

# KoF panel

## the PhD student perspective

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UPPSALA  
UNIVERSITET

# Strengths of the current PhD program

- Ensured employment for 4 years
- No use of scholarships to fund PhD studies
- Employment benefits, such as pension, paid vacation, parental leave etc.
- Possibility to change your supervisor and/or project

# Possibilities for improvement

- Different between divisions lead to inequality in funding and quality.
- Introduction and help for foreign students when they start their PhD studies.

# Varying quality of PhD studies

## Problem:

- Sometimes there is a lack of plan for the full PhD. This currently varies greatly depending on the supervisor.
- In case of problems, e.g. due to instrument failure, there is often no backup plan.

## Solution:

- Evaluate the implementation of the progress targets (decision by the department board).

# Compensation and opportunity to teach

## Problem:

- Difference between divisions in how compensation for teaching is given.
- There is low transparency on compensation calculations and how people are being selected to teach.

## Solution:

- Make a department-wide uniformed system for teaching compensation.
- Better planning and communication to the PhD students so that the amount of teaching is known in advance.

# Introduction for foreign PhD students

## Problem:

- No organized help for new PhD students with bureaucracy required to settle, find apartments, get salary etc

## Solution:

- Provide checklist to students before their arrival in Uppsala.
- Designated person(s) to help with administrative tasks, and maybe agreement with banks/insurance companies etc.