

Association of Doctoral Students at the University of Helsinki Action plan 2016

The association of Doctoral Students at the University of Helsinki was founded in May 2014 and was officially registered in August 2014. It was established with an aim to create a link between the University of Helsinki and its doctoral students. During the first year efforts were concentrated on establishing the association and recruiting new members from all doctoral schools. During the second year, the primary goal was to establish relations with both staff, doctoral students and their representatives in all campuses. The vision for 2016 is to further develop the role of the association in decision making concerning doctoral education at the university and also strengthen its role as supportive community for doctoral students at the university.

Influencing doctoral training at the University

In 2016 the association will continue to maintain the relations with staff who work with doctoral education at the university. Because there are currently a major university degree renovation (Iso Pyörä – Big Wheel) and a related doctoral education re-organisation going on, they may affect both the doctoral schools and doctoral programmes. Therefore, in 2016 one of the most important tasks of the association will be to keep in touch with the staff at the university administration and take part in the decision-making concerning the changes and improvement of doctoral training at the university.

In addition to this, the association will keep in touch with the doctoral student representatives of doctoral schools and programmes in order to stay updated on the current issues related to doctoral education and to the needs of doctoral students in different parts of the university.

Other issues that the association aims to work for are: improvement of the information new doctoral students are provided with, the possibilities of getting accessible healthcare and lodging for the doctoral students.

The association also aims to establish an award to reward the effort on improving doctoral education and/or welfare of doctoral students at the University of Helsinki and will start to develop it in more detail.

Leisure activities

The association will continue to organize at least two after work events per term. The events may be organized together with Aallonhuiput (the doctoral student association of Aalto University) and Tsemppi PhD (the doctoral student division of the international students at the University of Helsinki). The association also aims to organize some more local get-togethers on different campuses.

Additionally, the association will continue the tradition of three bigger parties during the year: a birthday party to celebrate the founding of the association (around May 26th), an autumn get-together at the beginning of the autumn term and pre-Christmas party at the end of the year.

Further, the association can organise other kinds of leisure events based on suggestions from members.

Co-operation

The association will continue co-operation with other organizations who share our interest for the welfare of doctoral students, such as the Student Union (HYY), Aallonhuiput and Tsemppi PhD. In addition to this, the association aims to establish contacts with doctoral associations at other universities in Finland in order to work for the interest of doctoral students on a national level. Further, the association aims to maintain good relations to other organizations that work for the interest of doctoral students, such as the Council of Finnish Foundations and the Helsinki University Researchers' and Teachers' Association, HUART.

Communications

The existing communication channels, web blog, e-mail list for members, and social media, will continue to be used and new ways to reach out may be developed according to needs. The association also aims to reach out to doctoral students via social events of different kinds.

Budget 2016

Expenses

- Leisure events: -300.0 €
- Meetings and workshops: -240.0 €
- Administrative expenses: -100.0 €

Expenses in total: -640.00 €

Fundraising

- Membership fees: 640.0 €

Fundraising in total: 640.00 €

Surplus of the fiscal year: 0.00 €

Proposition for membership fees

In 2015 the membership fees are:

Ordinary members	5.00 €
Associate members	2.00 €
Supporting member	25.00 €

In 2015, there was no joining fee.

The new proposals are:

Ordinary members	6.00 €
Associate members	3.00 €
Supporting member	25.00 €

In 2016, there will be no joining fee.