



Department of Physics

Management Council meeting

Monday 2nd Sep 2024, 12.00 – 14.00, A5:1003

Zoom: <https://kth-se.zoom.us/j/8512095344>

Participants: Maria Giamouridou, Jens Bardarson, Jonas Strandberg, Pär Olsson, Mattias Blennow, Tommy Ohlsson, Torbjörn Bäck, Josefin Larsson, Edwin Langmann, Mats Persson, Carina Ankarloo

Minutes

- **News & general items**
 - Reminder: KAW Fellows 2025
 - 31/10 Full application to wallenbergfoundations@kth.se
 - Discussion and approval from Department first
Discussion - No pre-application this time, full application to KAW. KAW want both internal and external applicants. Discussion on how and if we can search for and encourage external candidates, and if the department really can use this option.
Conclusion – We do not actively search externally at present but encourage internal candidates. Two persons that will be encourage to apply is Mats Persson and Yunxiang Liao.
 - 29/11 KTH/RSO selects and informs the 12 (6+6)
 - 20/12 Deadline for full application update to RSO
 - 20/1 feedback from KTH
 - 3/2 Support letter to RSO
 - 15/2 Deadline to KAW
 - Reminder: KTH celebration 2027 (200 years)
 - Wide range of events – more info coming out, e.g. arranging conferences may get some funding etc.

- Recruitment of faculty, including affiliation and Docenture is moving from KTH centrally to the school and the faculty board. A committee on the board will handle this.
 - New structure to start from 1/1 2025
 - Rektor has approved an initiative (KTH NEED IT as working name) on collecting the nuclear and related faculty and researchers to enhance collaboration in the field at KTH and position us on the national stage (initial funding of 1 MSEK). We hope that this will put KTH as an obvious host for a future strategic research area in this field.
- **Salary discussions**
 - To be held during September
 - Pär handles faculty
 - Division heads handles rest. May split with deputy head if possible. (detailed list of who you should invite will be sent out asap, later today if I have all info from school)
 - Report back to me by **Sep 25** – what Pär want you to report will be sent in email with list and instructions
 - The new salary will be initiated Oct 1.
- **New department structure**
 - All moves finalized
 - NSE now in C3, A3 and D5
 - PAM in A5 and A2
 - CMT still in A4
 - Website presence? Marta has done some changes but Torbjörn will go over the pages and give her feedback. Most important is that you can find the right person with contact info.
- **Revision of MSc and PhD programs**
 - Meeting on 19/6 10-12 for discussion of actions.
 - Tommy made list of items that we aim to converge on Thursday 5/9. Participants: Tommy, Josefin, Pär, Mattias and Egor. A report will come out in the end of Sept.
 - Nothing major to change in our MSc and PhD programmes
 - Overview of courses with few students – establish systematic routine to handle such (give every other year, give the course if minimum xx is registered, should it be cancelled, etc)
 - Propose routines for promoting joint teaching with e.g. SU
 - Torbjörn is part of a central overview of KTH programs. Some programs may be merged and some cancelled.

- **JML**
 - Workshop based on a report on gender-based violence/harassment by Anna Wahl under planning for fall term. To be scheduled (probably in Oct/Nov). It will probably be split sessions with 2-3 dates to choose from. The workshop will be for everybody as an ongoing event with different topics.

- **Faculty renewal (Edwin)**
 - Assistant professor in Physics with specialization in Nuclear Power Safety
 - Ad is open, has been prolonged until 30/10 (only 1 of 40 candidates meets the requirements. Preferably at least 5 applicants needs to meet the requirements)
 - Please reach out to your networks and inform about this opportunity, even if it's out of your own field!
 - Sebastian Stichel has taken over as deputy head of faculty renewal at SCI after Mark Pearce.

- **Undergraduate education (Tommy)**
 - Information on review of education programs was sent out June 19 by Pär.
 - First meeting Sept 5, kl. 13.00-14.30
 - Second meeting Sept 23, kl. 13.00-14.30
 - 7 basic/advanced level courses will be reviewed. 2 project courses will be revised. 4 courses will be replaced by new courses, relativity theory and astro physics. 1 new course in machine learning that Mats P has been working on will be sent in and will begin in HT 2025. The plan is that we will have a PhD version of this course. Chong is working on this.
 - SH2615, Neutron transport theory, will be cancelled from HT 25 when Vasily retires.
 - Staffing for VT 25 will be ready in nov-dec.

- **Outreach (Josefin)**
 - 5 summer students this year. Josefin will send out an evaluation.
 - [Lise Meitner days](#), Nov 29 – Dec 1. The new Outreach committee will try to have a meeting before that. Almost all members in the committee has been decided.

- **Doctoral programme (Mattias)**
 - Status of ISP. Many ISP is not updated but seems to be in process.
 - Compensation for courses that are relevant to all programs. We had a discussion in spring 23 but we should bring it up for discussion again.
 - JML in the division and departments. We have 10 PhD recruitments this year so far but only 1 of the recruited is a woman. Is there anything we can do to improve this? The ratio in the applicants is around 70-30 so we should be able to do better.
 - [Time plan for PhD defence](#) is prolonged from 10 to 13 weeks. The time plan is a bit flexible but the time limit to distribute the thesis is strict 3 weeks before dissertation.

- **PhD student representative (Maria)**
 - Maria will talk to a contact about reaching out to more women for PhD positions. Most of the information in the recruitment ads is fixed, we can only change the information about the position. We are perhaps more likely to succeed if we can encourage our female master students to proceed with PhD studies.

- **Physics administration (Carina)**
 - Our department administrator Linda is unfortunately no longer working at KTH. A recruitment process during summer has led to employment of a new colleague, Jenny Sundström, who will join the team in October 28. In the meanwhile Carina and Sofia will help out. Send emails to service@physics.kth.se as usual.

- **News or issues from Divisions (all)**
 - International invoices is handled by central administration only once a month and therefore we are often late with these payments and get reminders with fees etc. This cannot be something we should accept. (Carina will talk to Jennie)
 - Agresso sends so many reminders, can this be reduced? Sometimes you get a reminder even though you have no posts in EFH to handle. (Carina will talk to Jennie)