

# **REFERAT PhD Committee for the Doctoral School of Social Sciences and Business d. 31-08-2023**

**Mødedato** Torsdag d. 31. august 2023 kl. 13:00

**Mødested** 25.1-003

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## **Punkt 1: Approval of agenda**

Approved beforehand by e-mail

Cancellations:

Alternates attending:

### **Beslutning**

Agenda approved

**Participants:** Hanne Marlene Dahl, Peter Triantafillou, Ada Scupola, Olivier Rubin, Johan Fischer, Hanne Warming, Mirel Tatomir, Sergei Mozheiko, Wladimir Santana Fernandes, Emilia Teresa Lewartowska, Lukas Bogner (alternate for Sebastian D. Mørk)

**Observant:** Lars Buur (program leader)

**Secretariat:** Halime B. Simsek

## **Punkt 2: Minutes from last meeting**

1. Minutes from last meeting –

### **Beslutning**

Approved

## **Punkt 3: Update from the Head of the Doctoral School - and news from RDS (10 min)**

Update from the Head of the Doctoral School – and news from RDS (10 minutes)

1. Enrolled PhD's and defenses held
2. Updates on courses
3. News from RDS

### **Beslutning**

Hanne Marlene briefed the committee about the number of enrolled PhD fellows and number of defenses this year.

- 40 PhD students
- 2 PhD hand ins and 4 expected hand ins in the fall

From 2024 Roskilde University plans to sell 'Søminen' to meet budget cuts. This is very unfortunate for PhD students, who are worried where to plan their writing retreats (with overnight stay). Hanne Marlene informed, that the university are currently considering making an agreement with 'Søminen', so instead of owning it, the university will be able to use it when necessary. PhD fellows were happy to hear about this possible solution.

Hanne Marlene also briefed about the evaluation filled out by former PhD students at Roskilde University. The satisfaction rate amongst PhD candidates has increased with both supervision and the course portfolio, and the evaluation have been filled out by 70% PhD candidates. At the Department of Social Science and Business the alumni (PhD's) are experiencing two main challenges: 1) Teaching and 2) Career guidance. Hanne Marlene said that the doctoral school is already aware of these issues and working on them with the supervisor, vice-dean etc. Concerning career guidance ISE doctoral school has been awaiting Roskilde Doctoral school to make a workshop, and the first of these is taking place 31st of October this year: workshop on Career Development.

## Punkt 4: Future courses (30 min)

### Future courses

1. Introduction to quantitative research methods (21-22. september)
2. PDS: Doing a PhD while the house is on fire (19. oktober)
3. Writing a kappe/frame (26-27. september)
4. PDS: How to publish your thesis as a book (23. oktober)
5. Writing Retreat i Byens Hus (27. oktober)
6. Qualitative research interviews
7. **Challenges to Academic Freedom (6-7. november)**  
**Course description is attached - please see the attached file (1) with an adjusted course description**
8. PDS: Teaching, tips and trick of the trade (13. november)
9. PDS: Weird and wonderful work in progress (17. november)
10. Research Design 1 ECTS (23. november)
11. SDC Research Design: MAtching Methods and Theory in Social Sciences and Business Research (28. november - 5. december)
12. Get your article published in a Social Science or Business Journal (7-9. februar)

## Beslutning

Planned future courses in the fall semester were presented by Hanne Marlene and the members were given the opportunity to comment. They had comments regarding following courses:

### Challenges to Academic Freedom:

The course lacks information about aim, format and types of exercises. Members also emphasized the list of objectives, which is too broad, and the complete objectives list can be difficult to reach within 2 course days.

The committee decided to request a more described course information before approving. The Head of the Doctoral School decided it would be an email hearing.

### Research Design small course:

- PhD fellows once again emphasized the confusion between the 1 and 5 ECTS Research design courses and requested a name change for the 1 ECTS course to be: “**Introduction to Research Design**”. This issue had been discussed at a previous committee meeting, and the PhD coordinator will change it on all course platforms.
- The committee also discussed confusion between whether both course versions should be mandatory. The reason is that since the mandatory 5 ECTS Research Design course runs once every spring, students enrolled in September will have to wait almost a year before taking the course if there wasn't a short version. The short course is very relevant especially when writing the PhD Plan, which is why this is an issue.

Some members therefore suggested the 1 ECTS small course should be mandatory but only for PhD students starting in September. PhD fellows found this suggestion unfair, because PhD students enrolled in September then will be required 6 mandatory ECTS, whilst students enrolled in February have 5 mandatory ECTS.

The committee decided to keep the 5 ECTS Research Design course in the spring mandatory, and to *strongly encourage* PhD students enrolled in September to sign up for the 1 ECTS course.

The committee also discussed the Professional Development Seminar “The Good Defense” which has not run lately due to mismatch in seminar dates and the PhD fellows’ defense dates. The members agreed that offering the seminar 3 months prior to defense dates will be a good idea, perhaps with a name change to “Tips and Tricks before the defense”.

## **Bilag**

ISE PhD Course\_ Challenges to Academic Freedom.pdf

Future course Fall 2023.pdf

## **Punkt 5: Follow up on PhD day (10 min)**

Follow up on PhD day

### **Beslutning**

Hanne Marlene briefly informed the committee about the programme for the PhD Day which was organized with both social and academic activities relevant for the PhD students. The feedback from the PhD students was that the presentations were over all good, especially the presentation from the Danish Royal Library and from Associate Professor, Janni Møller Hartley about interdisciplinarity.

The PhD students also requested time during the PhD Day where all students have a private space to talk without the presence of any staff. Hanne Marlene replied that this request can be challenged by limited time and packed programme activities, however herself and the PhD coordinator will try to take it into consideration if it is possible. Hanne Marlene also encouraged the PhD students to be proactive and arrange lunches among themselves, where they also can have the opportunity to meet.

### **Bilag**

PhD Day 2023.pdf

Programme PhD Day 2023.pdf

## **Punkt 6: PhD Plan template**

Final approval

### **Beslutning**

The PhD plan template were commented on by the committee in a written hearing, and received therefore very few comments at the meeting:

- A maximum character cap.  
The committee decided it should be max 24.000 characters which is equivalent to 10 pages.
- An addition about which parts / chapters of the dissertation the PhD students plan on writing each semester.

Some committee members were uncertain about the interpretation of the template. Hanne Marlene suggested that she and Lars drafted aa preamble that provided some clarity about how to approach writing the PhD plan.

The Head of the Doctoral School informed members that the new PhD plan template will be uploaded to the Intra page within the next few weeks.

### **Bilag**

PhD Plan template.pdf

## **Punkt 7: PhD Funds**

At a welcome meeting for a new PhD, it was put forward, that maybe we could rethink the amount or use of the PhD Funds of 65.000 DKK. The person in question compared the use of funds when writing a monograph to writing articles, and that language checks on articles are very costly compared to monographs.

### **Beslutning**

This item was brought to our attention by a PhD supervisor. The issue concerns whether the 15.000 DKK in the PhD budget for proof reading equally covers the costs of monography and articles in an article-based PhD. Hanne Marlene confirmed that this was the case and will ensure that the finance department at ISE aligns with this understanding.

There was also huge confusion regarding whether the 15.000 DKK in the PhD Budget is included in the 65.000 DKK or if it is additional.

The PhD students have a PhD Fund with 65.000 DKK but also a Proof-reading Fund with 15.000 DKK (additional).

This will be informed much clearer from the PhD administration to avoid future confusion.

## **Punkt 8: Future activities for PhD fellows (5 min)**

Future activities

### **Beslutning**

PhD fellows asked program leader Lars Buur if he and Tine Rostgaard have a social Christmas gathering planned like the year before. Lars Buur responded that after the last WIP seminar the 5th of December some “hygge” will be planned and information will be sent out.

## **Punkt 9: Misc (5 min)**

Misc

### **Beslutning**

During the last executive committee, a new format for the third half yearly evaluation was discussed after a presentation by Lars Fuglsang on mid-term evaluations at some Norwegian universities. A PhD fellow asked to the status of this idea, which Hanne Marlene replied is still under consideration. The advice of the committee at the last meeting not unilaterally in favor of such a change. The idea requires extra manpower from the administration and academic staff, which is not available at the moment with budget cuts, change in staff members etc.

Lukas Bogner will attend the next Executive committee meeting as an alternate for PhD fellow Mirel Tatomir. The PhD coordinator will contact the electoral office about how to manage a situation with an sufficient numbers of alternates to replace two of existing ones going abroad on research stays.