

Protocol, Organism Biology Steering committee meeting
Tuesday, 26 April 2022. Room A-402 10.00-12.00

Agenda

Attending:

Mattias Thelander (chair)
Peter Bozhkov
Christina Dixelius
Marisol Sánchez-García
Carol Kälin
Florentine Ballhaus
Salim Bourras
Charles Melnyk
Katarina Landberg (coordinator without right to take part in decisions)
Eddy Véléz (coordinator without right to take part in decisions)

Not attending:

Martina Leso

§ 1 Meeting is opened by Mattias Thelander

- a) Eddy Véléz was appointment as secretary.
- b) Peter Bozhkov was appointment as adjutor.
- c) Last meeting protocol was approved.
- d) No additional questions.

§ 2 Election of the vice-chairperson, decision

Peter Bozhkov, Professor at the Department of Molecular Sciences, was formally elected as vice-chairperson. Mattias will email with the faculty to inform them of the decision.

§ 3 Decision on the principle of remuneration of coordinators – update from last meeting

Mattias contacted Petra Fransson regarding the 30% salary and what should be done in years if the entire money is not spent. Petra said not to worry about this and the decision is now in writing.

§ 4 New director of studies from Mycopat after Eddy

The Head of Department for Forest Mycology and Plant Pathology, Nils Högberg, made an open call to replace current director of studies, Eddy Véléz. Nils has appointed Anna Berlin as the new replacement and her name will be forwarded to the faculty for formal approval.

§ 5 Status report of spring activities, information

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- a) *Course, Visualize your science (4 ECTS; PNG0073), spring 2022*: Katarina reported that the course is organized by Andreas Dahlin from Visualize your Science AB, on behalf of the Organism Biology Research School. The course is ongoing and ends May 13. 20 students were registered (all PhD students from SLU).
- b) *The PhD Biocenter Connectivity conference, spring 2022*: Katarina reported that the activity took place last week, but no final report from Anis Meschichi was available yet. Approximately 15 students, most from Molecular Sciences participated. Unfortunately, half of the activity was cancelled because students did not volunteer to present.
- c) *Planning/info meetings*. Katarina and Eddy will be having meeting with the students in the Biocenter in their respective departments to inform and update them on the OB Research School activities. The first meeting will take place the 6th of May with the students in the Mykopat department.
- d) *Understanding and coding the R language, spring 2022*: Eddy explained that this course was not organized as previously expected. Instead, a different course entitled "Understanding & Implementing Bayesian Ecological Modelling: a Course from Beginnings to Hierarchical Complexity (5 ECTS)" was organized by Helena, Matt Low and Malin Aronsson. The usual course, Understanding and coding the R language, is now schedule for November-December 2022.
- e) *Workshop, How to become a post doc!, spring 2022*: Eddy reported that the one-day seminar was organized and hosted by the research schools (Focus on Soils and Water, Organism Biology, Ecology –basics and applications, Focus on Food and Biomaterials, Social Science Perspectives on Sustainable Development, Society and Landscape, Sustainable Biomass Systems), with Ali Moazzami and Helena Bylund organizing the event. It took place on March 22nd, but a final report is not yet available.
- f) *Advances in enzyme regulation*: Katarina reported that the course is being organized by Galia and Adrian from Molecular Sciences and will take place in the autumn 2022. OB will be responsible for 1/3 of the cost.
- g) *Human Driven Environmental changes and their effects of organism biology - Eco-Evolutionary dynamics*: Eddy reported that the course is an activity originally proposed by the Silva research school in Umeå. However, Navinder Singh (Silva) was not able to find someone to organize the course. It was decided to postpone the activity and aim to organize it in autumn 2022, instead of spring 2022.

§ 6 Final reports from concluded activities, decision

- a) *Course, Confocal Microscopy, 5 ECTS (PNS0138), spring 2022*: Katarina reported that the course (organized by Adrian Dauphinee) was given in Feb/March 2022. There were 15

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people registered of which 10 were Ph.D. students. Seven students have passed the course and three are pending on final project. The original budgeted amount was 100K, but has to be increased to 125K to accommodate for smaller groups due to Covid (110K from last period + 15K from current period). The course evaluation received a 4.5 out of 5. The committee approved this report.

- b) *Course, Understanding and coding the R language, 2 ECTS, autumn 2021:* Eddy reported that this course is organized by the Ecology-basics and applications research school, in cooperation with Focus on Soils & Water and Organism Biology (Helena and Mat). The course ran for 5 intensive days in Nov/Dec via Zoom. According to Helena, there was no final report as of yet.

§ 7 Autumn activities including budget, decision

Katarina reported on the current budget and presented the activities for the autumn 2022 period.

OB is funded with SEK 1,130,000 per year from 2022 to 2025

Funds not used at the end of a budget year should go back to the faculty

(Exemptions can be allowed under special circumstances)

30 % of annual budget goes to coordination: 339 000 SEK

Left to spend on activities: 791 000 SEK

Used for spring activities: 134 000 SEK

Left to use on autumn activities: 657 000 SEK

AUTUMN 2022 Activities

Type of activity	Name of activity	Estimated Cost (1000 SEK)
Course	Advances in enzyme regulation / Frontiers in post-genome studies *	40
Course	Understanding and coding the R programming language*	30
Workshop	Annual workshop	110
Workshop	Careers outside academia*	6
Course	To communicate science*	20
Workshop	Thesis summary writing workshop*	6
Course	Visualize Your science	110
Course	Analysis of High Throughput Sequencing RNA-Seq Data	100
Course	Quantitative real-time PCR	100
Course	Community profiling by sequencing	50
Course	Practical skills in sequence analysis	45

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Course	Human Driven Environmental changes and their effects of organism biology - Eco-Evolutionary dynamics*	50
Total sum:		667

Activities from the application not included in the budget and which are now moved to Spring 2023:

Type of activity	Name of activity	Estimated Cost (1000 SEK)
Course	Plant disease epidemiology – from theory to application	85

* organised together with other NJ research schools

The above activities for AUTUMN 2022, were approved by the steering committee members.

§ 8 Additional questions

There is a new department (Aqua) joining the Biocenter that has about 10 Ph.D. students. The committee has decided that Mattias will make contact with the new department and inform them about the OB Research School.

§ 9 Meetings for the rest of the year

The next OB Steering Committee meeting will take place October 14th in room A402 at 10-12. The last meeting for the year will take place December 2nd.

Attachments:

- a) Protocol from meeting 220308


Heriberto Véléz (Eddy), Secretary

2022-07-04 Uppsala
Date & Place


Peter Bozhkov, adjutor

2022-07-04 Uppsala
Date & Place