

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science, Forestry and
Technology
Meeting No 3/2024
Meeting date 20 March 2024

1 (22)

Date and time 20 March 2024, 13.00-13.31

Place 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	
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	1-10
Mononen Maini	Other staff, member	1-6 and 8-10
Turunen Mikael	Other staff, deputy member	
Virranto Tarja	Other staff, member	1-6 and 8-10

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Kopra Juho	Other staff, deputy member	
Pohjoismäki Jaakko	Other staff, member	1-10
Asikainen Mervi	Other staff, deputy member	
Vainikainen Hanne	Other staff, member	1-6 and 8-10
Kumlin Timo	Other staff, deputy member	
Merruntaus Kati	Student, member	
Ahtonen Tiina	Student, deputy member	
Palkovuori Teemu	Student, member	1-6 and 8-10
Törö Teemu	Student, deputy member	1-6 and 8-10
Partanen Silja	Student, member	1-6 and 8-10
Miettinen Mikko	Student, deputy member	1-6 and 8-10
Jankova Simona	Student, member	1-6 and 8-10
Rautiainen Kaisa	Student, deputy member	
Helvelahti Tomi	Student, member	1-6 and 8-10
Sheng Li	Student, deputy member	1-6 and 8-10
Hirvonen Arja	Executive Head of Administration, secretary, preparer	1-10
Other preparers		
Laitinen Kaisa	Head of Training	
Merimaa-Piirainen Maarit	Head of Student Services	1-10

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Items to be discussed at the meeting

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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 13 March 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.

Record entry 2073/01.01.02/2024

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

§ 3

The Dean's proposal to appoint PhD Anni Lehmuskero to the part-time (50%) post of Professor of Practice of Optical Design

The human resources plan of the faculty and the Department of Physics and Mathematics includes a fixed-term part-time (50%) post of Professor of Practice of Optical Design. The post is funded with AURA project funding for technology education. The post will be hosted by the Faculty's Department of Physics and Mathematics on the Joensuu campus.

The scope and description of the post as prepared by the department is as follows:

The Professor of Practice is responsible for the establishment and operation of a national network for optical design. The network aims to provide a solution for the shortage of skilled labour in companies and research institutes and to support innovations in photonics in various fields. The duties include responsibility for the planning, piloting and development of optical design courses in response to the needs of companies, especially Finnish companies, and in connection to UEF's technology education (photonics). This takes into account continuing education through the open university and the continuous learning trainings provided to the staff of companies through the Centre for Continuous Learning. The duties also include the planning and

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implementation of special courses in optical design, in accordance with the special expertise of the Professor of Practice. The research topic of the Professor of Practice is optical design and its promotion, e.g., free-form optics, the use of AI in optical design and meta-materials. This involves the planning and development of the processes of R&D&I projects that are implemented with companies as part of the university's wider business cooperation and building of partnerships. The main cooperation forums are Photonics Finland, Photonics Research and Innovation (PREIN) flagship and Photonics Joensuu.

The person intended to be invited to the post of Professor of Practice is PhD Anni Lehmuskero.

The post of Professor of Practice has been prepared by the Appointments Committee responsible for recruitments in the field of Technology. The Appointments Committee that complies with the UEF University Regulations consists of Vice Dean Markku Hauta-Kasari (Chair); Dean Kari Lehtinen; Head of the Department of Applied Physics, Professor Jari Kaipio; and Professor Antti Haapala from the Department of Chemistry. Executive Head of Administration Arja Hirvonen acted as the administrative expert.

Expert opinions on the qualifications of PhD Anni Lehmuskero for the post of Professor of Practice have been requested from Professor Tapio Niemi (University of Tampere) and Research Professor Jussi Hiltunen (VTT).

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Hiltunen's statement is enclosed as an Appendix, Niemi's statement will be added later.

Lehmuskero's CV, teaching portfolio and list of publications are enclosed with this agenda item as Appendices.

According to section 31 of the UEF University Regulations, a person to be appointed to a Professor of Practice (työelämäprofessori) position shall, as a rule, hold a doctoral degree and, in addition, have considerable merits from outside academia, and high-level expertise in their domain. The purpose of the post is to promote closer ties between working life outside academia and academic research and teaching. The post will be filled by invitation for a fixed term.

In accordance with the university's Regulations on Authorised Signatories, the authority to conclude contracts of employment with Professors of Practice at the university belongs to the Rector and the Dean of the faculty will make a proposal on the person to be appointed to the post. The current practice is to apply a similar procedure to the recruitment of Professors of Practice as to the fulfilment of Tenure Track posts.

The Dean of the faculty proposes to the Rector of the University that PhD Anni Lehmuskero be appointed to the part-time (50%) post of Professor of Practice for the period 1 April 2024 – 30 September 2026.

Motion

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1. The Faculty Council will address the scope and specifications of the post of Professor of Practice.
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 1	Expert statement by Jussi Hiltunen on 7 March 2024
Appendix 2	Anni Lehmuskero's CV
Appendix 3	Anni Lehmuskero's teaching portfolio
Appendix 4	Anni Lehmuskero's list of publications

Record entry 2060/01.01.03/2024

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

§ 4

The scope and specifications of the post of University Lecturer in/University Teacher of Environmental Engineering that will become vacant at the Faculty. Hearing of the Faculty Council

The Ministry of Education and Culture has granted the university funding in a call targeted at increasing the student intake and strengthening research infrastructures in Eastern Finland. The funding for additional study places is targeted at the field of technology.

As prepared by the Department of Chemistry, it is proposed that the post of University Lecturer in / University Teacher of Environmental Engineering be filled (Joensuu campus). The position will be filled through an open call.

The description of the post is as follows:

The field of teaching of the University Lecturer/University Teacher is Environmental Engineering. The duties and contents of teaching will focus, in particular, on the Sustainable Technologies Master's degree programme. Teaching and supervision related to the sustainability aspects of the use of natural resources and industrial production and environmental engineering will be highlighted in the duties.

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The University Lecturer / University Teacher participates in developing education and continuous learning in the field of technology, and the use of learning environments and methods in education. The duties also include research in the field and institutional and organisational tasks. The languages of instruction and supervision at the Department are Finnish and English. The language of instruction in the post is Finnish.

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 Teacher / University Lecturer in Environmental Engineering that will become vacant at the faculty.

Decision As proposed.

Record entry 2075/01.01.03/2024

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

§ 5

The scopes and specifications of the posts of University Lecturers in Mathematics that will become vacant at the Faculty. Hearing of the Faculty Council

In accordance with the human resources plan of the Department of Physics and Mathematics, preparations are made to open a call for applications for two University Lecturer posts. The posts are intended to be filled with an open-ended contract as from 1 June 2024 on the Joensuu campus.

The scope of the posts are as follows:

University Lecturer, Mathematics (research-oriented post, details may be specified)

The field of teaching and research of the University Lecturer must be in a field of mathematics that is relevant to the department's research profile (will be specified through an open call, where required). The duties include conducting research in the field, acquiring research resources, training researchers, and operating in cooperation networks in the field. The responsibility for developing mathematics teaching through international agreements in the field and coordination of international affairs are highlighted in the post. The University Lecturer will give teaching at basic, intermediate and advanced levels and supervise academic theses, and will

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also assess and develop education and continuous learning. The languages of instruction and supervision at the department are Finnish and English. The language of instruction in the post is English.

University Lecturer, Mathematics

The field of teaching of the University Lecturer is Mathematics. The University Lecturer will give teaching at basic, intermediate and advanced levels and supervise academic theses, and will also assess and develop education and continuous learning. The duties also include the development of online courses in the field of mathematics, PSP counselling and its coordination in the academic subject, and the entrance examination for mathematics as part of national cooperation. The University Lecturer's field of research must be in a field of that is relevant to the department's research profile and they will participate in the department's research projects. The languages of instruction and supervision at the department are Finnish and English. The language of instruction in the post is Finnish.

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 posts of University Lecturer in Mathematics that will become vacant at the faculty.



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Decision As proposed.

Record entry 4561/01.08.00/2023

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

§ 6

Awarding the title of docent to PhD Sami Nikkonen in the field of medical physics and data analysis in sleep medicine

PhD Sami Nikkonen has applied for the title of docent in the field of medical physics and computer science in sleep medicine at the Department of Technical Physics of the Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology of the University of Eastern Finland.

The Faculty Council discussed the matter at its meeting of 22 February 2024 and decided to request that PhD Nikkonen specify the field of the docentship he has applied for. The specified field of the docentship is Medical physics and data analysis in sleep medicine. The Department of Technical Physics has approved the specification of the field (Appendix).

PhD Nikkonen's application and attachments as well as the document specifying the field of the docentship 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.

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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 14 December 2023, the Dean](#) of the Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology appointed Professor Stefan Debener (Department of Psychology, University of Oldenburg, Germany) and Professor Poul Jennum (The Neuroscience Centre, University of Copenhagen, Denmark) to issue their expert statements on the scientific competence of PhD Sami Nikkonen in the field of Medical physics and computer science in sleep medicine. Professor Debener and Professor Jennum have stated that PhD Sami Nikkonen is scientifically qualified for the title of docent he is applying for and have also approved the specification of the field of the docentship. 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 Faculty Council listened to PhD Nikkonen's trial lecture at its meeting of 22 February 2024 and approved it with a grade good (3/5).

Motion

The Faculty Council states that PhD Sami Nikkonen 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 and data analysis in sleep medicine, as of 1 April 2024.

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Decision As proposed.

Appendices

Appendix 5	Sami Nikkonen's application for the title of docent
Appendix 6	Specification of Sami Nikkonen's title of docent application
Appendix 7	Supporting statement of the department on the specification of the field of the docentship
Appendix 8	Appendices to Nikkonen's title of docent application
Appendix 9	Expert statement by Stefan Debener
Appendix 10	Supporting statement of Stefan Debener on the specification of the field of the docentship
Appendix 11	Expert statement by Poul Jennum
Appendix 12	Supporting statement of Poul Jennum on the specification of the field of the docentship

Record entry 86/03.04.09/2024

Prepared by Kaisa Laitinen

§ 7

Grading MSc (Agr. & For.) Nicola Kokkonen's doctoral dissertation in the field of Forestry

According to section 9 of the UEF University Regulations, the Faculty Council grades doctoral dissertations. According to Section 18 of the standing orders of the Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology on degrees and studies, doctoral dissertations are graded on the scale pass – pass with distinction.

MSc (Agr. & For.) Nicola Kokkonen's doctoral dissertation and study [The impact of drying on the structure and photosynthesis of boreal peatland vegetation](#) was examined publicly on 16 February 2024. The opponent, Senior Lecturer Anne Bjorkman (Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, University of Gothenburg, Sweden) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Agriculture and Forestry and proposes the grade Pass with distinction. The preliminary examiners of the dissertation, Professor Roxane Andersen (University of the Highlands and Islands, Environmental Research Institute, Scotland) and Senior Curator Risto Virtanen (Faculty of Science, University of Oulu) agree with the grade proposed by the opponent.

According to section 44 of the Universities Act (24.7.2009/558), before a doctoral dissertation is graded, the author must be given an opportunity to submit his or her response to the preliminary examiner's, the

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examiner's or the opponent's statement. The doctoral candidate has no comments on the statements of the opponent and the preliminary examiners, which are enclosed with this agenda item as appendices.

According to section 29 of the Universities Act (24.7.2009/558), a study attainment may be assessed only by those members or deputy members of a multi-member administrative body who have a degree or completed study attainments of an equivalent level or who have been appointed professors.

Motion Based on the statements, the Faculty Council grades MSc (Agr. & For.) Nicola Kokkonen's doctoral dissertation as Pass with distinction.

Decision As proposed.

Appendices

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Appendix 13 | Opponent Anne Bjorkman's statement |
| Appendix 14 | The opinion of preliminary examiner Roxane Andersen on the proposed grade Pass with distinction |
| Appendix 15 | The opinion of preliminary examiner Risto Virtanen on the proposed grade Pass with distinction |

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For information

Statistics on the faculty's Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees on 12
March 2024 (Appendix)

The doctoral dissertation overview of the faculty dated 13 March 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)

Topical faculty matters.

Motion Marked for information.

Decision As proposed.

Appendices

Appendix 16 Degree Statistics 12 March 2024

Appendix 17 Doctoral dissertation overview 13 March 2024

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Closing of the meeting

The chair closed the meeting at 13.31.

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§ 10

Translation of the agenda/minutes

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