

## Agenda

Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science, Forestry and  
Technology  
Meeting No 3/2025  
Meeting date 19 March 2025

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**Date and time** 19 March 2025 at 13:00 -

**Place** Teams

<b>Participants</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Additional information</b>
Members		
Lehtinen Kari	Dean, Chair	
Hauta-Kasari Markku	1st Vice Dean, Vice Chair	
Kukkonen Jussi	2nd Vice Dean	
Hujala Teppo	Professor, member	
Tuittila Eeva-Stiina	Professor, deputy member	
Lehto Vesa-Pekka	Professor, member	
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	
Toivanen Pekka	Professor, deputy member	
Tanska Petri	Other staff, member	
Haapala Antti	Other staff, deputy member	
Mononen Maini	Other staff, member	
Turunen Mikael	Other staff, deputy member	
Virrantalo Tarja	Other staff, member	



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Kopra Juho	Other staff, deputy member
Pohjoismäki Jaakko	Other staff, member
Asikainen Mervi	Other staff, deputy member
Vainikainen Hanne	Other staff, member
Kumlin Timo	Other staff, deputy member
Merruntaus Kati	Student, member
Ahtonen Tiina	Student, deputy member
Palkovuori Teemu	Student, member
Törö Teemu	Student, deputy member
Partanen Silja	Student, member
Miettinen Mikko	Student, deputy member
Jankova Simona	Student, member
Rautiainen Kaisa	Student, deputy member
Helvelahti Tomi	Student, member
Sheng Li	Student, deputy member
Hirvonen Arja	Executive Head of Administration, secretary, preparer
Other preparers	
Merimaa-Piirainen Maarit	Head of Academic Affairs
Riikka Levänen	
Niina Laatikainen	

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**1**

### **Opening of the meeting**

The chair will open the meeting.

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## **2**

### **Legitimacy and presence of a quorum**

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

The meeting notice was sent on 12 March 2025.

According to the UEF University Regulations, multi-member administrative bodies 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 body 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**

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Record entry 247/01.01.02/2025

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

### 3

#### **Description of the post of Professor, Biomedical Engineering, in particular sleep analytics, and the Dean's proposal to invite Associate Professor Timo Leppänen to the post. Hearing of the Faculty Council**

PhD Timo Leppänen has been appointed to the Tenure Track position of Associate Professor, Biomedical Engineering, in particular sleep analytics, for the period 1 January 2022 – 31 December 2025. Associate Professor Leppänen has requested that the evaluation be completed ahead of the schedule, which the faculty has supported (Tenure Track Committee, 6 February 2025). The Professorship will be hosted by the faculty's Department of Technical Physics on the Kuopio campus.

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 Pauli Miettinen from the School of Computing, and Professor Matti Maltamo from the School of Forest Sciences.

Based on the submitted documents and an interview, the Appointments Committee came to the conclusion that the legal prerequisites to initiate

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the invitation procedure are met and that Associate Professor Timo Leppänen can be invited to a professorship in his field.

The memorandum of the Appointments Committee and Leppänen's CV, teaching portfolio, and list of publications are enclosed with the agenda item as annexes.

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 annex. 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, Biomedical Engineering, in particular sleep analytics, and the Dean's proposal on the person to be invited to it.

### **Decision**

#### Annexes

Annex 1	Evaluation memorandum of the Appointments Committee (Leppänen)
Annex 2	Timo Leppänen's CV
Annex 3	Timo Leppänen's teaching portfolio
Annex 4	Timo Leppänen's list of publications



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Annex 5

Draft description of the post



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Record entry 380/01.01.02/2025

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

**4**

### **Description of the post of Professor/Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Technology (Tenure Track). Hearing of the Faculty Council**

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 post is based on the PROFILE 8 funding granted to the University of Eastern Finland by the Research Council of Finland. The post is hosted by the Department of Technical Physics at the Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology.

According to the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, a person to be appointed to a professorship shall be scientifically or artistically qualified, have good teaching skills and, if important for attending to the duties, have practical familiarity with the field of the post.

According to 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.



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Furthermore, the person shall have the prerequisites to fulfil the qualification requirements of a professor by the end of the tenure track term.

The criteria, goals and results to be achieved during the term in order to proceed to the next level of the Tenure Track (Professor) will be agreed upon in detail with the person appointed to the Associate Professor position when the contract of employment is signed.

The description of the post of Professor/Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Technology (Tenure Track) (Annex) includes the scope and specifications of the post as required by the UEF University Regulations.

**Motion** The Faculty Council will discuss the description of the post.

**Decision**

Annexes

Annex 6 Draft description of the post

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Record entry 378/01.01.02/2025

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

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### **Description of the post of Professor/Associate Professor, Artificial Intelligence in Scientific Computing (Tenure Track). Hearing of the Faculty Council**

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 post is based on the PROFILE 8 funding granted to the University of Eastern Finland by the Research Council of Finland. The post is hosted by the Department of Technical Physics at the Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology.

According to the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, a person to be appointed to a professorship shall be scientifically or artistically qualified, have good teaching skills and, if important for attending to the duties, have practical familiarity with the field of the post.

According to 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.

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Furthermore, the person shall have the prerequisites to fulfil the qualification requirements of a professor by the end of the tenure track term.

The criteria, goals and results to be achieved during the term in order to proceed to the next level of the Tenure Track (Professor) will be agreed upon in detail with the person appointed to the Associate Professor position when the contract of employment is signed.

The description of the post of Professor/Associate Professor of Artificial Intelligence in Scientific Computing (Tenure Track) (Annex) includes the scope and specifications of the post as required by the UEF University Regulations.

**Motion** The Faculty Council will discuss the description of the post.

## Decision

## Annexes

Annex 7 Draft description of the post

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Record entry 381/01.01.02/2025

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

## 6

### **Description of the post of Professor/Associate Professor, Translational Data Science in Medical Technology. Hearing of the Faculty Council**

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 post is based on the PROFILE 8 funding granted to the University of Eastern Finland by the Research Council of Finland. The post is hosted by the Department of Technical Physics at the Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology.

According to the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, a person to be appointed to a professorship shall be scientifically or artistically qualified, have good teaching skills and, if important for attending to the duties, have practical familiarity with the field of the post.

According to 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.

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Furthermore, the person shall have the prerequisites to fulfil the qualification requirements of a professor by the end of the tenure track term.

The criteria, goals and results to be achieved during the term in order to proceed to the next level of the Tenure Track (Professor) will be agreed upon in detail with the person appointed to the Associate Professor position when the contract of employment is signed.

The description of the post of Professor/Associate Professor of Translational Data Science in Medical Technology (Tenure Track) (Annex) includes the scope and specifications of the post as required by the UEF University Regulations.

**Motion** The Faculty Council will discuss the description of the post.

**Decision**

Annexes

Annex 8 Draft description of the post





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Record entry 6312/01.01.02/2024

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

**7**

### **The Dean's proposal on the person to be appointed to the post of Associate Professor, Ecosystem Services and Climate Change (Tenure Track)**

The post of Associate Professor of Ecosystem Services and Climate Change (Tenure Track) is to be filled at the Department of Environmental and Biological Sciences of the Faculty by appointing PhD, Docent Kajar Köster to the post without a public call.

The description of the post is as follows:

The field of research and teaching of the Associate Professor (Tenure Track) is ecosystem services and climate change. This role requires extensive expertise in plant ecology and biogeochemistry (carbon cycle, greenhouse gas balance and disturbances, forest carbon storage, forest fires and other ecosystem services). The role is research-oriented and includes the acquisition of external research funding, the launching and management of research projects, high-quality publishing in the field, teaching and supervision duties, and academic and societal expert duties. The post will strengthen international research networks and cooperation in the field.

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Expert statements on the eligibility and merits of Köster have been requested, in accordance with the Dean's decision, from Professor Marie-Charlotte Nilsson Hegethorn (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences) and Professor Emeritus Pasi Puttonen (University of Helsinki, Department of Forest Sciences). The favourable expert statements are enclosed with this agenda item as annexes.

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 Biological Sciences, Professor Jonne Naarala, and Professor Eeva-Stiina Tuittila from the School of Forest Sciences.

In summary, the Appointments Committee team states that the qualifications and merits of PhD, Docent Kajar Köster meet the criteria set for the associate professor level of the Tenure Track.

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

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.

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The Chair of the Appointments Committee has exempted PhD Kajar Köster from the requirement to give a trial lecture on the grounds that he has experience in university-level teaching and pedagogical training, in addition to which he has given a trial lecture at the University of Helsinki for the title of docent, which was graded as Good in 2019. PhD Köster 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 PhD Kajar Köster be appointed to the post of Associate Professor in the Tenure Track for a four-year term as from 1 April 2025.

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 proposal for the scope and specifications of the post of Associate Professor.
2. The Faculty Council will address the proposal for the person to be appointed to the position.

## Decision



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### Annexes

Annex 9	Expert statements by Hegethorn and Puttonen
Annex 10	Evaluation memorandum of the Appointments Committee
Annex 11	Kajar Köster's CV
Annex 12	Kajar Köster's teaching portfolio
Annex 13	Kajar Köster's list of publications

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Record entry 383/01.01.03/2025

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

**8**

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

In accordance with the human resources planning of the faculty and the School of Computing, the aim is to open a call for the post of University Teacher/University Lecturer in Information and Communication Technology at the School of Computing on the Joensuu campus. The role will support, for its part, the new Master of Science in Data Technology education, which will start at the University of Eastern Finland in autumn 2026. The data technology education includes training in data science, statistics and software development.

The description of the post is as follows:

The post of University Teacher/University Lecturer is teaching-oriented and the field of teaching is information and communication technology. The role includes, in particular, the planning, development and implementation of basic level teaching in modern software technology. The University Teacher/ University Lecturer will participate in the evaluation and development of education and continuous learning in the field, as well as the use of learning environments and methods in



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education. 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.

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 information and communication technology that will become vacant at the faculty.

### **Decision**

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Record entry 388/01.01.03/2025

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

9

### **The scope and specifications of the post of University Teacher/University Lecturer in Statistics that will become vacant at the faculty. Hearing of the Faculty Council**

In accordance with the human resources planning of the faculty and the School of Computing, the aim is to open a call for the post of University Teacher/University Lecturer in Statistics at the School of Computing on the Joensuu campus. The role will support, for its part, the new Master of Science in Data Technology education, which will start at the University of Eastern Finland in autumn 2026. The data technology education includes training in data science, statistics and software development.

The description of the post is as follows:

The post of University Teacher/University Lecturer is teaching-oriented and the field of teaching is Statistics. The role includes, in particular, the planning, development and implementation of basic and intermediate level teaching in statistics. The university teacher/university lecturer participates in evaluating and developing education in the field and continuous learning, as well as the use of learning environments and methods in education. 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.



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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 Statistics that will become vacant at the faculty.

### **Decision**



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Record entry 400/01.01.03/2025

Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

### 10

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

In accordance with the human resources planning of the faculty and the School of Computing, the aim is to open a call for the post of University Teacher/University Lecturer in Computer Science at the School of Computing on the Kuopio campus.

The description of the post is as follows:

The field of teaching and research of the University Lecturer is Computer Science. The role includes the planning and implementation of basic and intermediate level studies in computer science (e.g., introduction to computer science, programming, information structures, testing of information systems, basic computing models) and the supervision of theses. The University Lecturer will also participate in the planning and implementation of teaching provided in English.

The duties also include the opportunity to participate in scientific research and development projects, as well as in brainstorming related to and the preparation of research projects. The University Lecturer participates in evaluating and developing education in the field, continuous learning, and



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the use of learning environments and methods in education. 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 Lecturer in Computer Science that will become vacant at the faculty.

### **Decision**

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Record entry 60/03.04.09/2025

Prepared by Riikka Levänen

11

### **Grading MSc Sallamaari Siponen's doctoral dissertation in the field of Environmental Science**

According to section 9 of the UEF University Regulations, the Faculty Council grades doctoral dissertations. According to Section 32 of the Education Regulations, dissertations are graded on the scale pass with distinction, pass, and fail.

MSc Sallamaari Siponen's doctoral dissertation and study "[Factors affecting microbial quality of drinking water distribution systems - control of bacteria in water and biofilms](#)" was examined publicly on 14 February 2025. The opponent, Professor Lotta-Riina Sundberg (Department of Biological and Environmental Science, University of Jyväskylä) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Philosophy and proposes the grade Pass.

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 examiner's or the opponent's statement. The doctoral candidate has no comments on the doctoral statement, which is enclosed with this agenda item as an Annex.



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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 statement, the Faculty Council grades MSc Sallamaari Siponen's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

### **Decision**

### **Annexes**

Annex 14

Statement by the opponent Lotta-Riina Sundberg

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Prepared by Arja Hirvonen

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**Faculty Council meetings in the autumn semester 2025**

The meetings of the autumn semester 2025 are proposed as follows:

Wednesday 27 August 13:00

Wednesday 24 September 13:00

Wednesday 22 October 13:00

Wednesday 26 November 13:00

Wednesday 17 December 13:00

**Motion** The Faculty Council approves the proposed meeting schedule for the autumn semester 2025.

**Decision**

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**13**

**For information**

Statistics on the faculty's Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees on 11  
March 2025 (Annex)

Topical faculty matters.

**Motion**           Marked for information.

**Decision**

Annexes

Annex 15           Degree Statistics \_11 March 2025



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### **Closing of the meeting**

The chair will close the meeting.



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**15**

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

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