



## Utvärderingsrapport för utbildning på forskarnivå i genusvetenskap

December 2022

### *Inledning/bakgrund*

This evaluation report concerns the evaluation of the Centre for Gender Research's PhD program. The PhD program at the Centre for Gender Research is currently in its 6th year. This was its first evaluation. The evaluation panel, consisting of three members, was appointed by the Faculty of Arts at Uppsala University. It consisted of Anu Koivunen (Professor, Gender of Studies, at the School of History, Culture and Arts Studies at University of Turku), Irene Molina (Professor of Human Geography at the Institute for Housing and Urban Research at Uppsala University), and Michael Nebeling Petersen (Associate Professor of Gender Studies, at the Department of Nordic Studies and Linguistics at University of Copenhagen). The evaluation process carried out by the panel during the fall of 2022. The panel held two planning meetings in advance, several meetings in situ during the two days visit to the Centre during 5-6 October 2022, and one meeting after the visit. The method used for the evaluation consisted of reviewing the material sent to the group by the Centre for Gender Research, conducting interviews in situ with the staff working at the Centre, analysing the material and finally writing the report. The material sent to the evaluators included a 21-page Self Evaluation Report, the General Study Syllabus in Gender Studies, the Handbook for PhD Studies, the ASF, a prototype Individual Study Plan, and the course outlines of several recent PhD courses. On the 5th and 6th of October, the evaluation committee visited the Centre in Uppsala and held in total six interview meetings with all the staff involved in the programme, and all the PhD candidates.

### *De viktigaste slutsatserna av utvärderingen*

#### **Styrkor med utbildningen**

The PhD program at the Centre for Gender Research is a strong interdisciplinary program, collaborating across Uppsala University with all three disciplinary domains (HumSam, TechNat, MedPharm). It has built up a well functioning cohort of PhD students of approximately eight students at any one time. The students' progression and completion rates have been excellent and the diversity of their topic choices testify to the originality of their work. The program provides excellent responsive and proactive support to the students through highly qualified staff and a range of measures designed to facilitate PhD study effectively. This includes students' general



wellbeing and attention to their welfare. The PhD courses the Centre offers are of high international standard. The Centre also strongly supports students in their endeavor to profile themselves and disseminate their work internationally. The administration of the PhD program works effectively. This includes the use of the Individual Study Plan as a progression management tool. The program complies fully with the national goals of the Higher Education Act and the Higher Education Ordinance. The program has a clear associated management structure, with PhD students having full and varied opportunities to participate in related decision-making and to give input into all aspects of PhD work. The welcoming atmosphere and non-hierarchical structure of the Centre were praised by the panel.

### Identifierade svagheter och utvecklingsområden

The Centre has been working to make the experience of PhD students with dual disciplinary affiliations who may also be working across different sites as productive as possible. Staff recognize that these arrangements produce particular challenges for the students and seek to mitigate them in a number of ways.

Although the student body is quite diverse in certain ways (age, national background, PhD topic choice), more could be done to strengthen this. The panel suggested thinking about ways to counteract any hidden bias in the recruitment process.

The Centre has a variety of collaborations to maximize opportunities for PhD students to take courses relevant to their work. The panel suggested further collaborations inter/nationally to strengthen this even more.

The Centre was encouraged by the panel to provide teaching opportunities for PhD students who do not have Swedish.

### *Planerade åtgärder och utvecklingsinsatser*

Action	Responsible person/group	Deadline
Consider teaching opps for non-Swedish speaking PhDs	Prefect, Management Group	March 2023
Develop methods to avoid hidden biases in recruitment processes	Prefect, Management Group, HR officer	March 2023
Consider further course-related collaborations with other inter/national institutions	Prefect, Directors of Study, all staff	March 2023