autumn 2020 special calls, 100% external financing.

Through a longer period of time, the number of active PhD students enrolled at the graduate school were 50/50 male/female. This has not been the case in three of the last four application rounds. Of the recommended candidates in the current application round, 22 were male and 11 female. This will continue to be a point of attention in the coming application rounds.

Approximately 1/5 are international candidates. This is lower than normal and could be due to COVID-19. Most of the candidates will be enrolled as per 1 February 2021.

The briefing on enrolment and recruitment in autumn 2020 was noted.

7. Briefing on the dissertation assessment committees appointed for the period from 17 Marts 2020 to 20 October 2020.

Appendix 1: Assessment committees in the period 17 Marts 2020 to 20 October 2020

The briefing on assessment committees appointed for the period from 17 Marts 2020 to 20 October 2020 was noted.

8. Briefing on courses approved since the last meeting

Appendix 2: Case presentation on courses approved between January 2020 and Marts 2020

Appendix 2: Case presentation on courses approved between Marts and October 2020

Appendix 2a: Process tracing methods

Appendix 2b: Ph.d.-kursus i anvendelse af retspraksis i juridiske afhandlinger

Appendix 2c: Central concepts and theoretical debates in social science approaches to alcohol and drug research

Appendix 2d: Multilevel modelling

Appendix 2e: Advanced topics in the methodology of political theory

Appendix 2f: Research Frontiers in Law

Appendix 2g: Reinforcement Learning
Appendix 2: Case presentation on courses approved between November 2019 and January 2020.

Between Marts and October 2020 seven courses has been approved: Process tracing methods (PS, 1 ECTS), Ph.d.-kursus i anvendelse af retspraksis i juridiske afhandlinger (LAW, 3+1 ECTS), Central concepts and theoretical debates in social science approaches to alcohol and drug research (SOCSCIBUS, up to 5 ECTS), Multilevel modelling (MGMT, 2 ECTS), Advanced topics in the methodology of political theory (PS, 5 ECTS), Research Frontiers in Law (LAW, (1-2)x5 ECTS), and Reinforcement Learning (ECON, 5 ECTS).

The briefing on courses approved since the last meeting was noted.

6. Any other business

No other business

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