

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty
Meeting No 9/2025
Meeting date 23 October 2025

1 (22)

Date and time 23 October 2025, 10:15 – 11:06

Place Teams

Participants	Role	Present for items
Members		
Pietarinen Janne	Dean, Chair	1–10
Manninen Jyri	Professor, member	1-2,4-10
Honkalampi Kirsi	Professor, deputy member	
Kurki Teo	Professor, member	1–10
Riionheimo Helka	Professor, deputy member	
Juvonen Antti	Professor, member	
Kantelinen Ritva	Professor, deputy member	1–10
Kallinen Timo	Professor, member	1–10
Ubani Martin	Professor, deputy member	1–10
Laasonen Marja	Professor, member	1–10
Virtanen Marianna	Professor, deputy member	
Venäläinen Juhana	Other staff, member	
Suokas Juho	Other staff, deputy member	1–10
Kasanen Kati	Other staff, member	1–10
Tamminen Merja	Other staff, deputy member	1-2,5-10
Sormunen Kari	Other staff, member	1–10
Kröger Tarja	Other staff, deputy member	

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

2 (22)

Mikkola Sini	Other staff, member	
Hurskainen Heta	Other staff, deputy member	1–10
Korkki Jyrki	Other staff, member	
Räty-Záborszky Sinikka	Other staff, deputy member	3–10
Uutela Tuuli	Student, member	
Baljashkin Janina	Student, deputy member	
Rissanen Tanja	Student, member	
Vidanagamage Yoshitha	Student, deputy member	1-2,5-10
Saramäki Noora	Student, member	
Palkovuori Teemu	Student, deputy member	1-2,5-10
Nuutinen Niina-Hannele	Student, member	1-2,5-10
To be named later	Student, deputy member	
Backlund Lidia	Student, member	
To be named later	Student, deputy member	
Nevalainen Henni	Executive Head of Administration, secretary, preparer	1–10
Other preparers		
Anttonen Salli	Academic Affairs Specialist	1–5
Kouki Satu	Head of Academic Affairs	1–7

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

3 (22)

Items discussed at the meeting

Section	Heading	Page
		e
§ 1	Opening of the meeting	5
§ 2	Legitimacy and presence of a quorum	5
§ 3	Grading MEd Timo Härkönen's doctoral dissertation in the field of Educational Science	6
§ 4	Grading MSc (Econ. & Bus.Adm.) Evelyn Karkkulainen's doctoral dissertation in the field of Special Education	8
§ 5	Approving the guideline for double Master's theses	10
§ 6	The Dean's proposal on the person to be appointed to the post of Associate Professor (Tenure Track), Communication Sciences: Hearing of the Faculty Council	12
§ 7	A proposal to appoint PhD (Psychology) Riikka Hirvonen to the post of University Lecturer, Educational Science: Hearing of the Faculty Council	16
§ 8	The scope and specifications of the post: University Lecturer, English language	18
§ 9	The scope and specifications of the post: University Lecturer, Communication Sciences	19
§ 10	Closing of the meeting	20
§ 11	Translation of the agenda/minutes	21

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

4 (22)

§ 1

Opening of the meeting

The chair opened the meeting at 10:15.

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

5 (22)

§ 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 16 October 2025.

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 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 As proposed.

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

6 (22)

Record entry 152/03.04.09/2025

Prepared by Salli Anttonen

§ 3

Grading MEd Timo Härkönen's doctoral dissertation in the field of Educational Science

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland (1 August 2018), the Faculty Council grades doctoral dissertations. According to the instructions issued separately by the Philosophical Faculty (24 May 2023), doctoral dissertations are graded on the scale fail – pass – pass with distinction.

MEd Timo Härkönen's doctoral dissertation and study "Simulaattoriavusteinen taistelukoulutus. Varusmiesten palvelusmotivaation, perustaistelutaitojen, tehtävän täyttämisen ja koulutuksen mielekkäänä kokemisen kehittyminen simulaattoriavusteisessa taistelukoulutuksessa" was examined publicly on 26 September 2025. The opponent Military Professor of Military Pedagogy, Docent Juha Torvinen (National Defence University of Finland) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Education 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 statement. The statements of the opponent and the custos are enclosed with this agenda item as annexes.

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

7 (22)

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.

A link to the dissertation: <https://erepo.uef.fi/items/2aca3998-f429-4686-ad61-3d321ed638a1>

Motion Based on the statement, the Faculty Council grades MEd Timo Härkönen's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision As proposed.

Annexes

- 1 Statements on the dissertation: opponent Military Professor, Docent Antti-Tuomas Pulkka, custos Professor Jyri Manninen, doctoral candidate MEd Timo Härkönen

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

8 (22)

Record entry 152/03.04.09/2025

Prepared by Salli Anttonen

§ 4

Grading MSc (Econ. & Bus.Adm.) Evelyn Karkkulainen's doctoral dissertation in the field of Special Education

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland (1 August 2018), the Faculty Council grades doctoral dissertations. According to the instructions issued separately by the Philosophical Faculty (24 May 2023), doctoral dissertations are graded on the scale fail – pass – pass with distinction.

MSc (Econ. & Bus.Adm.) Evelyn Karkkulainen's doctoral dissertation and study "Experiences of Feedback Methods among Students with Learning Difficulties in Vocational Education and Training (VET) in Finland - School-Based and Workplace-Based Students' Feedback Experiences" was examined publicly on 10 October 2025. The opponent, Docent Seija Mahlamäki-Kultanen (Adjunct Professor, Tampere University; Adviser, HAMK Professional Teacher Education), is in favour of the doctoral dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Education and proposes the grade Pass with distinction.

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

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

9 (22)

comments on the statement. The statements of the opponent and the custos 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.

A link to the dissertation: <https://erepo.uef.fi/items/c318cc43-2622-4b65-96e7-214023caff2e>

Motion Based on the statement, the Faculty Council grades MSc (Econ. & Bus.Adm.) Evelyn Karkkulainen's doctoral dissertation as Pass with distinction.

Decision As proposed.

Annexes

- 2 Statements on the dissertation (opponent Docent Seija Mahlamäki-Kultanen, custos Assistant Professor Kaisa Pihlainen, doctoral candidate MSc (Econ. & Bus.Adm.) Evelyn Karkkulainen)

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

10 (22)

Record entry No 18/00.03.02/2025

Prepared by Satu Kouki

§ 5

Approving the guideline for double Master's theses

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will make decisions concerning curricula and degree requirements. According to section 18 of the Education Regulations, the curriculum of the faculty shall contain the curricula of the degree programmes and the common regulations for all degree programmes.

The updated guideline for theses included in Bachelor's and Master's degree education were approved at the Faculty Council meeting of 24 April 2025 as part of the Faculty's study guide. The approval of any amendments and corrections was delegated to the Vice Dean. By decision 299/2025 of 26 June 2025, the Vice Dean approved the chapters related to guidance.

According to section 35 of the Education Regulations: "A thesis for advanced studies may be accepted as a thesis in two different majors (a so-called double Master's thesis). Decisions on the prerequisites shall be made by the Faculty Council as part of the curriculum. According to the faculty's current guidelines, double Master's theses are not possible.

At its meeting of 15 September 2025, the faculty's Development Committee for Education was in favour of enabling double Master's theses

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

11 (22)

and approving the guideline. The guideline would be part of the study guide.

Motion

I propose that the Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty approves the guideline for double Master's theses as proposed and delegates to the Vice Dean responsible for education the right to accept, by their decision, any corrections and clarifications made to it.

Decision

As proposed.

Annexes

3 Double Master's theses at the Philosophical Faculty

Record entry 282/01.01.02/2025

Prepared by Henni Nevalainen

§ 6

The Dean's proposal on the person to be appointed to the post of Associate Professor (Tenure Track), Communication Sciences: Hearing of the Faculty Council

According to section 10(9) 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.

The call for applications to the post of Professor/Associate Professor (Tenure Track), Communication Sciences, ended on 31 March 2025. Applications were received from the following persons (9): PhD Hakola Outi, DSocSc Hellsten Iina, PhD Jämsen Rasa, DSocSc Pöyhtäri Reeta, DSocSc Polynczuk-Alenius Kinga, PhD Ripatti-Torniainen Leena, PhD Rydenfelt Henrik, DSocSc Salojärvi Virpi and PhD Salomaa Elina.

In accordance with section 31 of the Universities Act (558/2009), statements must be requested before the appointment on the qualification and merits of the applicants or the person to be invited to the post in question from a minimum of two experts when the 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 on disqualification shall be applied to the experts. Where required, the selection, scope of work and duties of the experts shall be defined in the UEF University Regulations.

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

13 (22)

On a proposal of the Appointments Committee (Dean Janne Pietarinen, Professor Esa Penttilä, Professor Ilkka Huhta, Professor Maarit Koponen and Professor Hanna Lappalainen), applicants (4) who best meet the qualification criteria of the post and the requirements indicated in the description of the post were selected as the key candidates: Hakola Outi, Hellsten Iina, Pöyhtäri Reeta and Salojärvi Virpi.

Expert statements on the qualification and merits of the applicants were requested from the following persons, based on the Dean's decision of 20 May 2025: Professor Pekka Isotalus, University of Tampere; and Professor Johanna Sumiala, University of Helsinki.

The Appointments Committee of the post of Professor/Associate Professor (Tenure Track), Communications Sciences, has proposed that Outi Hakola be appointed to the post. The selection memorandum that includes a comparison of applicants is enclosed with this agenda item.

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, have practical knowledge of the scope of the post.

The Dean's proposal to the Rector is that the post be filled at the level of Associate Professor and that PhD Outi Hakola be appointed to the post of

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

14 (22)

Associate Professor (Tenure Track), Communications Science, for a fixed term of four years, and the post will begin as agreed. The position is filled for a fixed term due to it being a Tenure Track position. By the decision of the Chair of the Appointments Committee, Hakola has been exempted from the requirement to give a trial lecture. The teaching skills of Hakola have been estimated to meet the requirements of section 31 of the UEF University Regulations (good teaching skills).

It is proposed that Virpi Salojärvi be the second-choice candidate to the post of Associate Professor (Tenure Track), Communication Sciences. Salojärvi has been exempted from the requirement to give a trial lecture. The teaching skills of Salojärvi have been estimated to meet the requirements of section 31 of the UEF University Regulations (good teaching skills).

Motion The Dean will consult the Faculty Council on the proposal to appoint PhD Outi Hakola to the post of Associate Professor (Tenure Track), Communication Sciences. It is proposed that Virpi Salojärvi be the second-choice candidate.

Decision As proposed.

Annexes

- 4 Expert statement, Professor Pekka Isotalus: Associate Professor (Tenure Track), Communication Sciences
- 5 Expert statement, Professor Johanna Sumiala: Associate Professor (Tenure Track), Communication Sciences

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

15 (22)

- 6 Application documents, PhD Outi Hakola: Associate Professor
(Tenure Track), Communication Sciences
- 7 Application documents, DSocSc Virpi Salojärvi: Associate
Professor (Tenure Track), Communication Sciences
- 8 Selection memorandum and comparison of the applicants:
Associate Professor (Tenure Track), Communication Sciences

Record entry 1223/01.01.03/2025

Prepared by Henni Nevalainen

§ 7

**A proposal to appoint PhD (Psychology) Riikka Hirvonen to the post of University Lecturer,
Educational Science: Hearing of the Faculty Council**

According to section 10(10) of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Dean shall, after hearing the Faculty Council, decide on persons to be appointed to permanent positions that comply with the four-stage career model (excluding professors, senior university lecturers and senior clinical lecturers).

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 the posts that comply with the four-stage career model of the faculty's permanent teaching and research staff and Tenure Track positions.

The post of University Lecturer, Educational Science, is hosted by the School of Applied Educational Science and Teacher Education. Filling the post through direct recruitment is the most appropriate option from the point of view of the School. The School of Applied Educational Science and Teacher Education has proposed that PhD (Psychology) Riikka Hirvonen be appointed to the post of University Lecturer, Educational Science, as from 1 November 2025. The School's proposal and its grounds are enclosed with this agenda item as an annex.

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

17 (22)

Persons to be appointed as University Lecturers must hold a suitable doctoral degree and have good teaching skills (University Regulations, section 31). Riikka Hirvonen has worked as a university researcher since 1 June 2019. The current fixed-term post is due to end on 31 May 2028. The good teaching skills required by the post of University Lecturer can be verified based on Hirvonen's teaching portfolio.

Riikka Hirvonen meets the requirements laid down in the UEF University Regulations for the employment of a university lecturer and the requirements set for the position of University Lecturer, Educational Science.

The School of Applied Educational Science and Teacher Education has proposed that PhD (Psychology) Riikka Hirvonen be appointed to the post of University Lecturer, Educational Science, as from 1 November 2025.

Motion The Dean will hear the Faculty Council on the proposed appointment of PhD (Psychology) Riikka Hirvonen to the post of University Lecturer as from 1 November 2025. At the same time, the Faculty Council will discuss the scope and specifications of the said post, which have been described in the School's proposal.

Decision As proposed.

Annexes

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

18 (22)

- 9 Proposal of the School of Applied Sciences and Teacher
Education: University Lecturer, Educational Science
- 10 Application documents, PhD (Psychology) Riikka Hirvonen:
University Lecturer, Educational Science

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

19 (22)

Record entry 1219/01.01.03/2025

Prepared by Henni Nevalainen

§ 8

The scope and specifications of the post: University Lecturer, English language

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 the posts that comply with the four-stage career model of the faculty's permanent teaching and research staff and Tenure Track positions.

The following specifications of the post hosted by the School of Humanities are enclosed with this agenda item as an annex:

University Lecturer, English Language

Motion The Faculty Council will address the scope and specifications of the post. Any required changes can be made to the description of the post after processing.

Decision As proposed.

Annexes

11 Description of the post: University Lecturer, English Language

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

20 (22)

Record entry 1218/01.01.03/2025

Prepared by Henni Nevalainen

§ 9

The scope and specifications of the post: University Lecturer, Communication Sciences

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 the posts that comply with the four-stage career model of the faculty's permanent teaching and research staff and Tenure Track positions.

The following specifications of the post hosted by the School of Humanities are enclosed with this agenda item as an annex:

University Lecturer, Communication Sciences

Motion The Faculty Council will address the scope and specifications of the post. Any required changes can be made to the description of the post after processing.

Decision As proposed.

Annexes

12	Description of the post: University Lecturer, Communication Sciences
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Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

21 (22)

§ 10

Closing of the meeting

The chair closed the meeting at 11:06.

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 9/2025

Meeting date 23 October 2025

22 (22)

§ 11

Translation of the agenda/minutes

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

Annexes

13	Translation of the agenda, 23 October 2025
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