

Date: 19 March 2026  
Reference: FK/suba

**Minutes of the Faculty PhD Committee meeting on 19 March 2026 kl.  
09.00 – 11.00 in FKF meeting room (Ø10-412-2)**

Participants: Head of the PhD School Barbara Guerra, Professor Frank Kjeldsen (chair), Associate Professor Erik D. Hedegård, Associate Professor Melih Kandemir, PhD student Alexander Lukas Oskar Degner, PhD student Aylin Seren Güler, PhD student Sebastian Bak Jakobsen, PhD student Nicolai D. K. Truong and Vice Head of the PhD School Suba S. Lindholm (minute taker).

Absence: Associate Professor Kasper Reitzel

**Agenda**

**1. Approval of the agenda**

**Minutes:**

Alexander noted that items 2 and 4 of the agenda were related and therefore proposed that item 4 be discussed before item 2. With this change, the agenda was approved.

**2. Proposed changes to the PhD Ministerial Order (changed to item 3)**

**Minutes:**

Frank (chair) opened the item with a brief introduction. Suba informed the committee about the themes that other Danish PhD schools are expected to submit as part of the consultation process.

The committee then held an initial discussion on possible proposals for amendments to the PhD Ministerial Order. Frank emphasized that the discussion requires a separate, longer meeting with this topic as the sole focus.

Alexander suggested that, prior to such a meeting, committee members gather input from their respective academic environments.

**Follow-up:**

Suba will send out a Doodle with proposed dates in May. Frank and Suba will prepare a draft proposal to form the basis for discussion at the extraordinary meeting.

**3. International evaluation (changed to item 4)**

**Minutes:**

The committee discussed the main themes to be included in the upcoming

international evaluation of the PhD School/PhD programme and agreed on the following:

- Internationalisation
- Onboarding of national and international PhD students
- Relationship between supervisor and PhD student (career guidance)
- Knowledge dissemination (quality)
- Digitalisation (use of AI / potential pitfalls)

The following topics were agreed for the wellbeing survey:

Overall satisfaction with the PhD programme

- Onboarding (awareness of facilities and opportunities)
  - Administration
  - Wellbeing (how meaningful do you find your work)
- Supervision (support for teaching)
- Introductory course
- Change of research environment
- Internationalisation
- Employability
- Digitalisation

#### **4. DFIR conference (changed to item 2)**

##### **Minutes:**

Barbara gave a brief summary of the DFIR conference and the preliminary recommendations from the council. The final report is expected to be published in June 2026.

The discussion addressed the following points:

- Potential bias in DFIR's recommendations, as some members come from industry
- How PhD students realise that they are not prepared for a career outside academia
- The need for better preparatory courses for those not pursuing a postdoctoral career
- The possibility of collaborating with external stakeholders on competencies outside academia
- Summer schools with guest lecturers from industry
- Networking
- The fact that the PhD programme already contains many of the competencies sought by industry

Frank emphasized that DFIR's recommendations may be relevant in the work on inputs for changes to the PhD Ministerial Order.

## **5. Code of Conduct for Research Integrity**

### **Minutes:**

Frank introduced the item and raised the question of who is responsible for ensuring the practical implementation of the code. He noted that several elements should be integrated into the PhD Ministerial Order.

Barbara (Head of the PhD School) pointed out that supervisors are responsible for communicating the code to PhD students.

It was decided that the PhD School will send an email to principal supervisors informing them of their responsibility for disseminating the code.

### **Follow-up:**

Suba will ensure that the updated code is available on the PhD School's website and will ensure that an email is sent to principal supervisors upon the enrolment of a new PhD student.

## **6. Approval of course for PhD students**

### **Minutes:**

The committee approved the course "*The Visible Scientist – Mastering Video Communication*" for 1 ECTS and decided that it can be approved for PhD students at NAT.

### **Follow-up:**

Suba will communicate the decision.

## **7. Course applications approved by the department's PhD study boards**

### **Minutes:**

The PhD Committee took note of the cases.

## **8. News from the Head of the PhD School/PhD School**

### **Minutes:**

Nothing.

## **9. Any other business**

### **Minutes:**

A brief question was raised regarding follow-up on the new SDUUP teaching course. The follow-up will take place at the final PhD Committee meeting of the year.

**The meeting ended at kl. 10.44.**