Instructions Regarding the Senior Group for PhD Students

According to a decision by the Board every PhD Student shall be assigned a group of senior researchers (other than supervisors) that meet once a year for a follow-up on how things have worked out for the PhD student during the past year. The senior group shall be appointed by the relevant Head of Division who also appoints the convener. The group will consist of two or three senior researchers.

One can choose to have the same senior group throughout the PhD students study or to vary the composition of the group from year to year.

**Overall aim**

- The primary aim is that the senior group will be a support for the PhD student.
- The PhD student will develop contacts with several senior researchers in addition to the supervisors.
- The senior group can highlight problems and give advice to both the PhD student and the supervisors.

**The senior group's responsibility**

The senior group will organize an annual follow-up meeting with the PhD student, where all the members of the senior group meet the PhD student at the same time. The supervisors do not participate in the meeting.

The follow-up must include:

- How has the PhD student's development been in the past year? (The various aspects found in "Hagerstenmatrisen" / “Hagersten array” can be used as a starting point, see [link](http://www.it.uu.se/grad/internal/handbook/contents/PhDStudyDevelopmentMatrix%20Hagersten%202017.pdf)
- How does the PhD student find his/her situation? (Tutoring, contact with other PhD students, general well-being, etc.)
After the follow-up meeting the senior group members shall give *oral feedback about things that should be addressed*:

- Usually the feedback will be given in form of advice to the PhD student and/or supervisors.

- *When there are more serious problems, the senior group will give the feedback to the Head of Division, who then has the responsibility to take action.*