

Meeting on: 18 Marts 2021 from 11:00 - 12:00

Minutes

Place: Teams

PhD committee meeting

Participants: Susanne Kier (alternate for Søren Højgaard Mørup, Chair, LAW), Helena Skyt Nielsen (ECON), Torsten Kolind (SOCSCIBUS), Peter Krøjgaard (PSY), Birte Asmuß (MGMT), Christoffer Green-Pedersen (PS), Torben Andersen (BTECH), Inge Lise Lundsgaard Kongshøj (Vice chair, PhD representative, PSY), Cecilie Marie Løchte Jørgensen (PhD representative, ECON), Jesper Aagaard (PhD representative, LAW), Mathilde Albertsen Winsløw (PhD representative, PS), Natja Bech Kjeldsen (PhD representative, SOCSCIBUS), Michal Hron (Observer, MGMT), Kristoffer Holm (Observer, BTECH), Per Baltzer Overgaard, Randi Groslier Bjælde (Aarhus BSS HR & PhD)

Absent: Søren Højgaard Mørup (Chair, LAW)

1. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved without comments.

Aarhus BSS HR & Ph.d.

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

A short briefing on the current status for exemptions and extensions was given by Per Baltzer Overgaard. Requests for either extensions or exemptions regarding research environment change stays are continuously coming in and are handled individually case by case as usual during covid-19. Currently, 29 applications for extension of enrolment and employment has been received; 1 is in process, 17 has been fully or partially granted and 11 has been rejected. This amounts to app. 33 months extension, in the range from 14 days to four months. The PhD school administration has not received any new applications for dispensation from 30 ECTS since the summer of 2020. A total of 49 dispensations for research environment change 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 17 Marts 2021, ref.)

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2.1 Inquiry into the extension rules that apply to parents with children send home due to Covid-19 by the PhD students

The PhD students inquired about more focus on delays due to working from home with repatriated children. The PhD students comments that in the memorandum send out by the PhD school, this is subject to "individual, special circumstances", but in view of the recent lockdown of the small school classes as well as the local lockdowns, they find the question relevant. In addition, there are of course periods with children sent home for isolation due to COVID-19 symptoms or due to COVID-19 in the institution.

PBO explained that in the memorandum concerning procedures for requests of exemptions or extensions it is noted that special, individual circumstances will

be taken into account before a decision is reached. This could be difficulties concerning childcare as a cause of covid-19. However, working at home with minor children send home from daycare is not in itself enough reason to grant an extension, as this is the reality for all public employees, but it factors into the special, individual circumstances. Special, individual circumstances could be single parenting or special conditions in the home. Hence, the Graduate School still requires a detailed account of why and for how long extensions are requested and will handle each case individually.

PBO further commented that Aarhus BSS and the graduate school acknowledges the difficulties that arise by working from home, but has to take into consideration that these difficulties arise for all employees at Aarhus University as well as students, not only temporarily employed junior faculty and PhD students.

3. Briefing on the enrolment and recruitment of PhD students following the round of applications in spring 2021 by Per Baltzer Overgaard

A total of 354 applications were received for the spring of 2021 open call, and 71 applicants were assessed as qualified. As the finances are somewhat tight only 21 candidates are recommended for enrolment with grants, distributed as follows: ECON (5), LAW (3), MGMT (3), PS (4), PSY (3), BTECH (2), SOCSCIBUS (1). All are financed by the graduate school.

Furthermore, 7 candidates were recommended for enrolment at the spring 2021 special calls, 5 of these have 100% external financing, and 2 are financed by the graduate school.

Of the candidates offered enrolment, 17 are female and 11 are male, which is a turnaround from the last application round. Approximately 21% are international candidates. This was also the case in the last application round and could be an effect due to covid-19. Most of the candidates will be enrolled as per 1 September 2021.

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

4. Briefing on the dissertation assessment committees appointed for the period from 11 January 2021 to 9 Marts 2021.

Appendix 1: Assessment committees in the period 11 January 2021 to 9 Marts 2021

The briefing on assessment committees appointed for the period from 11 January 2021 to 9 Marts 2021 was noted. Per Baltzer Overgaard (PBO) commented that the gender composition mirrors the gender composition of the faculty.

5. Briefing on courses approved since the last meeting

Appendix 2: Case presentation on courses approved between 11 January 2021 and 9 marts 2021.

Appendix 2a: Introduction to applied survival analysis and time (online)

Appendix 2b: Theory and Theorizing in Social Science Research

Between 11 January 2021 and 9 marts 2021 2 courses has been approved: Introduction to applied survival analysis and time (online) (SOCSCIBUS, ECTS, the course has previously been approved for 4 ECTS, but now includes a written assignment), and Theory and Theorizing in Social Science Research (PS, 5 ECTS).

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

6. Any other business

No any other business.

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