

Meeting on: 13 November 2023 from 11.00-12.00

Place: 1443-340

PhD committee meeting

Minutes

Participants: Birte Asmuß (chair, MGMT), Helena Skyt Nielsen (ECON), Torsten Kolind (SOCSCIBUS), Sven Kunisch (Observer, BTECH), Dorthe Kirkegaard Thomsen (PSY), Susanne Kier (LAW), Helene Helboe Pedersen (PS), Ida Braad Albek (PhD representative, PS), Jonathan Seb Salicath (PhD representative, LAW), Mathias Barding (PhD representative, ECON), Mette Jakobsen (PhD representative, MGMT, Observer), Oliver Fuglsang Grooss (PhD representative BTECH), Niels Mejlgaard (PhD School Head), Randi Groslier Bjælde (Aarhus BSS HR & PhD)

Absent: Andrea Søndergaard Poulsen (PhD representative PSY), Simon Fuglsang (vice-chair PhD representative, SOCSCIBUS)

Aarhus BSS HR & Ph.d.

Ref.: rgb

Date: 30 November 2023

1. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved without comments.

2. Approval of observer

Mette Jakobsen (PhD representative, MGMT, Observer) was approved as observer.

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3. Briefing on the enrolment and recruitment of PhD students following the round of applications in autumn 2023 by Niels Mejlgaard

A total of 329 applications were received for the autumn of 2023 open call, and 55 applicants were assessed as qualified. This time 30 candidates are recommended for enrolment with grants. 27.2 of these are financed by the graduate school, 2.8 are externally funded.

Of the candidates offered enrolment, 17 are female and 13 are male. Approximately 5% are international candidates, and four candidates are offered enrolment in the 4 year scheme. Most of the candidates will be enrolled as per 1 February 2023.

The briefing on enrolment and recruitment in autumn 2023 was noted.

4. Update on meetings in the well-being committee by Niels Mejlgaard

Focus areas 2023:

1, Staff Development Dialogue for PhD students

At Aarhus BSS Graduate School it is as a rule of thumbs the programme chair who holds SDD with their PhD students. The exception is SOCSCIBUS where SDD is held by the Centre director or similar. All employed PhD students must have an SDD each year. PhD students that are not enrolled have the possibility to also have an SDD.

2, Career awareness and off-boarding (completion/extension)

In the onboarding programme and the rules and regulations for the Graduate School it is stipulated that the supervisor must talk to their PhD students about career. It is also possible (and recommended) to contact AU Career and Junior Researchers if needed.

3, International students

There might be a higher risk for international PhD students/non Danish speakers of experiencing loneliness. It is important to try to be inclusive towards our international colleagues.

5. **Status on the well-being funds** by PhD students

The PhD students briefly informed about the status for the use of the well-being funds 2023. All events have been well received.

There will be a new open call for applications for well-being funds from the Graduate School to be used in 2024. The deadline will be announced later, but it will be in March 2024.

6. **Discussion on the process for approval of external courses** by PhD students

The question is whether the process around external courses can be made more transparent and easier to navigate. Possible measures could be more information about this on the PhD school's website (<https://bss.au.dk/en/research/phd/courses>) or an overview of how the school "normally" regulates ect points from large summer schools e.g. Essex.

As the Graduate School is so diverse, each PhD programme should think about how to best inform their PhD students on the local practices for ECTS for external courses. The Graduate School will think about how to update the "Guide to preapproval of external courses".

7. **Written briefings enclosed on decisions made by the graduate school head upon delegation from the PhD committee at the constituent meeting in January 2023:**

Appendix 1a: dissertation assessment committee(s) appointed since 13 March 2023

Appendix 1b: course(s) approved since 24 March 2023

There were no comments to the written briefings.

8. **Written briefing enclosed on current PhD numbers** by Niels Mejlgaard

Appendix 2: PhD numbers for Aarhus BSS Graduate School per 2 November 2023

There were no comments to the written briefing.



9. Any other business

No other business

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