

Activity report for 2021/22

PhD Student Council at the Faculty of Science and Engineering -- Teknisk-naturvetenskapliga doktorandrådet (TNDR)

July 1st, 2021 to June 30th, 2022

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The board

The board consisted of:

Chair	Tina Vrieler, Department of Information Technology
Vice-chair	Nour Aldin Kahlous, Department of Cell and Molecular Biology
Secretary	Zbigniew Wilczynski, Department of Earth Sciences
Treasurer	Tong You, Department of Cell and Molecular Biology
IT officer	Sarbojit Das, Department of Information Technology
Social organizers	Ignacio Andrés Cuevas Zuviría, Department of Chemistry Ångström Filip Ilievski, Department of Cell and Molecular Biology

Ten TNDR board meetings were held during the fiscal year:

1. September 3rd 2021, Hybrid meeting: ITC & Zoom
2. October 18th 2021, Hybrid meeting: Geocentrum & Zoom
3. November 19th 2021, Ångström
4. December 15th 2021, BMC
5. January 26th 2022, Geocentrum
6. February 23th 2022, SciLifeLab
7. March 23rd 2022, Ångström house 10
8. April 13th 2022, BMC
9. May 17th 2022, Geocentrum
10. June 8th 2022, BMC

In between, the board had discussions over a new TNDR board slack channel or email on various TNDR issues and activities. A hand-over meeting with the members of the previous board was arranged during June 2021. For the year of 21/22, the board elected many new members. Only Tong You and Ignacio Andrés Cuevas Zuviría continued from last year's board. In general, the hand-over meeting was perceived as quite smooth. Previous board members expressed willingness to help new board members get into their positions by answering any questions they might have. This support has been much appreciated. Most of the board members have scheduled an individual appointment with a relevant predecessor to learn the detailed duties of the position.

Pierfrancesco Maltoni was elected in the September council meeting as the chair for the election committee. Begüm Serra Büyüktarakçı was elected to support Pierfrancesco in his work. Almost all representative positions, except for the position in the Advisory committee for collaboration and Centre for image analysis (CBA), have been filled by the end of year 2021. TNDR has encouraged PhD students to apply for these unfilled positions. Anna Frost was re-elected as auditor in the September council meeting for TNDR for the financial year 2021/2022.

Council Meetings

Five TNDR council meetings were held:

1. September 24th, 2021, 12:15

Where: Hybrid meeting, BMC & Zoom

Number of participants: 30

Details: The board presented the focus activities for the year 2021/2022, the TNDR grants and informed about the relief of responsibility of the previous board. The council elected some of the vacant representative positions, and informed about finances, social events and the website. Lunch was provided to the PhD students that attended the meeting.

2. December 9th, 2021, 12:15

Where: Hybrid meeting, Ångström Hybrid meeting

Number of participants: 24

Details: Two positions were elected at the council meeting. Anna Ivert, chair of UTN, shared some information about UTN's work. The board informed about the meeting with the PhD students on Gotland, as well as about the accepted TNDR grants applications. The information officer showed TNDR's website and the new Google form for grant applications. The council discussed safety measures taken at social events. Other boards' representatives (Faculty board and FUN) got the opportunity to share information with the participants. Lunch was provided to the PhD students that attended the meeting.

3. February 25th, 2022, 12:15

Where: Hybrid meeting, Geocentrum

Number of participants: 27

Details: The board informed about the new guidelines for postgraduate education and also about the meeting with the departmental representatives. The board also informed about what a PhD ombudsperson does, and about PhD days and social activities. The chair of UTN, Anna Ivert, was also present at the meeting to further inform about what it entails for TNDR to become a section of UTN. Lunch was provided to the PhD students that attended the meeting.

4. April 25th, 2022, 12:15

Where: Hybrid meeting, Ångström, House 10

Number of participants: 33

Details: There was no election at the meeting since no one signed up for the available positions. The board presented the activity report (including the financial report) and the activity plan (including the budget for 22/23). Representatives from FUN, DN and the faculty board were given the opportunity to talk about their work on the different boards. Information on how to apply for prolongation for representative work was presented as well. Many of the doctoral students are affected by the current war in Ukraine. The board informed about where and who the students could talk to if they need it. A voting was conducted for TNDR to become a section association of UTN. A department has one vote. All of the departments voted unanimously for TNDR to become a section association of UTN. Lastly, TNDR informed about current and upcoming social activities, including PhD Days.

5. May 30th, 2022 (Annual/Election meeting), 12:15

Where: Hybrid meeting, Ångström House 2

Number of participants: 30

Details: The board gave the last update of the activity report, including the financial statement. The board informed about the updated cooperation agreement between UTN and TNDR, and shared the referral answer from the faculty. Elections of TNDR board members and of representatives to different boards and committees were held. We managed to find representatives to many positions but, unfortunately, there are positions still vacant. The meeting ended with information from the TNDR board and messages from the faculty board, the graduate education board, and the doctoral board.

The council meetings should be in different locations within the faculty, in order to encourage students from all campuses to attend the meetings. During the last year, all council meetings were hybrid so the participants could attend both in-person and on zoom. The high number of attendances, as well as the fact that PhD students from Campus Gotland joined the council meetings, indicates that this is not necessarily a disadvantage and encourages the future boards to continue having hybrid meetings even also in the future.

Meeting with TEKNAT Department Board Representatives

On the 18th of January 2022 the TNDR board had a lunch hybrid meeting with department board representatives from different departments of TEKNAT. Lunch was provided by TNDR. This meeting was a new initiative taken by the board of 21/22. The meeting turned out to be very successful. The PhD student representatives got the opportunity to share their problems, concerns, experiences and successes with other PhD student representatives. The

minutes from the meeting is available on TNDR's website. At the end of the meeting, it was decided that TNDR should arrange a meeting with PhD student representatives during the autumn semester each academic year.

Thank You Giftcard to TEKNAT Representatives

To show gratitude to the representatives, TNDR gave each representative a 100 SEK gift card from GoGift.

Representation

TNDR has elected representatives for the faculty board, the graduate education board, the doctoral board, the faculty equality board, the recruitment board, etc. All representatives are listed in the table below. People who were not elected at the annual meeting 2021 have the month they were elected indicated in parenthesis after their name.

Organ	PhD-student representative/-s
Doctoral board	Michela Di Criscio, Erik Bowall, Deputy: Jana Rieger
Faculty board	August Wollter Deputy: Tina Vrieler
Advisory committee for Research	Viktor Djurberg (September)
Advisory committee for Education	Karla Münzner
Advisory committee for Collaboration	Violeta de Anca Prado (February)
Graduate education board	Corrado Comparotto Makoto Shigei (September)
Faculty scholarship board	Nour Aldin Kahlous
Recruitment committee	Mohsen Bazargan (September) Deputy: Neele Schmidt (September)
Docentship committee	Jonas Steensoft
Board for the appointment of excellent teachers	Sribalaji Coimbatore Anand (September)
Equality committee	Tina Vrieler

Centre for Discipline-Based Education Research (MINT)	Sofie Ye
Centre for Interdisciplinary Mathematics (CIM)	Esteban Vélez Ramírez Deputy: Elizabeth Wetzer and (September)
Centre for National Hazards and Disaster Science (CNDS)	Maximilian Wanner
UPPMAX board	Tong You
Tandem board	Kristina Komander (December)
Centre for neutron scattering	Pierfrancesco Maltoni (December)

The Upptech board does not exist any longer; if they meet again, we will have the possibility to send a PhD student representative.

The library council does not exist any longer and was removed from the list; if they meet again, we will have the possibility to send a PhD student representative.

TNDR is no longer to elect a representative to the International Science Program (ISP). The PhD student representative for the year 21/22 is Minh-Thao Nguyen. The chair of ISP informed TNDR that Minh-Thao Nguyen was appointed by the student unions.

The positions in the advisory committee for collaboration, centre for image analysis (CBA), and deputy position in TANDEM were vacant at the end of 2021; all other positions were filled. TNDR continued the trend from previous years of filling most positions.

As of the 25th of April 2022, TNDR became a section association of UTN and has, therefore, three more electable positions. The three electable positions are *safety officer*, *UTN council meeting representative* and *UTN election committee representative*. The representative positions *UTN council meeting* and *UTN election committee* come with a financial compensation of 300 SEK per meeting, netto. The compensation for the representatives will come out of TNDR's budget. The two UTN-related positions require that the representatives understand Swedish in written and verbal communication. TNDR did not vote for any representatives for the two UTN-related positions at the annual meeting 2022 because according to UTN's statutes TNDR cannot receive these mandates until spring 2023.

The *safety officer* position does not require the representative to know Swedish. In addition, UTN has a separate monthly meeting for representatives on the different roles on the board.

UTN encourages members of the TNRD board to attend these meetings if they have the possibility.

Report from the Doctoral Board (DN)

During the academic year of 2021/2022, the doctoral board of Uppsala University has up until now (12/4) gathered on the following dates: 28/9, 26/10, 30/11, 21/12, 25/1, 22/2 and 22/3. At least one representative from TNRD has been present at every meeting. Following is a summary of what the board has been working on during the past year.

Language survey

A language survey was conducted by the board during the 2020/2021. A report on the results has been compiled, shared with the representatives as well as presented at different university functions.

New website

The old website has been shut down and the new board website is up and running. Information on how to use the new website has been passed on to representatives and faculty boards.

Aliens act

The “Aliens act” (sv. Utlänningslagen) has been in effect since 20/7 of 2021, affecting the situation negatively for many PhD students in Sweden. The board has been working with the university, other boards and associations together with representatives from other universities to raise awareness, add to the debate and support those that are in urgent need of help. A manifestation in Uppsala, Saturday 5/3, was organised by the board.

Discussions with dvc Coco Norén

Deputy vice-chancellor Coco Norén joined one board meeting during the Fall semester and will join once again in April. Matters that were discussed with the deputy vice-chancellor were: language survey report, aliens act, UU Climate inventory.

Digital ISP

The board has, for quite some time, discussed the possibility of introducing standardised and fully digital ISP routines. The planning department has been conducting a pre-study and the result which was presented to the management council during the spring. This is an ongoing work.

Liveability and well-being

Cost of living is increasing and PhD students feel like the salary is not keeping up. The quality of housing provided by the UU Housing Office is seen as low, especially in older buildings. A working group has been created and will focus on working on these issues.

Neuroscience work environment/sexual harassment issues

After the news about organisational, work environment and sexual harassment issues at the department of neuroscience surfaced in 2021, the board has been following the issue and especially the situation for affected PhD students. The discussions have also touched on the state of whistleblower functions at the university and recent changes in laws relating to whistleblowing.

PhD Survey from Division of Quality Enhancement

The board has been supervising the student response rate to the survey from the Division of Quality Enhancement and taken measures to increase the response rate when necessary.

PhD student involvement in recruitment

Discussions have been conducted on how PhD students are involved in recruitment of faculty all over the university, what the PhD students want here and how to take action.

New guidelines for representation prolongation – how to simplify application

Applying for prolongation for representation work can be tricky, and most of the information on the procedure is only available in Swedish. The board is discussing how the process of applying could be made more accessible.

War in Ukraine

Affected students have mentioned that it is hard to get the help they need. Especially troublesome is the responses received from Previa (UU company healthcare) that it is not related to the work environment. This is an ongoing discussion.

Post-defence depression

An ongoing discussion on the subject of post-defence depression discusses how the board and the university in general can prepare and support PhD students after they have finished their studies. This is a complex issue e.g. since they do not have access to company healthcare after their employment is terminated, and it is easy to just state that they are not the university's responsibility anymore after graduating.

Report from the Faculty Board (FN)

During the fall semester there were three meetings with the faculty board, 7 September 2021, an overnight meeting 19-20 October 2021 and the 23 November 2021. The ordinary member representing TNDR was present at all these meetings, and the secondary member was present during the October meeting.

During this semester several graduate education programs presented reports from their external evaluation, and these were read and discussed and the suggested improvements were decided. New guidelines and a revised study plan for the graduate education was also discussed, and will be decided during the next year.

The faculty's activity plan (Verksamhetsplan) for 2022 was approved. There were also discussions on how the new LAS would apply to our faculty. New master programs were launched as well.

In the spring semester 2022 the research education evaluations at Geosciences, Chemistry and Computer Sciences were approved by the board. We also discussed the University's new task of "Lifelong Learning" at several meetings, and took decisions about the direction of the faculty regarding this. We also set the directives for the faculty activity plan for 2023.

A new research education program Engineering Science with specialization in Biomedical Engineering was established. New guidelines for the faculty parts of the general study plan for doctoral education was approved as well.

Report from the graduate education board (FUN)

The graduate educational board held 8 meetings during the academic year 2021-2022 (25 August, 29 September, 13 October, 3 November, 8 December, 19 January, 9 March, 4 May). We also had a one-day online career event for those who were interested in doctoral education (Utnarm, 11 November). The Annual FUS meeting was held on 20 November and the FUAP meeting on 20 January. Either one or both doctoral student representatives were present in the meetings.

The graduate educational board has been working on the following topics during the academic year:

Distribution of funds for PhD courses

Before the beginning of every semester, the graduate educational board must select which courses will be funded, since more funds are usually demanded than those that are available. In autumn, for example, 2 millions SEK were available, but the demand was for 3.2 million. The decision is made by voting, where every member of the graduate educational board is entitled to 1 vote, including the PhD representatives.

Admission process of externally funded PhD students

Before admission of externally funded PhD students, the graduate educational board checks that all documents are in order and the planning looks adequate. The graduate educational board goes through this admission process almost every meeting, since there are often new PhD students coming.

Summarising the guidelines for PhD students in TEKNAT

A small group of the graduate educational board (six members, including one PhD representative) has been working on summarising the guidelines for PhD students in TEKNAT. They were scattered in 13 different documents and needed to be merged into a single one.

Compiling a list of PhD courses

It is hard for PhD students, especially for the new ones, to have an overview of the courses they are allowed to take. A list of the PhD courses offered by the technology section has been compiled. Hopefully, other sections will follow this example.

Utnarm (2021 November)

On 11 November, FUN held a one-day career session under the Utnarm event platform. It was carried out on zoom and all institutes had a time slot to introduce their PhD program and discuss with students interested in PhD positions. Both PhD representatives took part in their department's time slot to answer the students' questions.

Gotland campus issues (Co-opt from Gotland student)

Several issues in the Gotland campus were brought up to the board during this semester because of the remote environment, courses, conditions for travelling, and so on. The new position as a PhD co-opt for FUN was made to improve the communication between the PhD students at Gotland and the Uppsala campus. The co-opt will continue to join the future FUN meeting when there are relevant topics for the Gotland campus. The prolongation and condition for the co-opt student were not fixed and will be discussed.

Working on FUN annual report

As to summarise the yearly work by FUN, we are currently writing the annual report of FUN. This year, a new chapter will be added about COVID-19 related effects on doctoral education. It was based on the questionnaire and answers from all institutes and one of the PhD representatives was working for it.

We also raised several issues at the board meeting, which were collected by the online survey and email responses. The answers from FUN for each message were sent back to the individuals. We will continue to be open to receiving the specific topic and questions from all PhD students.

Social Activities

Ever since the outbreak of the covid19 pandemic, social activities have been restricted throughout Sweden. Bearing in mind the governmental restrictions and the TNDR board's

responsibility, we sought to optimize fun in the best possible way without compromising safety.

1. 17 September 2021

Where: Ångström

Title: PhD Upplympics

Number of participants: around 50

Details: Participants pre-registered in teams of 4 or were assigned team members on the spot and then engaged in various activities such as trivia quiz, Jenga, thug of war, to name a few, where each team competed against each other. The purpose of this format was to encourage interaction among the PhD students present. At the end of the long day, we enjoyed a barbeque.

2. 4 October 2021

Where: SciLifeLab

Title: TNDR's Nobel Night

Number of participants: 20

Details: It was a hybrid event that took place in Tripple room in Navet. There was interaction with invited guests in the form of Dr. Stuart Cantrill, editor-in-chief of Nature Chemistry and Dr. LC Champeau, director of the research and development division in Merck. There was a panel discussion and a quiz regarding Nobel prize history.

3. 6 November 2021

Where: Ångström

Title: Murder Mystery Evening

Number of participants: 45

Details: This role-playing event was a huge success, as students tried to find the killer among them while enjoying a chat and mingling with others. The event was organized during a weekend to make it more inclusive and accessible to PhD students who are parents.

4. 11 December 2021

Where: Mässen, Polacksbacken

Title: Musical Christmas

Number of participants: 23

Details: The music was provided by the student band "Tupplurarna", who left their heart on the stage. Of the initially 51 signed up students, only 23 attended, probably due to the last minute covid19 regulations. This event was organized on a Saturday to make it more inclusive for PhD students with children. It was an enjoyable event,

filled with Christmas spirit and jolly moves, guided under Tupplurarna's magical musical hand.

5. 19 March 2022

Where: Uthgård

Title: Quiz Night

Number of participants: 73

Details: For this event, three of the board members (Ignacio, Zbigniew and Tina) had to take an online course in responsible alcohol management in order to serve alcohol at the pub. Initially, only Ignacio and Zbigniew took the responsible alcohol management course but Tina also had to take the course since she was the only person on the board who spoke Swedish. And since much of the bartender's work revolved around bookkeeping, and all documents were written in Swedish, the bartender had to be fluent in Swedish. Unfortunately, UTN's klubbmästare was late with informing the board about the Swedish requirement, hence, three persons on the board took the responsible alcohol management course. The event was well received by the doctoral students and was the most popular TNDR event so far. While the PhD students answered the quiz in their teams, a three-course meal was served for the PhD students. TNDR arranged the starter and dessert; the catering company Thriller delivered the main course.

6. 25 March 2022

Where: Ångström

Title: Mockference

Number of participants: 35

Details: The Mockference is an event in which contestants fight to be the best presenter in a conference-like setup. The twist is that, while presentations are made in powerpoint and presented as usual, no one really presents the slides they sent. Instead, each presenter discovers the slides right in the moment they defend them in front of the audience, trying to prove themselves as a good presenter regardless of the content. The audience participates by asking questions and voting for the crowd's favourite. This year, as a novelty, there was also a poster session, with specific guidelines for the posters. Four awards were given, to the best presenter and slides, awarded by a selected jury; the audience prize, and the best poster award. TNDR paid for the fika and the awards at the Mockference.

7. 20-30 April 2022

Where: outside Ångström and Uthgård

Title: River rafting, building the raft for valborg and volunteer work for the festivalborg.

Details: As part of the agreement to be part of UTN, TNDR can now participate in river rafting during Valborg. The raft is sculpted in styrofoam and built according to a design that won the design competition that TNDR organised. To choose the design for the raft, TNDR encouraged doctoral students to send their design contributions. Afterwards, all TEKNAT doctoral students voted for the design they thought was best. Once the design was chosen, an invitation email was sent to all doctoral students with details of the raft building event, inviting everyone who wanted to contribute and collaborate in building the raft. To elect rafters (rännare) an email was sent to all PhD students in search of two volunteers. Two doctoral students were selected in a draw from a handful of doctoral students that submitted their interest. Two other doctoral students were selected from the TNDR board. The costs that TNDR covered were material needed to build the raft and any accessories for the raft (e.g. costume for the rafters).

8. 23-25 of May 2022

Where: Siegbahnsalen, Ångström

Title: PhD Days

Number of participants: 100

Details: TNDR organized a three days event for Ph.D students at UU which covers many aspects of Ph.D life cycle, starting from the early days as PhD student in Sweden till academic/industrial career, and we hosted 45 speakers many UU professors, alumni in academia and industry, various UU offices, many CEOs, and the head of Nobel prize committee for chemistry, and a Nobel laureate.

9. 9th of June 2022

Where: Norrlands Nation

Title: PhD Gasque

Number of participants: 258

Details: TNDR has, together with financial support from DN, planned a Gasque for PhD students at Uppsala University. The Magician Per Johan Råsmark (an UU alumni) and the comedian Kathryn LeRoux performed at the Gasque. The majority that joined the Gasque was from TEKNAT. The final costs in the gasque under the Section *Financial Report* contains some possible caveats. The costs to Norrlands have not been paid yet, although we did receive a quote of the total costs. The rest of the costs (such as performers and decorations) have either been agreed upon or already paid.

Besides the above mentioned social events, TNDR's social organizers also created a slack channel called "TEKNAT PhD Activities" to facilitate communication between PhD students and to support them in finding like-minded peers who want to engage in activities together.

PhD days

The vice-chair and the social organizers are responsible for choosing the topics and arranging the event and here are some experiences we would like to note down:

- We perceived that the doctoral students are very busy in May. Perhaps November, February or March are better options. Keep the programs short, half-day events are probably better than full-days events.
- Start planning as soon as possible, then start contacting speakers after the Christmas holiday in case you are planning the event to be in the spring.
- Book the room and set a specific time for the speakers before contacting anyone.
- TEKNAT faculty will support TNDR by financing the PhD Days, make sure to send a project plan as soon as possible to one of the doctoral education officers at TEKNAT (for example, Sara Lind, sara.k.lind@uu.se)
- Order 10-20% less food because not all who signed up will come.
- Try not to repeat topics from last year (but some topics are worth repeating, like where to apply for funds, UU innovation etc. In addition, those that missed the talk this year would be given another opportunity).

Information and website

TNDR has always made sure to keep TEKNAT PhD students updated with the latest information using various online platforms. Information and contacts to the new board members and representatives of various boards are updated as they are elected in different council meetings. TNDR's event calendar is updated regularly with details about various events like the board-, council-, and representative meetings, social and other events like PhD days. Essential documents like agenda, meeting minutes, activity plan, activity report, bylaws, updated introduction to PhD studies can be found on the website. Signed minutes from board and council meetings were uploaded shortly after the meetings. The "PhD FAQs" was continuously updated.

TNDR also organized the documents and made minor changes to the website for better navigation. This year, a new page for TNDR grant and TNDR operation grant was introduced on the website. Concerning the TNDR grants, the board decided to standardize the application process by developing a Google form with questions related to the grant application. Using this form, which was available on TNDR's website from December 2021, PhD students can conveniently apply for both kinds of TNDR grants.

TNDR also worked for more presence on social media. Students can follow TNDR on Facebook and Twitter. We post various events on our Facebook and Twitter pages to keep the followers updated. The followers can also find photos and videos of our social events on the

TNDR Facebook page. Students are informed about meetings, events, elections, and other things by email from the board members.

There are two different introduction courses for PhD students at the faculty. TNDR's chair visited both in the autumn semester and held a 45-minute presentation about PhD students' rights, obligations, and representation. TNDR's chair revisited the introduction courses during the spring semester.

Summary of focus areas of TNDR in 2021/2022

In the activity plan decided upon at the annual meeting in June 2021, some specific points were suggested about what TNDR should focus on during 2021/22.

Supporting TEKNAT's PhD student representatives at all departments

The work on PhD representation that started during 2019/2020 was continued. Again, TNDR invited the PhD representatives at the department boards to a lunch meeting (paid by TNDR), where problems and needs for PhD representatives at the department level were discussed. This meeting resulted in a very fruitful discussion and exchange of experiences for the representatives. The board presented the guidelines for how PhD representation at the department level should be organized. TNDR also encouraged the representatives to apply for the TNDR grant to organize activities for the PhD students at their department. The board and the representatives agreed that a meeting between TNDR and the department board representatives should occur once a year, preferably during the autumn semester, and lunch should be provided by TNDR.

Internationalization

Internationalization is a topic that concerns the PhD student body of TEKNAT a lot, as many PhD students are not from Sweden or teaching in international classrooms.

Internationalization has been discussed at many TEKNAT boards, including the Equality Committee, FUN and the Faculty Board. TNDR has raised PhD student opinions and needs, for example, easily accessible language courses or equal opportunities in representing PhD students on different boards. However, this year there are changes to the new guidelines for postgraduate education that will come into effect as of 1st of July 2022. According to the new guidelines, basic Swedish education for doctoral students, who do not have Swedish as their mother tongue, can now be a credit-bearing course component or occur within the doctoral student's departmental duties. This is good news in terms of internationalization. The board should encourage the PhD students to take this opportunity to learn the Swedish language.

PhD students on Campus Gotland

TNDR is an organization for PhD students throughout TEKNAT, including PhD students located on Campus Gotland. Thanks to the work of the previous chair Frauke Augstein, the contact between PhD students from Campus Uppsala and Campus Gotland has been

improved. TNDR initiated a meeting with the PhD students on Campus Gotland in November 2021 to hear about their situation and what has happened since the last meeting with Frauke. This meeting was highly appreciated by the PhD students on Campus Gotland.

The email list with TEKNAT's PhD Students on Gotland that Frauke created has been updated this academic year. The board also has given access to Neele Schmidt (TEKNAT PhD student based in Gotland) to update the email list. Lotte van den Heuvel (another TEKNAT PhD student based in Gotland) informed us that there are initiatives going on among the PhD students on Gotland to organise themselves; to form a local PhD student council, potentially in cooperation with PhD students from other faculties, to lift questions specific for PhD students on Campus Gotland. TNDR will support their work in any way that we can. The first meeting for the PhD students on Campus Gotland was on the 26th of January 2022.

The board has created a Slack channel for TEKNAT PhD students on Campus Gotland to communicate with each other and with TNDR's board members.

An important issue that has been discussed over the years is how to get a PhD student from Campus Gotland represented in FUN. This year, Neele Schmidt has agreed to act as co-opt in FUN. This way, PhD students from Campus Gotland can argue for their cause directly with the FUN board, which is much more efficient than with TNDR as an intermediary. TNDR also encouraged PhD students from Campus Gotland to attend the council meetings, and so far, it seems that they have responded to TNDR's suggestion.

PhD students on Campus Gotland expressed an interest in getting a visit from the TNDR board. TNDR believes that it is a good idea to pay the PhD students on Campus Gotland a visit every second or third year. Therefore, the board encourages the future boards to plan a visit to the PhD students on Campus Gotland.

Concept of PhD days

The PhD Days 2022 was organized as a 3-day event, 23-25.05.2022 in Siegbahnsalen, Ångström. The event covered many aspects of the PhD life cycle, starting from the early days as PhD student in Sweden till academic/industrial career with a total of 45 speakers. Out of, on average, 100 registered participants per day, the average daily attendance was 50 people. The event was generously sponsored by the TEKNAT faculty.

The planning of the program and acquiring speakers started in January. All of the board was involved and delegated different tasks, to make sure that things ran as smooth as possible.

The PhD days were honored by the opening speeches of Johan Tysk, the dean at TEKNAT faculty and Cecillia Johansson, vice dean of education. Tina Vrieler talked about the work of TNDR, and the rights and responsibilities of a PhD student. The UU Scholarship office explained and answered questions about getting scholarships and going abroad. An academic refreshment was Sofie Devaux's talk on getting integrated into Swedish society. The afternoon session started with dealing with mental health and sabotage in academia from Magdalena Koizol and Hendrik Huthoff, who joined virtually from Beijing and Jena

respectively. UU teaching office explained the importance of building a teaching portfolio. and the day ended with Stuart Cantrill on how to publish in Nature Chemistry.

The 2nd day started with Minna Salminen-Karlsson's talk on making a career in the gendered university, which attracted a wide interest and sparked discussions. This was followed by a presentation on sourcing funding in academia by Pia Lansåker and a panel with professors on how they made it to Uppsala University. David Leigh honored us with a magical talk on his career and research in molecular machines. The afternoon sessions continued with a panel of young PIs who are already established or are in the process of building a group. The day ended with a talk about the Nobel prize and its' history from Johan Aqvist and Måns Ehrenberg, and finally, a brilliant lecture by the Nobel laureate Sir John Walker.

The 3rd day was dedicated to career and transitioning from academia to industry. UU Invest and innovation office gave a workshop on how to develop ideas and successful PhD projects into commercial projects, followed by a panel with professors and alumni of UU who started their own companies. The afternoon session continued with a panel of UU alumni in finding a job in companies like Q-linea, Anocca, BCG and codon consulting, who gave insight into the application process, CV, and interview. The day ended with Said M'Dahoma on transitioning from academia to social influencing and a workshop on networking and negotiation by Isaiah Hankel from the Cheeky Scientist company.

TNDR is content that the doctoral students who attended PhD Days found it useful and were able to make the best of it.

Becoming a section association of UTN

An important issue that has been discussed at length this academic year is whether or not TNDR should become a section of UTN. After several deliberations at the board and council meetings, the board has concluded that a closer collaboration with UTN is desirable since TNDR already fulfills most of the requirements for becoming a section association. Voting to become a section association of UTN took place at the April council meeting, and the department representatives voted unanimously for TNDR to become a section association of UTN. The document containing the rules of procedure for the section association of UTN can be found on TNDR's website. By becoming a section association of UTN, TNDR has to find representatives for additionally three positions (see a description of these representative positions under the section *Representation*). The compensation for the two out of three representative positions will come out of TNDR's budget.

TNDR financial support

To increase TNDR's visibility across the faculty and strengthen initiatives to create representation structures at the departments, TNDR established the TNDR financial support ("TNDR grant") during 2017. TNDR's financial support continued to support initiatives that connect PhD students within and between departments this fiscal year. During the autumn, TNDR received two applications (see below). Both initiatives were supported with SEK1000.

During the first part of spring (before the February council meeting), TNDR received five applications (see below), and also all of these initiatives were supported with SEK1000.

This year, the board decided to remove the two-grant system since it did not work efficiently (the PhD students kept applying for the wrong grant). As of March 2022, there is only one TNDR grant, and the grant can be used for both informal and formal activities. The information about the TNDR grant is updated on TNDR's website.

As of spring 2022, PhD students can apply for the TNDR grant using the Google form available on TNDR's website.

TNDR grant initiatives approved during HT21:

1. Improvisation course for PhD students (552 SEK)
2. Rock, paper, scissors battle royal (not yet applied for reimbursement - Ignacio Cuevas)

TNDR operational grant initiatives approved during HT21:

1. Language café for employees at the department of chemistry (910.45 SEK)
2. Writing sessions with a focus on discipline-based education research (275 SEK for one session)
3. Bowling for all PhD students at the mathematics department (1000 SEK)
4. D&D game (not yet applied for reimbursement - Carl Flygare)

TNDR grant approved during VT22:

1. Semmelfika at the department electrical engineering for PhD students at the department (969.90 SEK)
2. Semmelfika at the department of IT for PhD students at the department (1243 SEK)
3. Monthly Lunch for PhD students in a division at the IT department (not yet applied for reimbursement - Ankit Gupta)
4. Fika for PhD student representation meeting on Campus Gotland (not yet applied for reimbursement - Fie Broker-Bulling)
5. Scavenger hunt on Campus Gotland (not yet applied for reimbursement - Fie Broker-Bulling)
6. BBQ for all PhD students at the department of Physics and Astronomy (1652.85 SEK)
7. Fika and funding for guest speaker for the Molecular Dynamics Journal Club from Malin Luking (697 SEK)
8. Fika for the Bacteriological Journal Club from Petra Virtanen (not yet applied for reimbursement - 1000 SEK)

9. Snack for movie night for all TEKNAT PhD students from Filip Ilievski (not yet applied for reimbursement - 500 SEK per movie night - further grants pending success of 1st movie night)
10. ITDR Breakfast meeting with PhD representatives for all PhD students at the IT department from Amanda Stjerna, Tina Vrieler, and Sonja Mathias (906.30 SEK)

Miscellaneous activities

- Tina Vrieler and Anna Ivert (chair of UTN) took part in several referrals.

Financial report

Income:

Union

Operating grant from the Doctoral board AS21
2000

Operating grant from the Doctoral board SS22
2000

Grant from the Doctoral board for organization of PhD gasque
10000

Registration fees PhD gasque
123100

Operating grant from the faculty for PhD student representation
71000

Operating grant from the faculty for PhD days organization
45192

Sum income (A):
254292

Expenses:

Board salary (B)	after-tax (-32%)	pre-tax	pre-tax+empl
Sum board salaries			30588.23

Events and others (C)

Social events			29210.47
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Council meetings			16022.25
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PhD representative meeting			3573
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Board meetings			2900
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Administrative (website)			2 051.25
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Bank costs (SWISH/PRIS ENL SPEC)			1861.90
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TNDR grants			8652.50
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PhD days			45192.65
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PhD gasque			152254.1
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Sum expenses for events and others			261718.12
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Sum expenses until 07/06-22 (B+C): 292306.35
Result (A-B-C): -38014.35

Note that this total number doesn't take into account the current balance in the Plusgiro account (where our expendable money is stored).

Tim Verze Jonny 