



Swedish University of
Agricultural Sciences



Minutes – Steering committee meeting Research School Focus on Soils & Water: 28th of February 2018, 9:00-11:00, room Ekoln (B4051) in the MVM centre, Ultuna, SLU.

Participants: Erik Petersson, Karina Engelbrecht Clemmensen, Brendan McKie, Kate Rychel, Hannes Keck, Jenna Senecal, Maria Kahlert, Anke Herrmann

1. Chair, secretary

Erik Petersson appointed Maria Kahlert as chairperson and Anke Herrmann as secretary of the meeting. Erik Petersson will adjust the protocol.

2. Minutes steering committee meeting 6th of December 2017

APPROVED BY ALL

3. Update FoSW steering group

Two PhD student representatives are needed as (i) Tina Putz will defend her thesis in June 2018, and (ii) Jenna Senecal will be on parental leave from June 2018.

Jenna will ask a student at the Dept. of Energy & Technology, Karina will ask a few new PhD students at the Dept. of Forest Mycology & Plant Pathology, and Anke will follow up with Xiangyu Luan, Crop Production Ecology whether they are interested in being part of the steering group.

4. Info on recent and planned activities 2018

4.1. Planned FoSW PhD courses 1st year (2017/2018):

4.1.1. Autumn 2017: Quantitative image analyses: *completed, see decisions below*

4.1.2. Spring 2018: Carbon cycling: from molecular to global processes (budget: 160 tkr):
postponed: Spring 2019

Only a few PhD were interested in the course but there are several PhD student positions advertised at the moment, and it is therefore better to give the course at a later date.

4.1.3. Spring 2018: Organic micropollutants in the aquatic environment: April 11 to May 16
Maria provided an update on this course

4.2. Other planned activities 1st year (2017/2018):

4.2.1. 13th of February 2018 Ad Hoc Mini-Symposium: Soil Science and Entomology Research in Finland and Sweden

Anke informed briefly about the Ad Hoc Symposium. There are no costs associated for the research school FoSW as Helsinki University has covered all costs.

4.2.2. Update FoSW Annual Meeting May 2018

The organization committee (Jenna, Sabina, Kate and Anke) is encouraged to look into the possibility whether the Annual Meeting can be held outside SLU e.g. Eklundshof. Anke will circulate an updated budget in due course, and a decision will be made as “decision per capsulam”. First announcement for this event should be circulated as soon as possible.

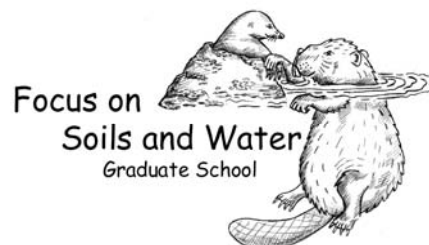
4.2.3. RS cooperations

4.2.3.1. Information on ongoing Director-of-Studies-Meeting

4.2.3.2. Understanding & Coding the R Programming Language (2 ECTS). April 23-27th 2018 at ‘Eklundshof’, Uppsala



Swedish University of
Agricultural Sciences



- 4.2.3.3. Multivariate statistics, 12.2.-2.3.2018.
- 4.2.3.4. To communicate science. Feb-April 2018
- 4.2.3.5. How to become a post doc. March 14th
- 4.2.3.6. Careers outside university (autumn 2018)

Maria and Anke informed about recent and ongoing activities

4.3. Planned FoSW PhD courses 2nd year (2018/2019):

- 4.3.1.** Nitrogen cycling in terrestrial ecosystems. Autumn 2018. Planned budget: 180 tkr. Budget suggestion see attachment. (Anke)
Steering committee endorsed this course, Anke will develop a course plan.
- 4.3.2.** Aquatic microbiology - morphology and barcodes. Spring 2019. Cooperation with RS Ecology and COST DNAqua-net. (Maria)
Steering committee endorsed this course, Maria will develop a course plan
- 4.3.3.** New suggested PhD course: Ecological stability in times of rapid environmental change. 15 – 19 October, 2018 (Guest researcher H.Hillebrand) (see 6.2)
Steering committee had a few comments regarding the course (see below 6.2)

5. Update FoSW Budget

Activity report to the FUN NJ-faculty is required in autumn 2019, and there is money available for additional activities within the research school budget. Suggestions for activities are therefore more than welcome!

6. Decisions

6.1. Course report

Course report PNS0115 X-ray image processing and analyses (5 SLU PhD students, 2 external PhD students, 5 postdocs), October 2017. Evaluation of overall course impression: 4.6 out of 5 (“very good”). Proposed budget: 97800 SEK, result 84638 SEK.

Alternative 1) I approve the course report & budget.

Alternative 2) I do not approve. Reason:

APPROVED BY ALL: Course report and final budget

6.2. Course application

New suggested PhD course: Ecological stability in times of rapid environmental change. 15 – 19 October, 2018 (Guest researcher H.Hillebrand). Application for 55443 kr, see attachment (Maria).
Alternative 1) I approve the course schedule & budget.

Alternative 2) I do not approve. Reason:

The steering group had a few comments: (i) Clarification on invited speakers and their involvement in the course, (ii) Validity of the budget: Does the budget cover all costs or do they want to make adjustment to the budget? Is there sufficient co-funding? If needed, the budget can be increased up to 70 000 SEK. Maria will get in touch with Stina Drakare who is the contact person for this course. Information will be circulated via email and a decision will be made as “decision per capsulam”.

6.3. Mobility Grants:

6.3.1. Travel report Hannah Fried-Petersen: Visiting Scholarship at the NTNU in Trondheim, June – October 2017. Applied for 5 000 tkr, granted 5000 kr, report 5 012 kr

Decision:

APPROVED BY ALL: Travel Report and final budget

7. Homepage. Update of different information text?

Kate updated the homepage which is a significant improvement, and she will continue updating the homepage.

8. Lunch seminars

Suggestions:

March: Katarina Meurer, Dept. of Ecology

April: New researcher at Energy & Technology

June: Opponent of Tina Putz, Dept. of Forest Mycology & Plant Pathology

9. Other

Decision: Circulation of agenda for upcoming FoSW meetings will be 7 days instead of 14 days prior each meeting.

Future FoSW activities will be shared via share-point – Maria will be in charge.

Anke will forward updated information FoSW steering committee members to Kate, so that this information can be included on the homepage.

10. Next meeting

Depending on Lisbeth Lewan's availability (she could not attend today's meeting), the next meeting will take place either 21st or 28th of May 2018 in the morning.