

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Faculty of Health Sciences

Meeting No 8/2025

Meeting date 18 September 2025

1 (57)

Date and time 18 September 2025 at 14:00 -

Place ME201 (+Teams)

Participants	Role	Additional information
Members		
Forsberg Markus	Dean, Chair	1-24
Levonen-Harju Anna-Liisa	1st Vice Dean, Vice Chair	
Kauppinen Anu	Professor, member	
Rautio Jarkko	Professor, deputy member	
Malm Tarja	Professor, member	
Saaranen Terhi	Professor, deputy member	
Jääskeläinen Jarmo	Professor, member	1-24
Keski-Nisula Leea	Professor, deputy member	
Tuomainen Tomi-Pekka	Professor, member	1-24
Pussinen Pirkko	Professor, deputy member	
Heinäniemi Merja	Professor, member	
Tohka Jussi	Professor, deputy member	
Jalkanen Aaro	Staff, member	1-21
Huttunen Kristiina	Staff, deputy member	
Kotikumpu Kari	Staff, member	1-24
Parviainen Anndra	Staff, deputy member	

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Heikkilä Reeta	Staff, member	1-24
Sutinen Tiina	Staff, deputy member	1-24
Lahtela-Kakkonen Maija	Staff, member	17-24
Savinainen Juha	Staff, deputy member	
Toroi Riitta-Liisa	Staff, member	1-24
Kanninen Katja	Staff, deputy member	
Suurnäkki-Piispa Mira	Student, member	1-24
Riikkilä Onni	Student, deputy member	
Omale Inikpi	Student, member	
To be named later	Student, deputy member	
Tariq Amina	Student, member	
To be named later	Student, deputy member	
Gunnar Janina	Student, member	1-24
Ikonen Ella	Student, deputy member	
Zacheus Teemu	Student, member	
Kalenius Nea	Student, deputy member	
Ollikainen-Richards Hanna	Executive Head of Administration, secretary, preparer	1-24
Other preparers		
Järvelin-Pasanen Susanna	Head of Student Services	1-24
Koistinen Annika	Academic Affairs Specialist	1-24

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1

Opening of the meeting

The chair opened the meeting at 14:05.

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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 11 September 2024.

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 as a hybrid meeting (ME201 + Teams).

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

Decision As proposed

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Record entry 746/01.01.02/2025

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

3

The Dean's proposal to the Rector of the University of Eastern Finland on the appointment of DSc (Pharmacy) Olli Kärkkäinen to the post of Associate Professor, Toxicometabolomics (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.

According to section 10 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Dean shall make proposals to the Rector on the persons to be appointed to professorships with a term of two years or over, and to Tenure Track positions after hearing the Faculty Council.

In their strategic human resources plan, the School of Pharmacy of the University of Eastern Finland proposes that the post of an Associate Professor of Toxicometabolomics (Tenure Track) be filled at the institute. The post is to be filled by appointing Olli Kärkkäinen to it without a public call as from 1 November 2025.

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The position is filled for a four-year term. The position is filled for a fixed term due to it being a Tenure Track position.

The duties of the Associate Professor shall be the management and supervision of research, acquisition of external funding, development and application of, in particular, the methods of toxicometabolomics and data analytics, development of the activities of the international training programme in toxicology, planning and development of education organised by the School of Pharmacy, teaching and research and quality work, and responsibility for scientific postgraduate education.

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.

In accordance with the Dean's decision, expert statements have been requested on the qualifications and merits of the person proposed to the post from Professor Harri Alenius (Karolinska Institutet) and Professor Tuulia Hyötyläinen (Örebro Universitet). The favourable expert statements are enclosed with this agenda item as appendices.

In accordance with the Dean's decision, the Appointments Committee established in accordance with the UEF University Regulations consisted of

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the Chair, Vice Dean Jarmo Jääskeläinen, Professor Marjut Roponen and Professor Anu Kauppinen.

In summary, the Appointments Committee states that the qualifications and merits of DSc (Pharmacy), Docent Olli Kärkkäinen meet the criteria set for the associate professor level of the Tenure Track.

Olli Kärkkäinen's CV and list of publications are enclosed with this agenda item as annexes.

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 The Faculty Council will discuss the proposed appointment.

Decision As proposed

Annexes

- 1 Selection memorandum toxicometabolomics
- 2 Statement toxicometabolomics_Hyötyläinen
- 3 Statement toxicometabolomics_Alenius
- 4 List of publications Kärkkäinen Olli
- 5 CV Kärkkäinen Olli

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Record entry 260/01.01.02/2025

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

4

The Dean's proposal to the Rector of the University of Eastern Finland on the appointment of MD Antti Lindgren to the post of Professor, Interventional Radiology, until further notice: Hearing of the Faculty Council

By his decision, the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences approved the description of the post of Associate Professor/Professor of Interventional Radiology.

By the deadline, two applicants submitted their applications to the vacant part-time (30%) post of Professor/Associate Professor: Antti Lindgren and Petri Saari.

In accordance with the Universities Act, statements must be requested before the appointment on the qualification and merits of the applicants or the person to be invited to the post from a minimum of two experts when a person is being recruited for an employment relationship that will be effective until further notice or for a fixed period of at least two years. Sections 27–29 of the Administrative Procedure Act (434/2003) on disqualification shall be applied to the experts.

According to the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, a person to be appointed as Professor shall be scientifically or

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artistically qualified, have good teaching skills and, if important for attending to the duties, have practical familiarity with the field of the post.

By decision of the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences of 12 February 2025, the person to be appointed to the post of Professor of Interventional Radiology is required to have practical familiarity with the field of the post. Practical familiarity is considered to mean that the person has a specialist degree or is a qualified specialist in Radiology and has at least two years' experience working as a specialist in Radiology. Familiarity with interventional radiology is considered an advantage.

Expert statements on the eligibility and merits of the person applying for the post have been requested from the following persons: Professor Lars Lönn (University of Copenhagen) and Professor Tommy Andersson (Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm).

Based on the application documents and the expert statements, the Appointments Committee proposes that the vacant part-time (30%) post be filled at Professor level and that MD Antti Lindgren be appointed to it from 1 January 2026 onwards until further notice. The proposal of the Appointments Committee and the application documents are enclosed with this agenda item as appendices.

According to section 10(9) of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Dean shall make a proposal to the Rector on the person to be appointed to the post after hearing the Faculty Council.

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Antti Lindgren is not required to give a trial lecture.

Motion The Faculty Council will discuss the proposed appointment.

Decision As proposed

Annexes

- | | |
|----|--|
| 6 | Statement Interventional Radiology - Lars Lönn |
| 7 | Statement Interventional Radiology - Tommy Andersson |
| 8 | CV Antti Lindgren |
| 9 | List of publications Antti Lindgren |
| 10 | Memorandum Operational Radiology |

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Record entry 1116/01.01.02/2025

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

5

Description of the post of Professor, Bioinformatics and Machine Learning, in order to invite Associate Professor Vittorio Fortino to the post: Hearing of the Faculty Council

In its strategic human resources plan, the School of Medicine of the University of Eastern Finland, the Institute of Biomedicine, has proposed that, if the requirements of the Tenure Track are met, Associate Professor (Tenure Track) Vittorio Fortino may be invited to the post of Professor, Bioinformatics, until further notice.

The Tenure Track Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences has assessed the fulfilment of the specifying criteria and has stated that the invitation procedure and expert evaluation can be initiated to appoint Associate Professor (Tenure Track) Vittorio Fortino to the post of Professor. The post will be hosted by the Faculty of Health Sciences, the School of Medicine, the Institute of Biomedicine.

The proposed grounds for the invitation procedure are: Vittorio Fortino received a doctoral degree in Bioinformatics and Systems Biology in 2013 from the University of Salerno, Italy. He received the title of docent in bioinformatics in 2021 from the University of Eastern Finland. Vittorio Fortino currently works as an Associate Professor (Tenure Track) in the Institute of Biomedicine of the University of Eastern Finland's School of Medicine. His previous roles include, e.g., Academy Research Fellow

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(2020–2025) and Postdoctoral Researcher (2013–2018) at the University of Eastern Finland. Fortino has also acted as a visiting researcher at the Center for Biostatistics Houston in the United States (6/2011).

Vittorio Fortino's list of publications contains 55 peer-reviewed scientific publications. He has supervised three doctoral dissertations and is currently supervising six more, in four of which he is the main supervisor. Fortino has also acted as a preliminary examiner of a doctoral dissertation. He has acquired a total of about EUR 1.7 million of research funding from various sources.

Vittorio Fortino's CV and a list of publications are enclosed with this agenda item as annexes.

On the basis of the above, Associate Professor Vittorio Fortino fulfils the requirements of the invitation procedure to the post of Professor, Bioinformatics and Machine Learning.

According to section 33(2) 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 as Professor shall be

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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 section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will discuss proposals on the scope and specifications of the post of a professor and, according to section 10(5) of the same, the Dean will decide on the scope and specifications of the post of a professor after hearing the Faculty Council. The Dean will appoint experts to provide statements on those who have applied for or have been invited to a post of Professor (section 10 of the UEF University Regulations).

The description of the post of Professor, Bioinformatics and Machine Learning, is enclosed with this agenda item as an appendix. The description of the post includes the scope and specifications of the post required by the UEF University Regulations. The description of the post does not require that the person invited to the said post of Professor has practical familiarity with the field.

The description of the post also includes a proposal that the invitation procedure be used to invite Associate Professor Vittorio Fortino to it. Vittorio Fortino's consent is enclosed with this agenda item as an annex.

Motion

The Faculty Council will address the proposal for the scope and specifications of the post.

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Decision As proposed

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| 11 | Consent letter Fortino Vittorio |
| 12 | CV Fortino Vittorio |
| 13 | List of publications Fortino Vittorio |
| 14 | Description of the post _ Bioinformatics_Machine Learning |

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Record entry 1115/01.01.02/2025

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

6

Professor of Public Health, description of the post: 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.

In its strategic human resources plan, the School of Medicine, the Institute of Public Health and Clinical Nutrition of the University of Eastern Finland proposes that the post of a Professor of Public Health be filled at the institute.

The post will be filled until further notice as from 1 August 2026 at the earliest.

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.

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The description of the post (Appendix) includes the scope and specifications of the post required by the UEF University Regulations.

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

Decision As proposed. The job description is proposed to be amended as follows:
The position involves international training and development work. In addition, the role may also include responsibility for international training programs in the field.

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Record entry 1006/01.08.00/2025

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

7

Granting the title of docent in Cardiology to DDSc Jukka Leinonen

DDSc Jukka Leinonen has proposed that he be awarded the title of docent in the field of Cardiology at the Faculty of Health Sciences of the University of Eastern Finland. The applicant's CV and list of publications are enclosed with the agenda item as Annexes.

The Docent Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences stated at its meeting that the docentship is purposeful from the perspective of teaching and research activities. The Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences has invited Professor Leo Tjäderhane (University of Helsinki) and Professor Arzu Tezvergil-Mutluayn (University of Turku) as experts.

Professor Tjäderhane submitted his statement on 2 September 2025 and Professor Tezvergil-Mutluay on 20 August 2025. Both experts consider the applicant to be scientifically qualified for the docentship they are applying for and are in favour of awarding the title of docent. The statements of the experts are enclosed with this agenda item as Annexes.

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

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independent research or artistic work demonstrated through publications or some other manner, and good teaching skills.

The Docent Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences stated, when it processed the application, that the applicant meets the criteria of the Faculty of Health Sciences as regards 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.

The applicant meets the qualification requirements of a docent specified in section 89 of the Universities Act and the criteria set out in the docentship guidelines of the Faculty of Health Sciences for the title of docent.

Motion The Faculty Council states that the applicant meets the qualification requirements specified in section 89 of the Universities Act and the criteria set out in the docentship guidelines of the Faculty of Health Sciences for the title of docent and decides to grant the title of docent in Cardiology to DDSc Jukka Leinonen.

Decision As proposed

Annexes



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- 15 CV Leinonen Jukka
- 16 List of publications Leinonen Jukka
- 17 Statement Leinonen Jukka - Tezvergil-Mutluay
- 18 Statement Leinonen Jukka - Tjäderhane
- 19 Statement of the academic subject, title of docent in
Cardiology

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Record entry 1008/01.08.00/2025

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

8

Granting the title of docent in Nursing Science to DHSc Outi Kähkönen

DHSc Outi Kähkönen has proposed that she be awarded the title of docent in the field of Nursing Science at the Faculty of Health Sciences of the University of Eastern Finland. The applicant's CV and list of publications are enclosed with the agenda item as Annexes.

The Docent Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences stated at its meeting that the docentship is purposeful from the perspective of teaching and research activities. The Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences has invited Professor Minna Stolt (University of Turku) and Professor Kristina Mikkonen (University of Oulu) as experts.

Professor Stolt submitted her statement on 21 July 2025 and Professor Mikkonen on 8 September 2025. Both experts consider the applicant to be scientifically qualified for the docentship they are applying for and are in favour of awarding the title of docent. The statements of the experts are enclosed with this agenda item as Annexes.

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

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independent research or artistic work demonstrated through publications or some other manner, and good teaching skills.

The Docent Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences stated, when it processed the application, that the applicant meets the criteria of the Faculty of Health Sciences as regards 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.

The applicant meets the qualification requirements of a docent specified in section 89 of the Universities Act and the criteria set out in the docentship guidelines of the Faculty of Health Sciences for the title of docent.

Motion

The Faculty Council states that the applicant meets the qualification requirements specified in section 89 of the Universities Act and the criteria set out in the docentship guidelines of the Faculty of Health Sciences for the title of docent and decides to grant the title of docent in Nursing Science to DHSc Outi Kähkönen.

Decision

As proposed

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CV Kähkönen Outi



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- 21 List of publications Kähkönen Outi
- 22 Statement Outi Kähkönen - Kristina Mikkonen
- 23 Statement Outi Kähkönen - Minna Stolt
- 24 Statement of the academic subject, title of docent in Nursing Science

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Record entry 1007/01.08.00/2025

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

9

Granting the title of docent in Neurobiology to PhD Virve Kärkkäinen

PhD Virve Kärkkäinen has proposed that she be awarded the title of docent in the field of Neurobiology at the Faculty of Health Sciences of the University of Eastern Finland. The applicant's CV and list of publications are enclosed with the agenda item as Annexes.

The Docent Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences stated at its meeting that the docentship is purposeful from the perspective of teaching and research activities. The Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences has invited Professor Peppi Karppinen (University of Oulu) and Professor Pentti Tienari (University of Helsinki) as experts.

Professor Karppinen submitted her statement on 3 September 2025 and Professor Pentti Tienari on 27 June 2025. Both experts consider the applicant to be scientifically qualified for the docentship they are applying for and are in favour of awarding the title of docent. The statements of the experts are enclosed with this agenda item as Annexes.

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

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independent research or artistic work demonstrated through publications or in some other manner, and good teaching skills.

The Docent Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences stated, when it processed the application, that the applicant meets the criteria of the Faculty of Health Sciences as regards 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.

The applicant meets the qualification requirements of a docent specified in section 89 of the Universities Act and the criteria set out in the docentship guidelines of the Faculty of Health Sciences for the title of docent.

Motion The Faculty Council states that the applicant meets the qualification requirements specified in section 89 of the Universities Act and the criteria set out in the docentship guidelines of the Faculty of Health Sciences for the title of docent and decides to grant the title of docent in Neurobiology to PhD Virve Kärkkäinen.

Decision As proposed

Annexes

- | | |
|----|---|
| 25 | CV Virve Kärkkäinen |
| 26 | Statement Virve Kärkkäinen - Pentti Tienari |



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- 27 Statement Virve Kärkkäinen - Peppi Karppinen
- 28 Statement of the academic subject, title of docent in
Neurobiology
- 29 List of publications Kärkkäinen Virve

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Record entry 770/01.08.00/2025

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

10

Granting the title of docent in Medical Oncology to MD Aino Rönkä

MD Aino Rönkä has proposed that she be awarded the title of docent in the field of Medical Oncology at the Faculty of Health Sciences of the University of Eastern Finland. The applicant's CV and list of publications are enclosed with the agenda item as Annexes.

The Docent Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences stated at its meeting that the docentship is purposeful from the perspective of teaching and research activities. The Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences has invited Timo Muhonen (University of Oulu) and Docent Antti Jekunen (Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)) as experts.

Docent Muhonen submitted his statement on 16 May 2025 and Docent Jekunen on 25 August 2025. Both experts consider the applicant to be scientifically qualified for the docentship they are applying for and are in favour of awarding the title of docent. The statements of the experts are enclosed with this agenda item as Annexes.

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

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independent research or artistic work demonstrated through publications or some other manner, and good teaching skills.

The Docent Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences stated, when it processed the application, that the applicant meets the criteria of the Faculty of Health Sciences as regards 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.

The applicant meets the qualification requirements of a docent specified in section 89 of the Universities Act and the criteria set out in the docentship guidelines of the Faculty of Health Sciences for the title of docent.

Motion

The Faculty Council states that the applicant meets the qualification requirements specified in section 89 of the Universities Act and the criteria set out in the docentship guidelines of the Faculty of Health Sciences for the title of docent and decides to grant the title of docent in Medical Oncology to MD Aino Rönkä.

Decision

As proposed

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- 31 List of publications Rönkä Aino
- 32 Statement Aino Rönkä - Antti Jekunen
- 33 Statement Aino Rönkä - Timo Muhonen
- 34 Statement of the academic subject, title of docent in Medical
Oncology

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Record entry 15/03.04.09/2025

Prepared by Annika Koistinen

11

Grading Lic.Med. Suvi Hartikainen's doctoral dissertation

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland (1 January 2024), the Faculty Council grades doctoral dissertations. According to Section 14 of the standing rules of the Faculty of Health Sciences on degrees and studies, doctoral dissertations are graded on the scale fail – pass – pass with distinction. The Faculty Council will decide on the grade of the dissertation based on the grade proposal of the opponent.

Lic.Med. Suvi Hartikainen's doctoral dissertation and study "[Association of beta-hydroxybutyrate and cardiometabolic traits with myocardial glucose utilisation in \[18F\]FDG PET/CT imaging of inflammatory cardiac diseases](#)" was examined publicly on 15 August 2025. The opponent, Associate Professor Federico Caobelli (Universitätsklinik für Nuklearmedizin, Switzerland) is in favour of the doctoral dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in medicine 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

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comments on the statements. The opponent's statement is enclosed with the item as an annex.

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 Lic.Med. Suvi Hartikainen's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision As proposed

Annexes

35 Opponent_Caobelli_statement_Hartikainen

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Record entry 15/03.04.09/2025

Prepared by Annika Koistinen

12

Grading Lic.Med. Ester Jääskeläinen's doctoral dissertation

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland (1 January 2024), the Faculty Council grades doctoral dissertations. According to Section 14 of the standing rules of the Faculty of Health Sciences on degrees and studies, doctoral dissertations are graded on the scale fail – pass – pass with distinction. The Faculty Council will decide on the grade of the dissertation based on the grade proposal of the opponent.

Lic.Med. Ester Jääskeläinen's doctoral dissertation and study "[Implementation of MRI-guided brachytherapy in locally advanced cervical cancer](#)" was examined publicly on 22 August 2025. The opponent, Docent Johanna Hynninen (Turku University Hospital) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Medicine 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

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comments on the statements. The opponent's statement is enclosed with the item as an annex.

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 Lic.Med. Ester Jääskeläinen's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision

As proposed

Annexes

36 Opponent_Hynninen_statement_Jääskeläinen

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Record entry 15/03.04.09/2025

Prepared by Annika Koistinen

13

Grading Lic.Med. Jaakko Lampela's doctoral dissertation

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland (1 January 2024), the Faculty Council grades doctoral dissertations. According to Section 14 of the standing rules of the Faculty of Health Sciences on degrees and studies, doctoral dissertations are graded on the scale fail – pass – pass with distinction. The Faculty Council will decide on the grade of the dissertation based on the grade proposal of the opponent.

Lic.Med. Jaakko Lampela's doctoral dissertation and study "[Gene therapy for heart failure.Aspects of gene delivery and animal modeling](#)" was examined publicly on 15 August 2025. The opponent, Professor Tuomas Kiviniemi (University of Turku) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Medicine 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

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comments on the statements. The opponent's statement is enclosed with the item as an annex.

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 Lic.Med. Jaakko Lampela's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision As proposed

Annexes

37 Opponent_Kiviniemi_statement_Lampela

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Record entry 15/03.04.09/2025

Prepared by Annika Koistinen

14

Grading Lic.Med. Riina Ollikainen's doctoral dissertation

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland (1 January 2024), the Faculty Council grades doctoral dissertations. According to Section 14 of the standing rules of the Faculty of Health Sciences on degrees and studies, doctoral dissertations are graded on the scale fail – pass – pass with distinction. The Faculty Council will decide on the grade of the dissertation based on the grade proposal of the opponent.

Lic.Med. Riina Ollikainen's doctoral dissertation and study "[Potential biomarkers to identify diffuse large B-cell lymphoma patients at risk of central nervous system relapse](#)" was examined publicly on 22 August 2025. The opponent, Docent Mikko Keränen (University of Helsinki) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in medicine 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

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comments on the statements. The opponent's statement is enclosed with the item as an annex.

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 Lic.Med. Riina Ollikainen's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision As proposed

Annexes

38 Opponent_Keränen_statement_Ollikainen

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40 (57)

Record entry 15/03.04.09/2025

Prepared by Annika Koistinen

15

Grading Lic.Med. Vesa Tapiainen's doctoral dissertation

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland (1 January 2024), the Faculty Council grades doctoral dissertations. According to Section 14 of the standing rules of the Faculty of Health Sciences on degrees and studies, doctoral dissertations are graded on the scale fail – pass – pass with distinction. The Faculty Council will decide on the grade of the dissertation based on the grade proposal of the opponent.

Lic.Med. Vesa Tapiainen's doctoral dissertation and study "[The associations of psychotropics and psychiatric disorders with the risks of Alzheimer's disease and head injuries, a nationwide register-based study](#)" was examined publicly on 15 August 2025. The opponent, Professor Emeritus Hannu Koponen (University of Helsinki) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in medicine 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

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comments on the statements. The opponent's statement is enclosed with the item as an annex.

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 Lic.Med. Vesa Tapiainen's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision As proposed

Annexes

42 Opponent_Koponen_statement_Tapiainen

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42 (57)

Record entry 1004/03.01.00/2025

Prepared by Susanna Järvelin-Pasanen

16

Deciding on the student admission criteria for the degree programmes of the School of Pharmacy for 2026

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will make decisions concerning student admission criteria.

The School of Pharmacy has prepared proposals for the admission criteria for the Bachelor of Science (Pharmacy) and the Master of Science (Pharmacy) degree programmes for the year 2026. The admission criteria proposal includes the number of study places. The admission criteria proposals are enclosed with the agenda item as appendices.

The recommendation of the OHA Forum for the application of SORA legislation to student admissions and during study at universities apply to study programmes in pharmacy; the recommendation will be linked to the admission criteria for the degree programmes. The recommendation has been adopted as part of the shared sections of the Faculty's admission criteria for 2026.

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Motion The Faculty Council approves the student admission criteria for the study programmes of the School of Pharmacy for 2026 as proposed and authorises the Dean to make technical changes to the admission criteria.

Decision As proposed

Annexes

- 43 Open university route Bachelor of Science (Pharmacy) 3 yrs admission criteria 2026
- 44 Bachelor of Science (Pharmacy) 3 v admission criteria 2026
- 45 Bachelor of Science (Pharmacy) + Master of Science (Pharmacy) 3 yrs + 2 yrs admission criteria 2026
- 46 Master of Science (Pharmacy) 2 v admission criteria 2026
- 47 Report on the admission criteria for the Master of Science (Pharmacy) degree programme

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44 (57)

Record entry 1004/03.01.00/2025

Prepared by Susanna Järvelin-Pasanen

17

Deciding on the student admission criteria for the Department of Nursing Science for 2026

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will make decisions concerning student admission criteria.

The Department of Nursing Science has prepared admission criteria proposals for the major subject in nursing science for 2026. The admission criteria proposal includes the number of study places. The admission criteria proposals are enclosed with the agenda item as appendices.

Motion The Faculty Council approves the student admission criteria for the Department of Nursing Science for 2026 as proposed and authorises the Dean to make technical changes to the admission criteria.

Decision As proposed

Annexes

48 Nursing Science admission criteria 2026

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45 (57)

Record entry 1004/03.01.00/2025

Prepared by Susanna Järvelin-Pasanen

18

Deciding on the student admission criteria for the study and degree programmes of the School of Medicine for 2026

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will make decisions concerning student admission criteria.

Each study and degree programme has prepared the student admission criteria for the School of Medicine. The admission criteria proposal includes the number of study places. The admission criteria proposals are enclosed with the agenda item as appendices.

In the School of Medicine, the recommendation of the OHA Forum for the application of SORA legislation to student admissions and during study at universities apply to study programmes in dentistry and medicine. The recommendation will be linked to the admission criteria for the degree programmes. The recommendation has been adopted as part of the shared sections of the Faculty's admission criteria for 2026.

Motion

The Faculty Council approves the student admission criteria for the degree programme of the School of Medicine for 2026 as proposed and authorises the Dean to make technical changes to the admission criteria.

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Decision As proposed

Annexes

- 49 Biomedicine admission criteria 2026
- 50 Ergonomics admission criteria 2026
- 51 Dentistry admission criteria 2026
- 52 Dentistry transfer application admission criteria 2026
- 53 Sports medicine admission criteria 2026
- 54 Medicine admission criteria 2026
- 55 Medicine transfer application admission criteria 2026
- 56 Nutrition admission criteria 2026
- 57 Nutrition open university route admission criteria 2026
- 58 Nutrition Master's degree programme admission criteria 2026
- 59 Promotion of public health admission criteria 2026
- 60 Promotion of public health admission criteria Open university
route Master's degree programme 2026

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47 (57)

Record entry 1004/03.01.00/2025

Prepared by Susanna Järvelin-Pasanen

19

Approval of the shared sections of the student admission criteria for the education offered by the Faculty of Health Science in Finnish for 2026

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will make decisions concerning student admission criteria.

By its decision of 16 April 2025 (10/2025), the Vice Rector for Education of the University of Eastern Finland confirmed the general student admission guidelines of the University of Eastern Finland for 2026. The Faculty Council confirms the shared sections of the student admission criteria for the education offered in Finnish as laid down in the Annex, to the extent they are not specified in the admission criteria of individual study programmes.

The shared sections of the admission criteria include field-specific health requirements to support the SORA assessment. Health requirements were prepared in 2021 by a working group appointed by the OHA Forum and have been included in the university admission criteria recommendation from 2021 onwards. These health requirements will be confirmed as part of the student admission criteria for the fields of the Faculty of Health Sciences to which SORA legislation is applied. Applicants will be informed

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of them in the Studyinfo service. At the Faculty of Health Sciences, SORA legislation is applied to study programmes in pharmacy, dentistry and medicine. SORA legislation is also applied to logopedics and psychotherapist training, in which the Faculty is involved. The recommendation will be linked to the admission criteria for the relevant degree programmes.

The scoring, threshold criteria and equal points criteria for certificate-based admissions from 2026 onwards were confirmed in autumn 2023 as being valid until further notice. After autumn 2023, a new subject Science, Technology and Society (STS) has been added to the EB degree subjects and errors in the maximum scoring specified in the scoring scales have been corrected. The Faculty Council will confirm the corrected scoring scales that will be valid from 2026 onwards until further notice in accordance with separate annexes (annexes 2 and 3).

In the student admission criteria, the shared sections are linked to the relevant sub-page on the <https://www.uef.fi/en/study> website of the University of Eastern Finland.

Motion The Faculty Council approves the shared sections of the student admission criteria for education offered in Finnish for 2026 as proposed.

Decision As proposed

Annexes

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- 61 Annex 1. Student admission criteria 2026 - shared sections
Faculty of Health Sciences
- 62 Annex 2. Scoring scales from 2026 onwards Faculty of Health
Sciences
- 63 Annex 3. Exceptions to equal points criteria 2026 in certificate-
based admissions Faculty of Health Sciences

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For information

Expert statements of Professor Helga Gardarsdottir (Utrecht University) and Professor Anssi Auvinen (University of Tampere) on the qualification of Professor Anna-Maija Tolppanen to the post of Professor, Pharmacoepidemiology and Real World Data Analytics.

Expert statements of Professor Tone Forst Bathen (Norwegian University of Science and Technology) and Professor Christoph Trautwein (Universität Tübingen) on the qualifications of Professor Mika Ala-Korpela for the post of Professor of Bioanalytics and Molecular Epidemiology.

Motion Marked for information.

Decision As proposed

Annexes

- | | |
|----|--|
| 64 | Statement bioanalytics Baethe |
| 65 | Statement bioanalytics Trautwein |
| 66 | Statement pharmacoepidemiology Gardarsdottir |
| 67 | Statement pharmacoepidemiology Auvinen |

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Record entry 743/01.01.02/2025

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

21

The Dean's proposal to the Rector of the University of Eastern Finland of duties and job description for the tenure track Associate Professor position in vascular biology, and on the person to be appointed: Hearing of the Faculty Council

According to Section 9 of the University Regulations, the task of the Faculty Council is to consider the proposal regarding the scope of duties and job description for permanent positions and tenure track positions within the faculty's four-stage career system for teaching and research staff.

According to Section 10 of the University Regulations, the Dean's duty is to make a proposal to the Rector, for a period of two years or longer, regarding the person to be appointed to a professorial position or tenure track position, after consulting the Faculty Council.

In its strategic personnel plan, the A.I. Virtanen Institute of the University of Eastern Finland proposes that the unit fill a tenure track Associate Professor position in vascular biology. The position is intended to be filled without public call for applications, effective 1 October 2025, by appointing Johanna Laakkonen.

The position will be filled for a fixed term of four years. The reason for the fixed term is the tenure track system.

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The duties of the Associate Professor in vascular biology include leading and supervising research work in the field of vascular biology and promoting scientific research. The position also involves directing courses and seminars in the field, as well as supervising master's theses and doctoral dissertations. In addition, the Associate Professor is expected to actively seek research funding and to participate in international networks, as well as national and international expert assignments in their field.

According to Section 31 of the University of Eastern Finland Regulations, a person appointed to a tenure track Associate Professor position must hold a relevant doctoral degree, possess good teaching skills, and have the ability to meet the qualification requirements for a professorial position within the specified time frame.

Expert opinions on the eligibility and merits of the proposed appointee have been requested, in accordance with the Dean's decision, from Professor Pipsa Saharinen (University of Helsinki) and Professor Christoph Binder (University of Vienna). The experts' supporting statements are attached to this agenda item.

The committee for filling the position, formed in accordance with the University Regulations, consisted of the Chair, Vice Dean Professor Anna-Liisa Levonen-Harju, Professor Tomi Laitinen, and Head of the Institute of Medicine Professor Ville Leinonen. In summary, the appointment committee states that Doctor of Philosophy, Docent Johanna Laakkonen's eligibility and merits meet the requirements for appointment to the tenure track Associate Professor level.

Johanna Laakkonen's CV and list of publications are attached.

The criteria for progression within the tenure track will be further specified in a supplementary agreement to be attached to the employment contract.



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Annexes

- | | |
|----|---|
| 6 | Statement Vascular Biology – Binder Christoph |
| 7 | Statement Vascular Biology - Saharinen Pipsa |
| 8 | CV Laakkonen Johanna |
| 9 | List of publications Laakkonen Johanna |
| 10 | Memorandum Vascular Biology |

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Record entry 15/03.04.09/2025

Prepared by Annika Koistinen

22

Grading MSc (Pharmacy) Janne Tampio's doctoral dissertation

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland (1 January 2024), the Faculty Council grades doctoral dissertations. According to Section 14 of the standing rules of the Faculty of Health Sciences on degrees and studies, doctoral dissertations are graded on the scale fail – pass – pass with distinction. The Faculty Council will decide on the grade of the dissertation based on the grade proposal of the opponent.

MSc (Pharmacy) Janne Tampio's doctoral dissertation and study "Enhancing drug delivery into the pancreas via L-type amino acid transporter 1", was examined publicly on 23 May 2025. The opponent, Research Director Christoffer Bundgaard (H. Lundbeck A/S, Denmark) is in favour of the doctoral dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Pharmacy 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 submitted a response to the opponent's statement. The opponent has

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been requested to provide further clarification in the matter. The additional clarification shows that the opponent would be willing to change the numerical grade provided in their statement, but this does not affect the overall grade. The doctoral candidate has been heard on the additional clarification and they have no further comments or requirements in the matter. The opponent's statement, the doctoral candidate's response to the opponent's statement and the opponent's additional clarification are enclosed with this agenda item as annexes.

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 and additional clarifications, the Faculty Council grades MSc (Pharmacy) Janne Tampio's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision As proposed

Annexes

- | | |
|----|--|
| 39 | Opponent's comments on the doctoral candidate's response |
| 40 | Response_to_opponent_statement_Tampio |
| 41 | Opponent_Bundgaard_statement_Tampio |



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Minutes

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Closing of the meeting

The chair closed the meeting at 15:43



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Translation of the agenda/minutes

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