

## Minutes

Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science, Forestry and  
Technology

Meeting No 1/2024

Meeting date 17 January 2024

1 (25)

**Date and time** 17 January 2024, 13.00-13.39

**Place/venue** Teams

Participants	Role	Present at the items
Members		
Lehtinen Kari	Dean, Chair	1-10
Hauta-Kasari Markku	1st Vice Dean, Vice Chair	1-10
Kukkonen Jussi	2nd Vice Dean	1-10
Hujala Teppo	Professor, member	1-10
Tuittila Eeva-Stiina	Professor, deputy member	
Lehto Vesa-Pekka	Professor, member	1-10
Kuittinen Markku	Professor, deputy member	
Jänis Janne	Professor, member	
Pumpanen Jukka	Professor, deputy member	
Berninger Frank	Professor, member	1-10
Tedre Matti	Professor, deputy member	
Miettinen Pauli	Professor, member	1-10
Tuomela Jukka	Professor, deputy member	
Tanska Petri	Other staff, member	1-10
Haapala Antti	Other staff, deputy member	
Mononen Maini	Other staff, member	
Turunen Mikael	Other staff, deputy member	1-10
Virrantalo Tarja	Other staff, member	1-10
Kopra Juho	Other staff, deputy member	

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Pohjoismäki Jaakko	Other staff, member	4-10
Asikainen Mervi	Other staff, deputy member	
Vainikainen Hanne	Other staff, member	1-10
Kumlin Timo	Other staff, deputy member	
Merruntaus Kati	Student, member	1-10
Ahtonen Tiina	Student, deputy member	
Palkovuori Teemu	Student, member	1-10
Törö Teemu	Student, deputy member	1-10
Partanen Silja	Student, member	1-10
Miettinen Mikko	Student, deputy member	1-10
Jankova Simona	Student, member	1-10
Rautiainen Kaisa	Student, deputy member	1-10
Helvelahti Tomi	Student, member	1-10
To be named later	Student, deputy member	
Hirvonen Arja	Executive Head of Administration, secretary, preparer	1-10

### Other preparers

Laitinen Kaisa	Head of Training
Merimaa-Piirainen Maarit	Head of Student Services

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## **Minutes**

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### § 1

#### **Opening of the meeting**

The chair opened the meeting at 13.00.

§ 2

**Legitimacy and presence of a quorum**

In accordance with the UEF University Regulations, meeting notices of a multi-member administrative organ must be sent at least seven days prior to the meeting, unless the administrative organ has decided otherwise.

The meeting notice was sent on 10 January 2024.

According to the UEF University Regulations, multi-member organs of the university have a quorum when at least half of the members, including the chair, are present. By the decision of the chair, a multi-member administrative organ can hold its meeting by email or, either fully or in part, via a video conference, telephone, or some other remote participation means. The chair has decided that the meeting be organised via Teams.

**Motion**            The meeting is deemed lawful and quorate. The agenda is approved.

**Decision**          As proposed. The order of items on the agenda was changed so that the items For information, Closing of the meeting and Translation of the agenda/minutes were placed after the supplementary item.

Record entry 3421/01.01.02/2023

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

§ 3

**Description of the post of Professor, Medical Physics and Technology, in particular magnetic resonance imaging, and the Dean's proposal to invite Associate Professor Mikko Nissi to the post. Hearing of the Faculty Council**

PhD Mikko Nissi has been appointed to the Tenure Track position of Associate Professor, Translational Bone Research, for the period 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2024. The post is hosted by the faculty's Department of Technical Physics. The evaluation committee has proposed, on the proposal of the person to be evaluated and as prepared by and at the school/department, that the field of the professorship be medical physics and technology, in particular magnetic resonance imaging.

An evaluation committee acted as the faculty's appointments committee referred to in section 30 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland. The committee was chaired by Dean Kari Lehtinen, whilst the members included the Head of the Department of Technical Physics Professor Jari Kaipio, Professor Pasi Vahimaa from the Department of Physics and Mathematics, and Professor Olavi Airaksinen from the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Based on the submitted documents and an interview, the evaluation committee came to the conclusion that the legal prerequisites to initiate the invitation procedure are met and that Associate Professor Mikko Nissi

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can be invited to a professorship in his field. The Tenure Track committee supported the matter at its meeting held on 1 December 2023.

The memorandum of the evaluation committee and Nissi's CV, teaching portfolio, and list of publications are enclosed with the agenda item as appendices.

According to section 33 of the Universities Act (558/2009), the professorship may be filled by invitation without a public notice of vacancy when an academically distinguished person is being invited to take the position or a candidate is appointed to the position for a fixed period. Only a person who indisputably fulfils the qualification requirements may be appointed to the post by invitation.

According to section 31 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, a person to be appointed to a permanent professorship or to a professorship that lasts for over two years shall be scientifically or artistically qualified, have good teaching skills and, if important for the successful performance of their duties, practical knowledge of the scope of the post.

According to section 10 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Dean will decide on the scope and specifications of the professor's position after consulting the Faculty Council. The Dean will decide whether the professor is required to have practical knowledge of the scope of the post. The Dean will make a proposal to the Rector on a

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person to be appointed as a professor for two years or more after consulting the Faculty Council.

The description of the post includes the scope and specifications of the post, as required by the University Regulations, and a proposal on a person to be invited to the post.

The professor is not expected to have practical knowledge of the scope of the post.

A draft description of the post is enclosed with this agenda item as an appendix. The person proposed to be invited to the post has accepted the description and specifications of the post.

**Motion** The Faculty Council will discuss the description of the post of Professor, medical physics and technology, in particular magnetic resonance imaging, and the Dean's proposal on the person to be invited to it.

**Decision** As proposed.

## Appendices

Appendix 1	Memorandum of the evaluation committee Mikko Nissi
Appendix 2	Mikko Nissi's CV
Appendix 3	Mikko Nissi's teaching portfolio
Appendix 4	Mikko Nissi's list of publications



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Appendix 5

Draft description of the post

Record entry 3929/01.01.02/2023

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

§ 4

**The Dean's proposal on the appointment of DSc (Technology) Miina Porkka to the post of Associate Professor, Water Sustainability and Global Change**

The Department of Environmental and Biological Sciences of the Faculty intends to fill the post of Assistant Professor (Tenure Track) in Water Sustainability and Global Change by appointing DSc (Technology) Miina Porkka to the post without a public call.

The scope and description of the post are as follows:

The Associate Professor will work in the field of water sustainability and global change. The post is related to the University of Eastern Finland's strategic profile area "Environmental change and sustainable use of natural resources" and is linked to the Sustainable Co-management of Water Resources and Aquatic Environments (WATER) research community. The duties of the Associate Professor include the acquisition of external research funding, high-quality publishing activities in the field, related teaching and supervision duties, and academic and societal expert duties. The post of Associate Professor will strengthen international research networks and cooperation in the field.

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Expert statements on the eligibility and merits of Porkka have been requested from Professor Claudia Pahl-Wostl (Universität Osnabrück, DE) and Professor Giuliano Di Baldassarre (Uppsala University, SE) in accordance with the Dean's decision. The favourable expert statements are enclosed with this agenda item as appendices.

The Appointments Committee established in accordance with the UEF University Regulations was chaired by Dean Kari Lehtinen. The other members of the committee were Head of the Department of Environmental and Biosciences Professor Jonne Naarala, Professor Annele Virtanen from the Department of Technical Physics and Professor Niko Soininen from the Department of Law, the Faculty of Social Sciences and Business Studies. Executive Head of Administration Arja Hirvonen acted as the administrative expert.

In summary, the evaluation committee states that the qualifications and merits of DSc (Technology) Miina Porkka meet the criteria set for the associate professor level of the Tenure Track.

At its email meeting of 8 January 2024, the Tenure Track Committee was in favour of proceeding with the filling of the post.

A memorandum of the evaluation committee and Porkka's CV, teaching portfolio and list of publications are enclosed with this agenda item as appendices.

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Based on section 31 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, a person to be appointed as an associate professor in the tenure track shall hold a suitable doctoral degree and have good teaching skills. Furthermore, the person shall have the prerequisites to fulfil the qualification requirements of a professor by the end of the tenure track term.

The Chair of the Appointments Committee has decided to exempt DSc (Technology) Miina Porkka from the requirement to give a trial lecture on the basis of experience of university-level teaching and pedagogical training. DSc (Technology) Miina Porkka meets the requirements laid down in the UEF University Regulations for the employment of Associate Professor and the requirements indicated in the description of the post.

The Dean of the faculty proposes to the Rector of the University that DSc (Technology) Miina Porkka be appointed to the post of Associate Professor in the Tenure Track for a four-year term as from 1 February 2024.

According to Decision 57/2020 on the university's Tenure Track, the criteria for the progress on the tenure track will be specified in more detail in the specifying agreement to be annexed to the employment contract.

## Motion

1. The Faculty Council will address the scope and specifications of the post of the associate professor.

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2. The Faculty Council will address the Dean's proposal on the person to be appointed to the post.

## Decision

1. As proposed.
2. As proposed.

## Appendices

Appendix 6	Expert statement by Claudia Pahl-Wostl
Appendix 7	Expert statement Giuliano Di Baldassarre
Appendix 8	Evaluation memorandum Miina Porkka
Appendix 9	Mina Porkka's CV
Appendix 10	Mina Porkka's teaching portfolio
Appendix 11	Mina Porkka's a list of publications

Record entry 4242/01.01.03/2023

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

§ 5

**The Dean's proposal on the person to be appointed to the post of University Lecturer in  
Applied Mathematics**

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will discuss proposals regarding the scope and specifications of posts that comply with the four-stage career model of the faculty's permanent teaching and research staff and Tenure Track positions.

The description of the post of University Lecturer in Applied Mathematics is as follows:

The University Lecturer will work in the field of applied mathematics. This is a joint teaching post of the faculty's School of Forest Sciences and the Department of Physics and Mathematics. At the School of Forest Sciences, the person appointed to the post will be responsible for the teaching of mathematics (mathematics for forestry students) that is included in the Bachelor's degree, as well as for the introduction to the research methods used in forestry. At the Department of Physics and Mathematics, the duties include teaching and guidance related to basic and intermediate studies in mathematics.

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The university lecturer participates in evaluating and developing education in the field, continuous learning, and the use of learning environments and methods in education. Participation in forest research projects in which mathematical methods are applied will be agreed upon with the university lecturer, together with participation in the supervision of theses, research projects and administrative duties of the academic subject of mathematics. The post will be hosted by the School of Forest Sciences at the Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology on the Joensuu campus.

It is proposed that PhD Pekka Kosunen be appointed to the post as of 1 February 2024 until further notice. The memorandum of the evaluation committee and Kosunen's CV, teaching portfolio, and list of publications are enclosed with the agenda item as appendices.

Persons to be appointed as University Lecturers must hold a suitable doctoral degree and have good teaching skills (University Regulations, section 31). The person to be appointed to the position is expected to be fluent in Finnish and be able to also teach in English where required.

The Dean of the faculty has exempted PhD Pekka Kosunen from the requirement to give a trial lecture on the grounds that he has sufficient practical experience in university level teaching at the University of Eastern Finland and, therefore, the good teaching skills required by the post of a university lecturer have been demonstrated.

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PhD Pekka Kosunen meets the qualification requirements of a university lecturer, as referred to in the UEF University Regulations, and the prerequisites laid down in the specifications of the post.

The Dean of the faculty proposes to the Academic Rector that PhD Pekka Kosunen be appointed to the post of University Lecturer in Applied Mathematics from 1 February 2024 onwards until further notice.

**Motion** The Faculty Council will address the proposal for the person to be appointed to the position.

**Decision** As proposed.

### Appendices

Appendix 12	Selection memorandum University Lecturer applied mathematics
Appendix 13	Pekka Kosunen's CV
Appendix 14	Pekka Kosunen's teaching portfolio
Appendix 15	Pekka Kosunen's list of publications



Record entry 153/01.01.03/2024

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

§ 6

**The scope and specifications of the post of University Lecturer in Information Technology that will become vacant at the Faculty. Hearing of the Faculty Council**

The implementation of the Sustainable Technologies study programme of the Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology will be strengthened through teacher resources related to the knowledge management package. The faculty is also preparing a new international Master's level programme in information technology that is expected to start in autumn 2025.

The post of University Lecturer in the field of Information Technology (Joensuu campus) is proposed to be fulfilled as prepared by the School of Computing. The position will be filled through an open call.

The description of the post is as follows:

The field of teaching and research of the University Lecturer is information technology. The duties of the University Lecturer include the planning and implementation of training related to knowledge-based management, in particular knowledge management and information management. As regards information management, the duties also include techniques related to the visualisation of information. The University Lecturer will participate in the planning and implementation of Master's level training

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provided in English (in the case of Computer Science, in both Bachelor's and Master's level training). The duties also include the opportunity to participate in scientific research and development projects, as well as in brainstorming related to and preparation of research projects. The university lecturer participates in evaluating and developing education in the field, continuous learning, and the use of learning environments and methods in education. The language of instruction in the post is English.

According to section 11 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will discuss proposals regarding the scope and specifications of posts that comply with the four-stage career model of the faculty's permanent and Tenure Track positions.

**Motion** The Faculty Council will discuss the scope and specifications of the post of University Lecturer, Information Technology, that will become vacant at the faculty.

**Decision** As proposed.

Record entry 4083/01.08.00/2023

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

§ 7

**Granting the title of docent to PhD Sami Väänänen in the field of medical physics, in particular image analysis and mechanical modelling**

PhD Sami Väänänen has applied for the title of docent in the field of medical physics, in particular image analysis and mechanical modelling, at the Department of Technical Physics of the Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology of the University of Eastern Finland. PhD Väänänen's application and related attachments are enclosed with the agenda item as appendices.

In accordance with section 89 of the Universities Act 558/2009, the university may award the title of docent upon application to a person who has comprehensive knowledge of his or her own field, a capacity for independent research or artistic work demonstrated through publications or in some other manner, and good teaching skills.

According to section 9 (8) of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council shall decide on awarding the title of docent.

[By decision of 3 November 2023](#), the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology appointed Professor Elena M. Gutierrez-Farewik (Department of Engineering Mechanics, KTH MoveAbilityLab, KTH Royal

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Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden) and Research Director Harri Sievänen (UKK Institute, Tampere) to submit their expert statements on the scientific qualifications of PhD Sami Väänänen in order to be awarded the title of docent in the field of medical physics, in particular image analysis and mechanical modelling. Professor Gutierrez-Farewik and Research Director Sievänen have stated that PhD Väänänen is scientifically qualified in the field that his title of docent application concerns. The statements of the experts are enclosed with this agenda item as appendices.

A person to be awarded the title of docent is required to have good teaching skills (Universities Act 558/2009, section 89). The Dean may exempt the applicant from the requirement to give a trial lecture, provided that the applicant's teaching skills have been verified earlier. The teaching skills of PhD Sami Väänänen have been established on the basis of practical university-level teaching and supervision experience at the University of Eastern Finland in 2011–2023 and on the basis of the supervision experience at the University of Lübeck in Germany in 2012. He has also given a large number of lectures in his field at the Kuopio University Hospital.

On the basis of the above, the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology has, [by decision of 3 November 2023](#), exempted PhD Väänänen from the requirement to give a trial lecture for the title of docent he has applied for.

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**Motion** The Faculty Council states that PhD Sami Väänänen meets the criteria set out in the Universities Act for the title of docent and grants him the title of docent at the University of Eastern Finland in medical physics, in particular image analysis and mechanical modelling, as of 1 February 2024.

**Decision** As proposed.

### Appendices

Appendix 16	Sami Väänänen's title of docent application
Appendix 17	Appendices to Väänänen's title of docent application
Appendix 18	Expert statement by Elena M. Gutierrez-Farewik
Appendix 19	Expert statement by Harri Sievänen

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### § 8

#### For information

Statistics on the Faculty's degree programmes dated 31 December 2023  
(Appendix)

The doctoral dissertation overview of the faculty dated 10 January 2024;  
graduates in green, those with permission to defend their dissertation in a  
public examination in yellow, and those who have started their  
dissertation in blue (appendix)

[Rector's decision](#) (in Finnish only) of 22 December 2023 on the composition  
of the Board of Appeal in 2024–2025

[UEF University Regulations](#) (in Finnish only) starting from 1 January 2024

Experts' statements by [Craig Primmer](#) and [Joanna Poulton](#) of PhD, Docent  
Jaakko Pohjoismäki's eligibility and merit for the post of Professor,  
Molecular Biology and Genetics (dnro 3416/01.01.02/2023), which the  
Faculty Council discussed in its meeting on 23 November 2023

Topical faculty matters

#### Motion

Marked for information.

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**Decision** As proposed.

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Appendix 16	Degree Statistics 31 December 2023
Appendix 17	Doctoral dissertation overview 10 January 2024

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### **Closing of the meeting**

The chair closed the meeting at 13.39.



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### § 9

#### **Translation of the agenda/minutes**

The English translation of the agenda/minutes of the meeting is attached  
to the agenda item.