



Minutes

Faculty Council of the Philosophical Faculty

Meeting No 2/2026

Meeting date 26 February 2026

Date and time 26 February 2026, 10:15 - 10:55

Place Teams

Participants	Role	Present for items
Members		
Huhta Ilkka	Dean, Chair	1-13
Laasonen Marja	1st Vice Dean, Vice Chair	
Honkalampi Kirsi	Professor, member	1-13
Souto Anne-Mari	Professor, deputy member	
Lappalainen Hanna	Professor, member	1-13
Saresma Tuija	Professor, deputy member	
Kantelinen Ritva	Professor, member	1-13
Tuominen Heta	Professor, deputy member	
Ubani Martin	Professor, member	1-13
Kallinen Timo	Professor, deputy member	1-13
Mikkonen Simo	Professor, member	
Sointu Erkko	Professor, deputy member	
Laakkonen Erja	Staff, member	1-13
Waltzer Katariina	Staff, deputy member	1-13
Arminen Elina	Staff, member	
Suokas Juho	Staff, deputy member	1-13
Kaivosaaari Annu	Staff, member	1-13



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Viinikka Kaisa	Staff, deputy member	1-13
Salonen Anna	Staff, member	1-13
Mikkola Sini	Staff, deputy member	1-13
Korkki Jyrki	Staff, member	
Räty-Záborszky Sinikka	Other staff, deputy member	1-13
Kivikoski Emilia	Student, member	6-13
Närhi Jasmin	Student, deputy member	
Baljashkin Janina	Student, member	
Lahtinen Matilda	Student, deputy member	1-2,6-13
Koskelo Marko	Student, member	1-2,6-13
Palkovuori Jutta	Student, deputy member	
Palkovuori Teemu	Student, member	1-2,6-13
Sillanpää Silja	Student, deputy member	
Pesonen Jussi	Student, member	1-2,6-13
To be named later	Student, deputy member	
Nevalainen Henni	Executive Head of Administration, secretary, preparer	1-13
Other preparers		
Anttonen Salli	Academic Affairs Specialist	1-6
Kouki Satu	Head of Academic Affairs	1-11



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§ 1

Opening of the meeting

The chair opened the meeting at 10:15.

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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 19 February 2026.

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.



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Record entry 50/03.04.09/2026

Prepared by Salli Anttonen

§ 3

Grading MSc (Psychology) Marika Kontturi's doctoral dissertation in the field of Psychology

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 (Psychology) Marika Kontturi's doctoral dissertation and study "Sleep problems from work to retirement: The underlying factors, consequences and management during the life course" was examined publicly on 23 January 2026. The opponent Professor Taru Feldt (University of Jyväskylä) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in psychology 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.

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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.

A link to the dissertation: <https://erepo.uef.fi/items/47a03efe-f416-4f12-9bcf-7cd3ca6c942d>

Motion Based on the statement, the Faculty Council grades MSc (Psychology) Marika Kontturi's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision As proposed.

Annexes

- 1 Statements on the dissertation (opponent Professor Taru Feldt, custos Professor Marianna Virtanen, doctoral candidate MSc (Psychology) Marika Kontturi)

Record entry 50/03.04.09/2026

Prepared by Salli Anttonen

§ 4

Grading MA Niina Salonen'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.

MA Niina Salonen's doctoral dissertation and study "Alkukasvatuksen opettajan ammatillisen identiteetin muodostuminen ja ammatillinen kehittyminen 2020-luvun Suomessa" was examined publicly on 30 January 2026. The opponent Professor Auli Toom (University of Helsinki) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Philosophy 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 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

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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/a302c34c-4dc5-47e8-8616-89d9d92b23d4>

Motion Based on the statement, the Faculty Council grades MA Niina Salonen's doctoral dissertation as Pass with distinction.

Decision As proposed.

Annexes

- 2 Statements on the doctoral dissertation (opponent Professor Auli Toom, custos Professor Sari Havu-Nuutinen, doctoral candidate MA Niina Salonen)



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Record entry 50/03.04.09/2026

Prepared by Salli Anttonen

§ 5

Grading MEd Laís Oliveira Leite'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 Laís Oliveira Leite's doctoral dissertation and study "Contextual influences on student teacher professional agency: A comparative study of teacher education across the Global North and South" was examined publicly on 23 January 2026. The opponent Tiina Soini-Ikonen (University of Tampere) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Educational Sciences 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.



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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.

A link to the dissertation: [Contextual influences on student teacher professional agency : A comparative study of teacher education across the Global North and South](#)

Motion Based on the statement, the Faculty Council grades MEd Laís Oliveira Leite's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision As proposed.

Annexes

- 3 Statements on the dissertation (opponent Docent Tiina Soini-Ikonen, custos Professor Sari Havu-Nuutinen, doctoral candidate MEd Laís Oliveira Leite)

Record entry No 298/03.00.00/2026

Prepared by Satu Kouki

§ 6

Launch of expert training in work and organisational psychology

According to section 6 of the Education Regulations, Faculty Council shall decide, within the scope of the faculty's educational responsibility, on the establishment and discontinuation of major subjects.

The School of Educational Sciences and Psychology intends to launch expert training in work and organisational psychology at the beginning of the autumn semester 2027. The education covers both the Bachelor's and Master's level studies. Its development is based on the current minor subject of work and organisational psychology.

Starting from the ongoing spring semester, the studies will be planned by the University Lecturer of the academic subject of Psychology. Before the training starts, other teaching and research staff will also be employed to plan and implement the studies. The Rector has granted funding for the preparations. In addition to the new staff, other academic staff of the academic subject of psychology and, as deemed necessary, hourly-paid teachers will participate in the implementation of the training.

The education is based on the popular minor subject of work and organisational psychology. The training will include themes of work psychology, organisational psychology, human resources psychology and social-scientific working life research. Advanced studies aim to develop

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scientifically justified applied skills affecting working life and organisations, which supports the strengthening of the working life relevance of the faculty's teaching. The research and teaching expertise of the academic subject of psychology is at the core of the development, but academic subjects of both the Philosophical Faculty and other faculties are invited to participate in the development, because the aim is to utilise and build multidisciplinary expertise in, e.g., guidance, business studies and social psychology.

The training does not provide the qualification of a licensed psychologist. It may be the primary option for applicants interested in working life psychology who do not need the title of a "psychologist". This supports the profiling of the current Master of Arts (Psychology) degree as the training of health care professionals, which is justified in the current situation that requires investment in the development of the KASOTE Centre and the two-step qualification in psychotherapy.

The aim is that there are 20 study places in the second joint admission round in the spring and 15 study places in the application via the open university route.

Motion I propose that the Faculty Council decide on the launch of expert training in work and organisational psychology as of 1 August 2027.

Decision As proposed.



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Record entry No 5343/03.00.01/2024

Prepared by Satu Kouki

§ 7

Approving the curricula and amendments to the curricula for Bachelor's and Master's degree education for the academic years 2026–2028 and confirming the courses offered to exchange students in the academic year 2026–2027

According to section 9(4) of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will decide on curricula, among other things. According to section 18 of the Education Regulations, the curriculum of each degree programme must indicate, among others, the degree structure (including the courses and their scope) and the desired learning outcomes, contents, methods of completion and assessment of the degree and its parts.

The curricula were approved for the academic years 2025–2028 at the Faculty Council meeting of 27 February 2025.

The schools and departments of the Philosophical Faculty have prepared proposals for their curricula and amendments to the curricula for the academic years 2026–2028. The curriculum for communication sciences will be discussed at the Faculty Council's March meeting.

In addition, the schools and departments have prepared the enclosed proposal on courses to be offered to exchange students in the academic year 2026–2027.

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Motion The Faculty Council approves the curricula and amendments to curricula for Bachelor's and Master's degree education for the academic years 2026–2028 in accordance with the Annexes and confirms the courses offered to exchange students in the academic year 2026–2027 as proposed.

Decision As proposed.

Annexes

- 4 Courses for exchange students, academic year 2026–2027, Philosophical Faculty
- 5 Master's degree programme in Faith, Crises and Existential Wellbeing: amendments to curricula, February 2026
- 6 The School of Humanities: amendments to the curricula for the academic year 2026–2027
- 7 The School of Educational Sciences and Psychology: amendments to the curricula, February 2026
- 8 The School of Applied Educational Science and Teacher Education: amendments to the curricula, 1 August 2026–31 July 2028
- 9 The School of Theology: amendments to the curricula for the academic year 2026–2027
- 10 School of Humanities: transitional rules



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Record entry 275/01.01.02/2026

Prepared by Henni Nevalainen

§ 8

The scope and specifications of the post: Professor, Communication Ethics

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will discuss proposals on the scope of duties and the definition of tasks of professorships. According to section 10 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Dean will decide on the scope of duties and the definition of tasks of a professorship after hearing the Faculty Council, and on whether practical familiarity with the domain is required of a professor.

The post of Professor, Communication Ethics, will be filled from 1 August 2026 onwards.

Practical familiarity with the field of the post is not required.

The members of the Appointments Committee of the post are: Dean Ilkka Huhta (Chair), Professor Juhana Venäläinen, Associate Professor Suvi-Maria Saarelainen, Professor Marja Laasonen, Professor Maarit Koponen, Professor Tuija Saresma, Executive Head of Administration Henni Nevalainen and HR Specialist Nina Miinalainen.

Motion

The Faculty Council will discuss the scope and specifications of the post of Professor, Communication Ethics. Any required changes can be made to the description of the post after processing.



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Decision As proposed.

Annexes

11 Description of the post: Professor, Communication Ethics

Record entry 187/01.01.02/2026

Prepared by Henni Nevalainen

§ 9

The scope and specifications of the post: Associate Professor (Tenure Track), Psychology, qualitative research in life course and education

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 Associate Professor (Tenure Track), Psychology, qualitative research in life course and education, is to be filled for a fixed-term of four (4) years from 1 August 2026 onwards. The intention is to appoint PhD (Psychology) Maija Korhonen to the post through direct recruitment after evaluation.

The members of the Appointments Committee of the post are: Dean Ilkka Huhta (Chair), Senior University Lecturer Aino Äikäs, Professor Hille Janhonen-Abreuquah, Professor Heidi Hyytinen, Professor Taina Hintsu, Executive Head of Administration Henni Nevalainen and HR specialist Nina Miinalainen.

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.



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Decision As proposed.

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12 Description of the post Associate Professor (Tenure Track),
Psychology, qualitative research in life course and education



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Record entry 188/01.01.02/2026

Prepared by Henni Nevalainen

§ 10

The scope and specifications of the post: Associate Professor (Tenure Track), Education, especially technology-enhanced learning and design processes

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 Associate Professor (Tenure Track), Education, especially technology-enhanced learning and design processes, is to be filled for a fixed-term of four (4) years from 1 August 2026 onwards. The intention is to appoint DEd Henriikka Vartiainen to the post through direct recruitment after evaluation.

The members of the Appointments Committee of the post are: Dean Ilkka Huhta (Chair), Professor Hille Janhonen-Abruquah, Senior University Lecturer Aino Äikäs, Professor Heidi Hyytinen, Professor Heta Tuominen, Executive Head of Administration Henni Nevalainen and HR specialist Nina Miinalainen.

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.



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Decision As proposed.

Annexes

13 Description of the post: Associate Professor (Tenure Track),
Education, especially technology-enhanced learning and
design processes

Record entry 292/01.01.03/2026

Prepared by Henni Nevalainen

§ 11

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

14 Description of the post: University Lecturer, Communication Sciences

Record entry 148/01.01.03/2026

Prepared by Henni Nevalainen

§ 12

The scope and specifications of the post: University Lecturer, Education and Adult Education

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 by the School of Educational Sciences and Psychology are enclosed with this agenda item as an appendix:

University Lecturer, education and adult education

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



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- 15 Description of the post: University Lecturer, Education and Adult Education



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§ 13

Closing of the meeting

The chair closed the meeting at 10:55.



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§ 14

Translation of the agenda/minutes

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

Annexes

16 Translation of the agenda, 26 February 2026