UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN FINLAND

Agenda
Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology
Meeting No 8/2026
Meeting date 24 September 2026

Date and time 24 September 2026, 14:00 - 16:00

Place Teams

Participants	**Role**	**Additional information**
Members		
Lehtinen Kari	Dean, Chair	
Hauta-Kasari Markku	1st Vice Dean, Vice Chair	
Peltola Heli	2nd Vice Dean	
Kolehmainen Ville	Professor, member	
Jänis Janne	Professor, deputy member	
Lähde Anna	Professor, member	
Roussey Matthieu	Professor, deputy member	
Tuittila Eeva-Stiina	Professor, member	
Toivanen Pekka	Professor, deputy member	
Vauhkonen Jari	Professor, member	
Berninger Frank	Professor, deputy member	
Tedre Matti	Professor, member	
Virtanen Jani	Professor, deputy member	
Kainulainen Samu	Staff, member	
Mertano Heta	Staff, deputy member	
Kopra Juho	Staff, member	

Mikkonen Santtu	Staff, deputy member
Mäkelä Janne	Staff, member
Kumlin Timo	Staff, deputy member
Miettinen Tuire	Staff, member
Vainikainen Hanne	Staff, deputy member
Leinonen Risto	Staff, member
Vartiainen Paavo	Staff, deputy member
Kitunen Kielo	Student, member
Heikkinen Wilma	Student, member
Airaksinen Johannes	Student, member
Miettinen Mikko	Student, member
Palkovuori Teemu	Student, member
Kannan Bharath	Student, deputy member
Afzaal Muhammad Shahwaiz	Student, deputy member
Tanja Karvonen	Executive Head of Administration, secretary

Other preparers

Merimaa-Piirainen Maarit	Head of Academic Affairs
Riikka Levänen	
Niina Laatikainen	

Items to be discussed at the meeting

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1

Opening of the meeting

The chair will open the meeting.

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 17 September 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 via Teams.

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

Decision

Record entry 1172/01.01.02/2026

Prepared by Tanja Karvonen

3

Description of the post of Professor/Associate Professor of Forest-based Products and Services. Hearing of the Faculty Council

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will discuss proposals regarding the scope and specifications of posts that comply with the four-stage career model of the faculty's permanent teaching and research staff and Tenure Track positions. The post is hosted by the School of Forest Sciences at the Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology.

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

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

The description of the post of Professor/Associate Professor of Forest-based Products and Services (Annex) includes the scope and specifications of the post as required by the UEF University Regulations.

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

Decision

Annexes

Annex 1 Description of the post_forest-based products and services

Record entry 1175/01.01.02/2026

Prepared by Tanja Karvonen

4

The scope and specifications of the post of Associate Professor of AI Technologies and industrial applications that will become vacant at the Faculty. Hearing of the Faculty Council

According to section 9 of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will discuss proposals regarding the scope and specifications of posts that comply with the four-stage career model of the faculty's permanent teaching and research staff and Tenure Track positions.

The position is based on donations from the City of Iisalmi, the business community of the Upper Savonia region and the foundations of the region to the said post. The post is hosted by the Department of Technical Physics at the Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology.

Description of the post is as follows:
The research and teaching field of the Associate Professor is AI technologies and industrial applications. The person to be appointed to the post is required to have expertise and demonstrated achievements in, e.g., AI solutions in the planning of industrial equipment, processes and services and in user-oriented applications and their optimisation. The key research and teaching themes of the role will also be developed by

utilising the views and needs of companies operating in the region. The duties of the Associate Professor include the acquisition of external research funding, the launching and management of research projects, high-quality publishing activities, and teaching and supervision duties related to the field. The Associate Professor will also be responsible for international research cooperation and networking in the field of research. The post also includes societal expert and interaction activities.

Motion The Faculty Council will address the scope and specifications of the post of Associate Professor of AI technologies and industrial applications that will become vacant at the Faculty.

Decision

Record entry 919/01.08.00/2026

Prepared by Tanja Karvonen

5

Granting the title of docent to PhD Alexandra Koulouri in the field of Computational Mathematics and Imaging

PhD Alexandra Koulouri has applied for the title of docent in the field of Computational Mathematics and Imaging at the Department of Technical Physics of the University of Eastern Finland's Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology. The application and related attachments are enclosed with the 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 independent research or artistic work demonstrated through publications or in some other manner, and good 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.

On 1 July 2026, the Dean of the Faculty appointed Professor Alessandro Foi (University of Tampere, Signal Processing Research Center) and Assistant Professor Alberto Sorrentino (Dipartimento di Matematica

Università degli Studi di Genova) as experts to assess the scientific qualifications of the applicant. The experts have stated that PhD Alexandra Koulouri is scientifically qualified in the field that her title of docent application concerns. The statements of the experts are enclosed with this agenda item as annexes.

A person to be awarded the title of docent is required to have good teaching skills (Universities Act 558/2009). As a rule, good teaching skills are assessed on the basis of application documents and, if this cannot be verified on the basis of merits, the Dean may decide that a trial lecture be required. By a decision of 1 July 2026, the Dean has exempted PhD Alexandra Koulouri from the requirement to give a trial lecture and has determined her teaching merits based on the application documents.

Motion The Faculty Council states that PhD Alexandra Koulouri meets the criteria set out in the Universities Act for the title of docent and grants him the title of docent at the University of Eastern Finland in the field of Computational Mathematics and Imaging as of 1 October 2026.

Decision

Annexes

Annex 2	Alexandra Koulouri's application for the title of docent and related attachments
Annex 3	Expert statements Alberto Sorrentino and Alessandro Foi

Record entry 880/01.08.00/2026

Prepared by Tanja Karvonen

6

Granting the title of docent to DEd Virpi Vellonen in the field of Education Technology, particularly education technologies for people with special needs

DEd Virpi Vellonen has applied for the title of docent in the field of Educational Technology, particularly education technologies for people with special needs at the Department of Technical Physics of the University of Eastern Finland's Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology. DEd Virpi Vellonen's application and related attachments are enclosed with the 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 independent research or artistic work demonstrated through publications or in some other manner, and good 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.

By decision of 24 June 2026, the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology appointed Associate Professor (second term) Linda

Mannila (University of Helsinki, Department of Computer Science) and University Lecturer, Docent Erkki Kaila (University of Turku, Department of Computer Science) to provide expert statements on the scientific qualifications of DEd Virpi Vellonen in order to be awarded the title of docent in the field of Education Technology, particularly education technologies for people with special needs). The experts have stated that DEd Virpi Vellonen is scientifically qualified in the field that her title of docent application concerns. The statements of the experts are enclosed with this agenda item as annexes.

A person to be awarded the title of docent is required to have good teaching skills (Universities Act 558/2009). As a rule, good teaching skills are assessed on the basis of application documents and, if this cannot be verified on the basis of merits, the Dean may decide that a trial lecture be required. By a decision of 4 September 2026, the Dean has exempted DEd Virpi Vellonen from the requirement to give a trial lecture and has determined her teaching merits based on the application documents.

Motion

The Faculty Council notes that DEd Virpi Vellonen meets the criteria set out in the Universities Act for the title of docent and grants her the title of docent at the University of Eastern Finland in the field of Education Technology, particularly education technologies for people with special needs, as of 1 October 2026.

Decision

Annexes

Annex 4	Expert statements Erkki Kaila and Linda Mannila
Annex 5	Virpi Vellonen’s application for the title of docent and related attachments

Record entry 81/03.04.09/2026

Prepared by Niina Laatikainen

7

Grading MSc Mahnaz Khalili's doctoral dissertation in the field of Applied Physics

According to section 9 of the UEF University Regulations, the Faculty Council grades doctoral dissertations. According to Section 32 of the Education Regulations, dissertations are graded on the scale pass with distinction, pass, and fail (the preliminary examination process started before 1 August 2026).

MSc Mahnaz Khalili's doctoral dissertation and study Deep learning for seismic monitoring of porous water reservoirs was examined publicly on 27 August 2026. The opponent, Professor Lassi Roininen (LUT School of Engineering Sciences, LUT University University of Applied Sciences), is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Philosophy and proposes the grade Pass.

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

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 Mahnaz Khalili's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision

Annexes

Annex 6 Opponent's statement, Lassi Roininen

Record entry 81/03.04.09/2026

Prepared by Niina Laatikainen

8

Grading MSc Inga Kujala's doctoral dissertation in the field of Biology

According to section 9 of the UEF University Regulations, the Faculty Council grades doctoral dissertations. According to Section 32 of the Education Regulations, dissertations are graded on the scale pass with distinction, pass, and fail (the preliminary examination process started before 1 August 2026).

MSc Inga Kujala's doctoral dissertation and study Population dynamics and demography of a long-distance avian migrant under changing food abundance, habitat composition, and weather conditions was examined publicly on 26 August 2026. The opponent, Dosent Patrik Byholm (Faculty of Bioeconomy, Novia University of Applied Sciences) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Philosophy and proposes the grade Pass.

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

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 MA Martha Balerina's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision

Annexes

Annex 7 Opponent's statement, Patrik Byholm

Record entry 81/03.04.09/2026

Prepared by Niina Laatikainen

9

Grading MSc Henri Leskinen's doctoral dissertation in the field of Applied Physics

According to section 9 of the UEF University Regulations, the Faculty Council grades doctoral dissertations. According to Section 32 of the Education Regulations, dissertations are graded on the scale pass with distinction, pass, and fail (the preliminary examination process started before 1 August 2026).

MSc Henri Leskinen's doctoral dissertation and study Relaxation time mapping techniques for characterization of articular cartilage and reproducibility analysis of current techniques was examined publicly on 4 September 2026. Opponent, Associate Scientist, Associate Professor Matthew Koff (HSS MRI Laboratory, Hospital for Special Surgery, USA & Weill Cornell Medical College, Cornell University, USA) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Philosophy and proposes the grade Pass.

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

comments on the doctoral statement, which is enclosed with this agenda item as an Annex.

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 Henri Leskinen's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision

Annexes

Annex 8 Opponent's statement, Matthew Koff

Record entry 81/03.04.09/2026

Prepared by Riikka Levänen

10

Grading MSc Jemimah Nathaniel's doctoral dissertation in the field of Computer Science

According to section 9 of the UEF University Regulations, the Faculty Council grades doctoral dissertations. According to Section 32 of the Education Regulations, dissertations are graded on the scale pass with distinction, pass, and fail (the preliminary examination process started before 1 August 2026).

MSc Jemimah Nathaniel's doctoral dissertation and study Investigating the Integration of Generative Artificial Intelligence into Programming Education to Support Higher-Order Thinking Skills and Programming Logic was examined publicly on 11 September 2026. The opponent, Assistant Professor Juho Leinonen (Department of Computer Science, University of Turku) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Philosophy and proposes the grade Pass.

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

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 Jemimah Nathaniel's doctoral dissertation as Pass.

Decision

Annexes

Annex 9 Opponent's statement, Juho Leinonen

Record entry 81/03.04.09/2026

Prepared by Niina Laatikainen

11

Grading MSc (Agr. & For.) Petra Peltola's doctoral dissertation in the field of Forest Science

According to section 9 of the UEF University Regulations, the Faculty Council grades doctoral dissertations. According to Section 32 of the Education Regulations, dissertations are graded on the scale pass with distinction, pass, and fail (the preliminary examination process started before 1 August 2026).

MSc (Agr. & For.) Petra Peltola's doctoral dissertation and study Natural regeneration success of Scots pine and Norway spruce in continuous cover forestry in Finland was examine publicly on 11 September 2026. The opponent, Professor Emeritus Tomas Lundmark (Department of Forest Ecology and Management, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden) is in favour of the dissertation being approved as a thesis for a doctoral degree in Agriculture and Forestry and proposes the grade Pass. The preliminary examiners of the dissertation, Professor Emeritus Pasi Puttonen (Department of Forest Sciences, University of Helsinki) and Tenured Professor Hardi Tullus (Institute of Forestry and Engineering, Estonian University of Life Sciences, Estonia) agree with the opponent on the grade proposal.

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 of the opponent and the preliminary examiners, which are enclosed with this agenda item as appendices.

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 (Agr. & For.) Petra Peltola's doctoral dissertation as Pass with distinction.

Decision

Annexes

Annex 10	Opponent's statement, Tomas Lundmark
Annex 11	Preliminary examiner's opinion on the proposed grade, Pasi Puttonen
Annex 12	Preliminary examiner's opinion on the proposed grade, Hardi Tullus

Record entry 1174/03.01.00/2026

Prepared by Maarit Merimaa-Piirainen

12

Deciding on the student admission criteria for study programmes taught in Finnish for 2027

According to section 9(4) of the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland, the Faculty Council will make decisions concerning student admission criteria.

Motion The Faculty Council confirms the share sections of the student admission criteria of the Faculty for the education offered in Finnish, the study programmes, study places, and the study programme -specific student admission criteria for 2027 as set out in the annexes and delegates any changes to the admission criteria to the Vice Dean for Education.

Decision

Annexes

Annex 13	Student admission criteria 2027 - shared sections for the Faculty Council
Annex 14	Student admission criteria 2027 open university route Data technology Joensuu (3yrs + 2yrs)

Annex 15	Student admission criteria 2027 open university route Data technology Kuopio (3yrs + 2yrs)
Annex 16	Student admission criteria 2027 open university route Photonics Joensuu (3yrs + 2yrs)
Annex 17	Student admission criteria 2027 open university route Sustainable technologies Joensuu (3yrs + 2yrs)
Annex 18	Student admission criteria 2027 Data technology JOE DIA (3yrs + 2yrs)
Annex 19	Student admission criteria 2027 Data technology KUO DIA (3yrs + 2yrs)
Annex 20	Student admission criteria 2027 Photonics DIA (3yrs + 2yrs)
Annex 21	Student admission criteria 2027 Sustainable technologies DIA (3yrs + 2yrs)
Annex 22	Student admission criteria 2027 Pharmaceutical engineering DIA (3yrs + 2yrs)
Annex 23	Student admission criteria 2027 Master's degree programme Photonics (2yrs) 2026
Annex 24	Student admission criteria 2027 Master degree programme Sustainable technologies Joensuu (3yrs + 2yrs)
Annex 25	Student admission criteria 2027 transfer application Data technology Joensuu (3yrs + 2yrs)
Annex 26	Student admission criteria 2027 transfer application Data technology Kuopio (3yrs + 2yrs)

Annex 27	Student admission criteria 2027 - open university route, incl. other previous studies, Mathematics, Joensuu (3 years + 2 years)
Annex 28	Student admission criteria 2027 - Master's degree programme, Forest Science, Joensuu, Master of Agriculture and Forestry (2 years)
Annex 29	Student admission criteria 2027 - subject teacher and class teacher, mathematics, physics or chemistry, Joensuu, BSc and MSc
Annex 30	Student admission criteria 2027 - subject teacher, mathematics, physics, chemistry or computer science, Joensuu, BSc and MSc
Annex 31	Student admission criteria 2027 - open university route, incl. other previous studies, Computer science, Joensuu (3 years + 2 years)
Annex 32	Student admission criteria 2027 - open university route, incl. other previous studies, Computer science, Kuopio (3 years + 2 years)
Annex 33	Student admission criteria 2027 - open university route, incl. other previous studies, Environmental and Biological Sciences (Biology), Joensuu (3 years + 2 years)
Annex 34	Student admission criteria 2027 - open university route, incl. other previous studies, Environmental and Biological Sciences (Environmental science), Kuopio (3 years + 2 years)

Annex 35	Student admission criteria 2027 - Chemistry, Joensuu, BSc and MSc (3 years + 2 years)
Annex 36	Student admission criteria 2027 - Master's degree programme, Subject teacher mathematics, physics or chemistry, Joensuu, Master of Science (2 years)
Annex 37	Student admission criteria 2027 - Master's degree programme, Biology, Joensuu, Master of Philosophy (2 years)
Annex 38	Student admission criteria 2027 - Master's degree programme, Chemistry, Joensuu, Master of Philosophy (2 years)
Annex 39	Student admission criteria 2027 - Master's degree programme, Mathematics, Joensuu, Master of Philosophy (2 years)
Annex 40	Student admission criteria 2027 - Master's degree programme, Computer science, Joensuu, Master of Philosophy (2 years)
Annex 41	Student admission criteria 2027 - Master's degree programme, Computer science, Kuopio, Master of Philosophy (2 years)
Annex 42	Student admission criteria 2027 - Master's degree programme, Environmental science, Kuopio, Master of Philosophy (2 years)
Annex 43	Student admission criteria 2027 - Mathematics, Joensuu, BSc and MSc (3 years + 2 years)

Annex 44	Student admission criteria 2027 - transfer application, Mathematics, Joensuu, BSc and MSc (3 years + 2 years)
Annex 45	Student admission criteria 2027 - transfer application, Environmental and Biological Sciences (Biology), Joensuu, BSc and MSc
Annex 46	Student admission criteria 2027 - transfer application, Environmental and Biological Sciences (Environmental science), Kuopio, BSc and MSc
Annex 47	Student admission criteria 2027 - Computer science, Joensuu, BSc and MSc (3 years + 2 years)
Annex 48	Student admission criteria 2027 - Computer science, Kuopio, BSc and MSc (3 years + 2 years)
Annex 49	Student admission criteria 2027 - Environmental and Biological Sciences (Biology), Joensuu, BSc and MSc (3 years + 2 years)
Annex 50	Student admission criteria 2027 - Environmental and Biological Sciences (Environmental science), Kuopio, BSc and MSc (3 years + 2 years)
Annex 51	Student admission criteria 2027 - open university route, incl. other previous studies, Chemistry, Joensuu (3 years + 2 years)
Annex 52	Student admission criteria 2027 - Forest sciences, Joensuu, Bachelor and Master of Agriculture and Forestry (3 years + 2 years)

13

For information

Statistics on the faculty's Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees on 31 August 2026 (Annex).

Topical faculty matters.

Motion Marked for information.

Decision

Annexes

Annex 53 Tutkintotilasto_8_2026

14

Closing of the meeting

The chair will close the meeting.

15

Translation of the agenda/minutes

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