

Motionens nummer 22

Motion till SULF:s kongress 2021

Representation of doctoral candidates in internal decision-making processes at their institutions

Doctoral candidates have a dual status as students and (in most cases) employees at their respective higher education institutions at central, faculty and department levels. This raises questions of internal representation: should doctoral candidates be treated as students or employees?

Higher education institutions differ in the extent to which decisions are made in a democratic and collegiate way, as opposed to a top-down “line management” approach. Where collegiate processes do exist, definitions vary as to which persons should be included, but commonly this is restricted to those who already hold a doctoral degree: doctoral candidates are not considered to be part of “kollegiet” in the traditional sense. However, this often leaves doctoral candidates with representation at best equal to undergraduate students at central, faculty and department levels. This is unsatisfactory, as it does not reflect the contribution that doctoral candidates make to teaching and research.

The SULF Doctoral Candidate Association therefore submit:

- that SULF shall work to ensure that doctoral candidates are adequately represented in all collegiate decision-making processes and representation bodies at all levels that affect their education, employment and research, including, where applicable, appointment of managers and academic leaders.

For the SULF Doctoral Candidate Association
Jenny Iao-Jørgensen, Chairperson