

Minutes

Faculty Council of the Faculty of Health Sciences
Meeting No 6/2026
Meeting date 17 June 2026

Date and time 17 June 2026 at 14.10-

Place Me201+Teams

Participants	Role	Additional information
Members		
Forsberg Markus	Dean, Chair	1-22
Leinonen Ville	1st Vice Dean, Vice Chair	
Tohka Jussi	Professor, member	
Haapasalo Annakaisa	Professor, deputy member	
Kauppinen Anu	Professor, member	
Ketolainen Jarkko	Professor, deputy member	
Härkänen Marja	Professor, member	1-22
Välimäki Tarja	Professor, deputy member	
Tuomainen Tomi-Pekka	Professor, member	1-5,7-22
Pussinen Pirkko	Professor, deputy member	
Heinäniemi Merja	Professor, member	1-22
Kuittinen Outi	Professor, deputy member	
Tampio Janne	Staff, member	1-22
Rauramaa Tuomas	Staff, deputy member	
Lajunen Tatu	Staff, member	
Tirkkonen Tiina	Staff, deputy member	1-22



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Kotikumpu Kari	Staff, member	1-22
Küblbeck Jenni	Staff, deputy member	
Lahtela-Kakkonen Maija	Staff, member	1-22
Niemi Inkeri	Staff, deputy member	
Heikkilä Reeta	Staff, member	1-22
Lehtonen Sarka	Staff, deputy member	
Kalenius Nea	Student, member	
Lähteenmäki Eino	Student, deputy member	
Nurmela Veera	Student, member	1-22
Ahvonon Otto	Student, deputy member	
Salokangas Ville	Student, member	1-22
Halonon Kasper	Student, deputy member	
Kuosmanen Aino	Student, member	
Saadi Shadi	Student, deputy member	
Tallbacka Senja	Student, member	
Rossi Maria	Student, deputy member	
Ollikainen-Richards Hanna	Executive Head of Administration, secretary, preparer	1-22
Other preparers		
Järvelin-Pasanen Susanna	Head of Student Services	1-22
Koistinen Annika	Academic Affairs Specialist	1-22
Mertakorpi Emma	Academic Affairs Specialist	1-22



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1

Opening of the meeting

The chair opened the meeting at 14:10.

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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 10 June 2026.

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 1220/01.01.02/2025

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

3

The Dean's proposal to the Rector of the University of Eastern Finland on the appointment of PhD Heidi Kidron to the post of Professor, Biopharmacy, until further notice: Hearing of the Faculty Council

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

A total of 17 persons applied for the post of Professor/Associate Professor by the deadline: Heidi Kidron, Tatu Lajunen, Astrid Subrizi, Markku Varjosalo, Pirta Hotulainen, Kirsi Rilla, Jenni Kühlbeck, Mikko Gynther, Antonio Federico, Piia Bartos, Lizhi Liu, Reza Taheri Ledari, Ciamak Ghazaei, Abhishek Cukkamane, Hamid Soraya, Farzaneh Sabbagh and Uzma Faridi.

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.

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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.

By decision of the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences dated 9 October 2025, the person to be appointed to the post of Professor/Associate Professor of Biopharmacy is not required to have practical familiarity with the field of the post.

Expert statements on the eligibility and merits of those applying for the post have been requested from the following persons: Professor Birger Brodin (University of Copenhagen), Professor Pieter Annaert (KU Leuven) and Professor Martin Brandl (Syddansk Universitet).

Based on the application documents and the expert statements, the Appointments Committee proposes that the vacancy be filled at Professor level and that PhD Heidi Kidron be appointed to it from 1 August 2026 onwards (or as agreed) until further notice. The proposal of the Appointments Committee and the application documents are enclosed with this agenda item as annexes.

According to 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.

Heidi Kidron is not required to give a trial lecture.



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Motion The Faculty Council will discuss the proposed appointment.

Decision As proposed.

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Record entry 1115/01.01.02/2025

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

4

The Dean's proposal to the Rector of the University of Eastern Finland on the appointment of MD Tiina Laatikainen to the post of Professor, Public Health, until further notice: Hearing of the Faculty Council

By his decision, the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences has approved the description of the post of Professor, Public Health.

A total of 17 persons applied for the post of Professor by the deadline: Tiina Laatikainen, Mimmi Vehkala (née Tolvanen), Subas Neupane, Pirkka Kirjavainen, Roberto Ariel Abeldaño Zuñiga, Otso Arponen, Pyry Sipilä, Heli Viljakainen, Iman Zarei, Andrew Agbaje, Bege Dauda, Arja Lyytinen, Frank Adusei-Mensah, Eero Haapala, Ondrej Holý, Motahareh Naseri and Angel Asmat.

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.

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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.

By decision of the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences dated 11 September 2025, the person to be appointed to the post of Professor of Public Health is not required to have practical familiarity with the field of the post.

Expert statements on the eligibility and merits of those applying for the post have been requested from the following persons: Professor Kristiina Patja (University of Helsinki), Professor Ramunė Kalėdienė (Lithuanian University of Health Science) and Professor Helmut Brand (Maastricht University).

Based on the application documents and expert statements, the Appointments Committee proposes that the vacancy be filled at Professor level and that MD Tiina Laatikainen be appointed to it from 1 August 2026 onwards (or as agreed) until further notice. The proposal of the Appointments Committee and the application documents are enclosed with this agenda item as annexes.

According to 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.

Tiina Laatikainen is not required to give a trial lecture.

Motion

The Faculty Council will discuss the proposed appointment.



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Decision

As proposed.

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Record entry 520/01.01.02/2026

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

5

The Dean's proposal on the scope and specifications of the post of Associate Professor of Human Brain Disease Modelling (Tenure Track) and the person to be appointed to the post: Hearing of the Faculty Council

According to 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 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 its strategic human resources plan, the A.I. Virtanen Institute for Molecular Sciences of the University of Eastern Finland proposes that the post of Associate Professor, Human Brain Disease Modelling (Tenure Track), be filled at the School. The post is to be filled by appointing Research Director Sarka Lehtonen to it without a public call as from 1 August 2026.

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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 post of Associate Professor, Human Brain Disease Modelling, involves leading and supervising research in the field of human brain disease modelling and advancing scientific research. The post also includes participation in the management of courses and seminars in the field and in the supervision of Master's and doctoral theses. In addition, the Associate Professor will actively apply for research funding and is involved in international networks and national and international expert tasks in the field.

Based on 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.

Expert statements on the eligibility and merits of the person proposed to be appointed to the post have been requested, in accordance with the Dean's decision, from Professor Roger Barker (University of Cambridge) and Professor Mikko Airavaara (University of Helsinki). The favourable expert statements are enclosed with this agenda item as annexes.

The Appointments Committee established in accordance with the UEF University Regulations consisted, by decision of the Dean, Deputy Head of A.I. Virtanen Institute, Professor Minna Kaikkonen-Määttä, Professor Asla Pitkänen and the Head of Department of Pharmacy Professor Jarkko Rautio.

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In summary, the Appointments Committee states that the qualifications and merits of PhD Sarka Lehtonen meet the criteria set for the Associate Professor level of the Tenure Track.

Sarka Lehtonen's CV and list of publications are enclosed with the agenda item as Annexes.

Motion The Faculty Council will address the proposed scope and specifications of the post and the proposal on the person to be appointed to it.

Decision As proposed.

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Record entry 524/01.01.02/2026

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

6

The Dean's proposal on the scope and specifications of the post of Associate Professor of Nutrition Therapy, Psychiatric Disorders (Tenure Track) and the person to be appointed to the post: Hearing of the Faculty Council

According to 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 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 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 an Associate Professor of Nutrition Therapy, Psychiatric Disorders (Tenure Track) be filled at the institute. The post is to be filled by appointing Clinical Lecturer Anu Ruusunen to it without a public call as from 1 August 2026.

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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 post of Associate Professor of Nutrition Therapy, Psychiatric Disorders, involves leading and developing research in the field of nutrition in psychological disorders and mental health, and promoting scientific research. The post also includes participation in the management of courses and seminars in the field and in the supervision of Master's and doctoral theses. In addition, the Associate Professor will actively apply for research funding and is involved in international networks and national and international expert tasks in the field.

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 on the qualifications and merits of the person proposed to be appointed to the post have been requested from Mikael Fogelholm (University of Helsinki) and Sami Pirkola (University of Tampere). The favourable joint statement of the experts is enclosed with this agenda item as an appendix.

The Appointments Committee established in accordance with the UEF University Regulations consisted, by decision of the Dean, Professor Jarmo Jääskeläinen (Chair), Deputy Head (Research) of the Institute of Public Health

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and Clinical Nutrition, Professor Tuula Oksanen, Head of the Institute of Dentistry, Professor Liisa Suominen.

In summary, the Appointments Committee states that the qualifications and merits of PhD Anu Ruusunen meet the criteria set for the Associate Professor level of the Tenure Track.

Anu Ruusunen's CV and list of publications are enclosed with the agenda item as Annexes.

Motion

The Faculty Council will address the proposed scope and specifications of the post and the proposal on the person to be appointed to it.

Decision

As proposed. Tomi-Pekka Tuomainen did not participate in the processing of the matter (disqualified due to a special reason).

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Record entry 348/01.01.03/2026

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

7

A proposal on the persons to be appointed to the posts of Clinical Lecturer, Anaesthesiology and Emergency Care: Hearing of the Faculty Council

According to the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, Head of the department or school will make a proposal to the Dean on persons to be appointed to permanent posts of the four-stage career model of teaching and research staff after hearing the Faculty Council.

A call for applications was organised for two posts of Clinical Lecturer (Anaesthesiology and Emergency Care) by the Institute of Clinical Medicine of the University of Eastern Finland's School of Medicine.

Four applicants applied for the post by the deadline.

A person to be appointed as Clinical Lecturer shall hold a suitable doctoral degree. For a special reason, a person who has completed a specialist degree in medicine or dentistry, or a person who has the right to act as a specialist in medicine or dentistry may be appointed as a Clinical Lecturer. Furthermore, a person to be appointed as Clinical Lecturer shall have good teaching skills (UEF University Regulations).

Members of the university's teaching and research staff are required to have command of the language they give teaching in (Finnish or Swedish)

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(Government Decree on Universities 770/2009). The Dean of the faculty can grant an exemption from the language proficiency requirements laid down in the Government Decree on Universities (UEF University Regulations).

In its proposal (Annex), the Institute of Clinical Medicine proposes that MD Elmeri Santala be appointed to the post of Clinical Lecturer, Anaesthesiology and Emergency Care, as from 1 August 2027 and MD Greetta Hackman as from 1 August 2026. The Head of the School of Medicine supports the proposal.

Elmeri Santala received a doctoral degree in medicine in 2022 and Greetta Hackman in 2021, and both received a specialist degree in anaesthesiology and emergency care in 2026 from the University of Eastern Finland.

The CVs and lists of publications of Santala and Hackman are enclosed with the agenda item as Annexes.

A trial lecture is required. Both will give their trial lectures on 11 June 2026.

Motion The Faculty Council will discuss the proposal.

Decision As proposed. It was noted that the trial lectures were successfully completed on 11 June 2026.

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Record entry 451/01.01.03/2026

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

8

A proposal on the person to be appointed to the post of Clinical Lecturer, Psychiatrics: Hearing of the Faculty Council

According to the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, Head of the department or school will make a proposal to the Dean on persons to be appointed to permanent posts of the four-stage career model of teaching and research staff after hearing the Faculty Council.

A call for applications was organised for the post of Clinical Lecturer (Psychiatrics) by the Institute of Clinical Medicine of the University of Eastern Finland's School of Medicine.

One applicant submitted their application to the post by the deadline:
Lic.Med., Medical Specialist Maria Sarasti.

A person to be appointed as Clinical Lecturer shall hold a suitable doctoral degree. For a special reason, a person who has completed a specialist degree in medicine or dentistry, or a person who has the right to act as a specialist in medicine or dentistry may be appointed as a Clinical Lecturer. Furthermore, a person to be appointed as Clinical Lecturer shall have good teaching skills (UEF University Regulations).

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Members of the university's teaching and research staff are required to have command of the language they give teaching in (Finnish or Swedish) (Government Decree on Universities 770/2009). The Dean of the faculty can grant an exemption from the language proficiency requirements laid down in the Government Decree on Universities (UEF University Regulations).

The proposal of the Appointments Committee is enclosed with the agenda item. Based on it the Institute of Clinical Medicine proposes that Lic.Med., Medical Specialist Maria Sarasti be appointed to the post of Clinical Lecturer as from 1 August 2026 until further notice. The Head of the School of Medicine supports the proposal.

Maria Sarasti received a licentiate degree in medicine in 2011 and a specialist degree in physiatrics in 2017 from the University of Eastern Finland. In addition, she completed qualifications in medical training in 2023.

Sarasti's CV and list of publications are enclosed with the agenda item as Annexes.

No trial lecture is required.

Motion The Faculty Council will discuss the proposal.

Decision As proposed.

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Record entry 785/01.01.03/2026

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

9

The scope and specifications of the post of University Teacher in Oral Health Care that will become vacant at the Faculty: Hearing of the Faculty Council

The School of Medicine, the Institute of Dentistry of the University of Eastern Finland proposes that a post of University Teacher in Oral Health Care be filled at the school as of 1 August 2026. The position will be hosted by the Institute of Dentistry of the Faculty of Health Sciences on the Kuopio campus.

The scope of the post is as follows:

The duties of the University Lecturer in Oral Health Care include providing basic, intermediate and advanced teaching in oral health care, conducting research in the field, and participating in research projects and administrative tasks of the academic subject. Together with the Professor and other teachers of the academic subject, the University Teacher will develop the education and research in the academic subject, and prepare and coordinate research projects in the field. The teaching duties include acting as the teacher in charge of clinical practising courses and giving lectures, supervising group work, organising and participating in seminar days, and supervising exercises preparing for patient work. The duties also include supervising Bachelor's and advanced level theses of undergraduate students and conducting own research.

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According to the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will discuss proposals regarding the scope and specifications of posts that comply with the four-stage career model of the faculty's permanent and Tenure Track positions.

Motion The Faculty Council will discuss the scope and specifications of the post of University Teacher in Oral Health Care that will become vacant at the faculty.

Decision As proposed.

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Meeting No 6/2026

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Record entry 778/01.01.03/2026

Prepared by Hanna Ollikainen-Richards

10

The scope and specifications of the post of University Lecturer in Biomedicine that will become vacant at the Faculty: Hearing of the Faculty Council

The School of Medicine, the Institute of Biomedicine, of the University of Eastern Finland proposes that a post of University Lecturer in Biomedicine be filled at the school as of 1 January 2027. The position will be hosted by the Institute of Biomedicine of the Faculty of Health Sciences on the Kuopio campus.

The scope of the post is as follows:

The duties of the University Lecturer in Biomedicine include Bachelor's level lectures, practical training and group teaching of the human biology module included in the degree programme at the Faculty of Health Sciences, both on campus and in an online environment. The duties also include the independent development and implementation of a learning environment for the human biology study module in cooperation with the teaching community and persons in charge of academic subjects, and the supervision and examination of theses included in Bachelor's, Master's and postgraduate degrees. Other duties include independent, scientific research, which can be integrated into the research conducted at the Institute of Biomedicine and into the research environment, and other unit and institute level duties.

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According to the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will discuss proposals regarding the scope and specifications of posts that comply with the four-stage career model of the faculty's permanent and Tenure Track positions.

Motion The Faculty Council will discuss the scope and specifications of the post of University Lecturer, Biomedicine, that will become vacant at the faculty.

Decision As proposed.

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Record entry No 98/03.00.01/2026

Prepared by Susanna Järvelin-Pasanen

11

Approval of the amendments to the standing orders of the Faculty of Health Sciences

According to section 9 of the UEF University Regulations, the Faculty Council shall decide, among others, on curricula. The standing orders of the faculty are part of the curriculum of the faculty.

The standing orders of the Faculty of Health Sciences were approved by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Health Sciences on 15 May 2025 (Dnro 6411/03.00.01/2024).

The Faculty of Health Sciences has prepared the changes caused by the doctoral programme reform to the standing orders of the Faculty's education, as well as the changes caused by the decisions made earlier by the Faculty Council.

The updated version of the standing orders is enclosed with the agenda item. The standing orders shall be translated into English using the version approved by the Faculty Council.

Motion The Faculty Council will confirm the standing orders in accordance with the appendix.

Decision As proposed.

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Record entry 1004/03.01.00/2025

Prepared by

12

Admission criteria for and the student intake to specialist education in medicine and dentistry for the academic year 2026–2027

According to section 9(4) of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will make decisions concerning curricula, degree requirements and student admission criteria. Decree 56/2015 of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (amended with Decree 55/2020 and Decree 1240/2022) specify the requirements for being accepted to further professional education and the admission criteria. As regards professional further education, the nationally agreed upon common practices will be followed.

The faculties that provide professional further education in medicine and dentistry in Finland have prepared admission criteria for specialist education in medicine and dentistry in the spring of 2026. Appendix 1 includes a proposal on the admission criteria for the academic year 2026–2027 for the approval of the Faculty Council. The key changes are:

Changes to initial scoring

- The initial score will be taken into account up to the day preceding the start of each admission round.
- In JUFO scoring, the classification that is valid during the application period is, as a rule, applied; the classification of the year of publication can be taken into account based on a separate clarification submitted by the applicant.

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- The weighting of the scoring for the general practice YES course has been changed (no effect on the total score).

The admission process has been made simpler and more flexible.

- The number of candidates invited to interview has been reduced in relation to the large number of study places.
- The interview is not necessary if there is no competition in the degree programme.

Changes concerning specialist education in dentistry (EHL) only

- The right to practise independently (the so-called full license; not a temporary or limited license issued by the Finnish Supervisory Agency or Valvira) is also required for the accumulation of 2 years of clinical work experience.
- For the work to be included in the 2 years of clinical work experience, the part-time percentage must be at least 20% of the total working time. The shortest acceptable single working period is one month of full-time work (a calendar month or 30 days).
- The specialist-field -specific scoring has been modified: 1 point / 2 months (previously 1 point / 1 month)
- The person in charge will check the specialist field points in all EHL degree programmes before the person is invited to interview.

Appendix 2 shows the student intake of each specialist field at the University of Eastern Finland for the academic year 2026–2027. The proposal is based on the national assessment of the need for education by an expert group appointed by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and on the assessments of the persons responsible for the specialist fields on the regional need for education.

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In addition, the committees propose that, in order to support specialist fields that are to be strengthened regionally, the number of admitted students may be exceeded by a university-specific derogation decision, provided that a study place can be allocated to them, in degree programmes where not all available study places were filled in three or more consecutive additional application rounds and where the number of applicants this time exceeds the number of available study places. Exceeding the student intake requires a proposal of the specialist field and the approval of the Professional Further Education Committee (AJT). The Dean will make the related decision.

The admission criteria have been discussed by the National Advisory Committee on Professional Further Education and Training (VAJT) and by the local committees and regional advisory boards of all universities. The committees decided to submit the admission criteria to the faculty council for approval as set out in Appendix 1. The student intake has been discussed in the local Professional Further Education Committee (AJT) and the regional faculty. The committees decided to submit the student intake to the faculty council for approval as set out in Annex 2.

Motion

1. approving the national admission criteria for specialist education in medicine and dentistry for the academic year 2026–2027 as set out in Annex 1
2. verifying the student intake to specialist education in medicine and dentistry for the academic year 2026–2027 as set out in Annex 2
3. delegating the authority to make decisions to the Head of School of Medicine in any amendment proposals made regarding the Annexes
4. authorising the presenting official to make, where required, any technical specifications and/or additions to the admission criteria.



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Decision

As proposed.

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Record entry No 99/03.00.01/2026

Prepared by

13

General educational requirements, specialist field -specific curricula and examination requirements for specialist education in medicine and dentistry as of 1 August 2026

According to section 9(4) of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will make decisions concerning curricula, degree requirements and student admission criteria. Decree 56/2015 of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (amended with Decree 55/2020 and Decree 1240/2022) specify the requirements for being accepted to further professional education and the admission criteria. As regards professional further education, the nationally agreed upon common practices will be followed.

The general educational requirements, specialist field-specific curricula, skills assessment methods and examination requirements for specialist education in medicine and dentistry were prepared during the spring 2026 in national cooperation by the five Finnish universities that provide medical training. The general educational requirements and curricula have been compiled into national study guides for specialist education in medicine and dentistry. For the first time the study guides also include descriptions of skills assessment methods. The study guides are valid for the next three academic years (1 August 2026 - 31 July 2029).

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The general educational requirements at the beginning of the study guide apply to all specialist fields and to all specialising students regardless of the date their study right was granted. The specialist field -specific curricula and skills assessment methods at the end of the study guide apply to specialising students whose right to study is granted between 1 August 2026 and 31 July 2029. Specialising students will always have the right to shift to following the latest study guide.

The study guides have been discussed by the National Advisory Committee on Professional Further Education and Training (VAJT) and by the local committees and regional advisory boards of all universities. The committees decided to submit the guides to the faculty council for approval as set out in Annexes 1–3.

- The national study guide for specialist education in medicine (valid from 1 August 2026 to 31 July 2029), Annex 1.
- The national study guide for specialist education in dentistry (valid from 1 August 2026 until 31 July 2029, Annex 2.
- The national specialist-field-specific examination requirements for specialist education in medicine and dentistry (valid from 1 August 2026 until further notice), Annex 3.

Motion

Faculty Council will decide

1. approving the national study guides for specialist education in medicine and dentistry for the academic year 2026–2029 as set out in Annexes 1 and 2

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2. approving the national examination requirements for specialist education in medicine and dentistry will be approved from 1 August 2023 onwards until further notice as set out in Appendix 3
3. delegating to the Head of School of Medicine the authority to make decisions on any national amendment proposals made regarding the Annexes
4. authorising the presenting official to make, where required, any technical specifications and additions to the annexes

Decision As proposed.

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Record entry No 99/03.00.01/2026

Prepared by

14

Curriculum and admission criteria for specialist education in general practice starting on 1 August 2026

According to section 9(4) of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will make decisions concerning curricula, degree requirements and student admission criteria. Decree 56/2015 of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (amended with Decree 55/2020 and Decree 1240/2022) specify the requirements for being accepted to further professional education and the admission criteria. As regards professional further education, the nationally agreed upon common practices will be followed.

The faculties that provide professional further education in medicine in Finland have prepared general educational requirements, curriculum and admission criteria for the specialist education in general practice (YEK) during the spring of 2026. The study guide applies to all students regardless of the date their study right was granted. The main changes are:

- The learning outcomes have been specified
- The calculation of accumulated credits has been harmonised with the general educational requirements of specialist education in medicine and dentistry

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- The impact of part-time work on the accumulation of credits has been clarified and the requirement for three months of full-time work has been removed.

The curriculum and admission criteria for YEK were discussed by the National Advisory Committee on Professional Further Education and Training (VAJT) and by the local committees and regional advisory boards of all universities. The committees decided to submit the curriculum and admission criteria to the faculty council for approval as set out in Annex 1.

Motion

1. approving the curriculum and general educational requirements for specialist education in general practice as of 1 August 2026 until further notice as set out in Annex 1
2. approving the admission criteria for specialist education in general practice as of 1 August 2026 until further notice as set out in Annex 2
3. delegating to the Head of School of Medicine the authority to make decisions on any national amendment proposals made regarding the Annex
4. authorising the presenting official to make, where required, any technical specifications additions to the annexes

Decision

As proposed.

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Record entry No 98/03.00.01/2026

Prepared by Susanna Järvelin-Pasanen

15

Approval of amendments to the curriculum for the Master of Science (Pharmacy) degree programme

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. The Faculty Council also approves any significant changes made to the confirmed curriculum.

The Faculty Council of the Faculty of Health Sciences has approved the curriculum for the Master of Science (Pharmacy) degree programme for the academic years 2025-2028 at its meeting of 20 February 2025 (record entry 6411/03.00.01/2023).

The specialist field of biopharmacy proposes the following amendment to the confirmed curriculum for the Master of Science (Pharmacy) degree programme for those students who have selected the specialist field of biopharmacy:

- ADME models and pharmacokinetic calculations (Code TF00CO82), 5 ECTS. It is proposed that the number of credits be increased to 6 credits.
- The change in the scope of the course affects the scope of the compulsory advanced studies in the specialist field of biopharmacy of the 4–5-year students of the Master of Science (Pharmacy) degree programme.
- In other specialist fields, the course is offered as an optional advanced course (4 ECTS) (no change).

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The proposal of the person in charge of the specialist field of biopharmacy is enclosed with the agenda item as an Annex.

Updated versions of the degree structure and course description of the Master of Science (Pharmacy) degree programme are also enclosed with the agenda item.

The curriculum change will be effective as from autumn 2026.

Motion The Faculty Council will confirm the change to the curriculum for the Master of Science (Pharmacy) degree programme for the academic years 2026–2028 as proposed.

Decision As proposed.

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Record entry 113/03.04.09/2026

Prepared by Annika Koistinen

16

Grading MSc Ulla-Kaarina Petäjä'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 Ulla-Kaarina Petäjä's doctoral dissertation and study "[Risk behavior of care leavers in child welfare aftercare services: hypothetical model to strengthen coping in transition to independent living](#)" was examined publicly on 15 May 2026. The opponent, Professor Tarja Pölkki (University of Oulu) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Health 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 statements. The opponent's statement is enclosed with the item as an annex.

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

Motion Based on the statement, the Faculty Council grades MHSc Ulla-Kaarina Petäjä's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision As proposed.

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Prepared by Annika Koistinen

17

Grading Lic.Med. Nina Jaakonmäki'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. Nina Jaakonmäki's doctoral dissertation and study "[Cryptogenic Ischemic Stroke in Young Adults: The Role of Hypercoagulation and Obesity](#)" was examined publicly on 22 May 2026. The opponent, Professor Mika Martikainen (University of Oulu) 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 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



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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. Nina Jaakonmäki's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision

As proposed.

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Prepared by Annika Koistinen

18

Grading MSc Laura Inglin'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 Laura Inglin's doctoral dissertation and study "[Health service use and treatment outcomes in type 2 diabetes before and during the COVID-19 pandemic: A register-based study from North Karelia, Finland](#)" was examined publicly on 22 May 2026. The opponent, Associate Professor Merja Laine (University of Helsinki) is in favour of the doctoral dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Health 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 statements. The opponent's statement is enclosed with the item as an annex.

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

Motion Based on the statement, the Faculty Council grades MSc Laura Inglin's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision As proposed.

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Prepared by Annika Koistinen

19

Grading MHS_c Pauliina Hackman'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.

MHS_c Pauliina Hackman's doctoral dissertation and study "[Unfinished nursing care and resident outcomes: A multimethod study in nursing homes](#)" was examined publicly on 29 May 2026. The opponent, Professor Riitta Suhonen (University of Turku) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Health 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 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



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multi-member administrative body who have a degree or completed study attainments of an equivalent level or who have been appointed professors.

Motion

Based on the statement, the Faculty Council grades MSc Pauliina Hackman's doctoral dissertation as Pass with distinction.

Decision

As proposed.

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Prepared by Annika Koistinen

20

Grading MSc Benwillies Onchonga'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 Benwillies Onchonga's doctoral dissertation and study "[All-cause mortality and COVID-19 among patients with inflammatory rheumatic disease during and after hospitalization in Nairobi, Kenya](#)" was examined publicly on 22 May 2026. The opponent, Professor Anneli Uusküla (University of Tartu, Estonia) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in philosophy and proposes the grade Pass.

According to section 44 of the Universities Act (24.7.2009/558), before a doctoral dissertation is graded, the author must be given an opportunity to submit his or her response to the preliminary examiner's, the examiner's or the opponent's statement. The doctoral candidate has no comments on the statements. The opponent's statement is enclosed with the item as an annex.

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

Motion

Based on the statements, the Faculty Council grades MSc Benwillies Onchonga's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision

As proposed.

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For information

A draft of the instructions of the Faculty of Health Sciences on the evaluation of teaching skills for information (distribution by email separately).

These instructions replace the current instructions of the Faculty of Health Sciences on giving trial lectures and preparing a teaching portfolio as of 1 August 2026.

Motion Marked for information.

Decision As proposed.



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Closing of the meeting

The chair closed the meeting at 15:50.



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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.