



Activities and Involvements – an Overview

Committees/groups outside the PhD Association, Health

- **The Academic Council (The Dean, Health)**

The Academic Council consists of VIPs, TAPs, students and PhD students from Health. It is an advisory board for the Dean on important matters regarding science and education. The council comments on hearing statements from the University, approves the nomination of recruitment committees for academic positions at the faculty and obtained PhD degrees. The PhD Association has three PhD students in the Academic Council and their voice is heard. There are approximately 4 meetings per year. All meetings are in Danish.

- **The PhD Committee (The Head of Graduate School, Health)**

The PhD Committee is an advisory committee for the Head of the Graduate School. It consists of 7 VIPs from Health and 6 PhD students. The chairman is a VIP, the vice-chairman is a PhD student. PhD students are elected for one year at a time (in November). The tasks are: to approve PhD courses; to suggest internal guidelines for the Graduate School; to make statements about evaluations of the PhD education; to approve merits and dispensations; to make statements on matters put forward by the AU principal head; other business related to the PhD education and Graduate School at Health. Three sub-committees refer to the PhD committee, each with two VIPs and two PhD students. The PhD Committee has three sub-committees:

- **PhD Course Group:**

In the course committee, all concerns regarding the courses at the PhD school are discussed - suggestions for new courses, changes in already established courses, and the composition of courses offered by the PhD school.

The discussion and work is based on input from the PhD association, PhD students and VIPs. The course committee meets twice each semester. Additionally, we have had 2 meetings regarding the course evaluation. The PhD association has 2 seats in the course committee, but one extra PhD student may participate as a substitute.

- **Merits and dispensations:**

To draft guideline for merits and dispensations for approval in the PhD Committee, and to advise on decisions in specific cases. There are rarely meetings, as most of the work is done by email.

- **Internal guidelines:**
 - To suggest and discuss internal guidelines for the Graduate School, including PhD supervision, evaluations of the PhD education, grant structure and other matters related to the Graduate School. The number of meetings varies, but is usually 1-2 times per semester.
- **The Advisory Councils (The 3 Graduate Programme leaders, Health)**

The advisory councils advise the Head of each Graduate Programme (GP): ClinFo*, Public Health, and Biomedicine. The meetings with the individual GP leaders follow their own agenda and schedule. They typically discuss things specific for each Graduate Programme, like courses and teaching assignments, but other general topics are often discussed.

*ClinFo includes Clinical Medicine, Forensic Medicine, and Dentistry/Oral Health.
- **The Department Councils (The 5 Departments, Health)**

The Department Councils (also called **Institutfora** in Danish) advise the leadership of the individual departments* on the internal distribution of resources, on suggestions for central strategic matters in the realm of research and education. The forums can generally speak on all matters of vital academic importance for the departments. It consists of VIP, TAP, students and PhD students from the individual departments. The individual forums set the agenda and meeting schedule individually. PhD students are elected for two years (in May).

*Department Councils at Health: Public Health, Biomedicine, Clinical Medicine, Forensic Medicine, and Dentistry/Oral Health.
- **The PhD Day Organizing Committee (OC)**

The OC group is responsible for arranging the yearly PhD day in January, which is an event that brings the PhD students at Health together for networking, scientific presentations, and the dinner party in the evening. The work involves every aspect of the PhD day; from choosing a theme and prominent keynote speakers to deciding on the right DJ for the party. Join the OC if you would like to contribute to the PhD day and develop your organizational skills. We meet once a month for coffee, cake, and discussions about the upcoming PhD day.
- **AUPA**

AUPA (Aarhus University PhD association) is an umbrella organization that connects the four PhD associations at AU (Health, Arts, BSS, ST). We discuss what is going on in the local committees and help each other whenever we can. The main purpose of AUPA is to have a unified organization for the benefit of all PhD students, and to make it easy for the AU administration to hear the overall opinion of the students. That is also why we have been advising the talent band committee, the head-of-PhD-school committee and rector.
- **Student organisations (SMS and MMF)**

We have one contact person for the student research organisations at Health: Selskab for Medicinsk Studenterforskning (SMS) and Molekylær Medicinsk Forskningsenhed (MMF). We have a close collaboration, where we discuss topics relevant for both PhD students and MMF/SMS.

PhD Association, Health – Internal working groups

- **After-work meeting organizing group**

The after-work meeting organizing group organizes free and interesting after-work meetings for all PhD and research year students at Health. Topics can be everything from research presentation techniques, over fundraising issues to the role of social media in research. Ideas and suggestions for new and exciting topics are always welcome and we aim for a minimum of two after-work meetings each semester. The group consists of 4-6 members. We are responsible for planning form and content of the meetings, contacting potential speakers, inviting PhD and research year students, and for the practical aspects of meeting arrangement. Join the group if you wish contribute to organizing interesting and relevant meetings on all sorts of topic and bringing PhD students at Health together.

- **OUT activities organizer**

Each semester, the PhD association gives two separate presentations at the PhD courses. The job for the member/members of this group is to handle communication between the presenting PhD student and the Graduate School of Health. One or two members or “hang arounds” of the PhD association is pointed out to give the presentations each time.

- **PR, Webpage & Facebook group**

The work in the PR group includes basically anything that promotes the association and its subcommittees. We manage the Facebook page, where we update the PhD students on news from the association and what might otherwise interest them. In addition, we are also responsible for updating the webpage whenever necessary.