Acceptable study conditions in third cycle education

Background
The Higher Education Ordinance requires doctoral students to be offered supervision and otherwise acceptable conditions for study (Chapter 7 Section 34).

Pursuant to the regulations for third cycle education (LS 2013/718), the faculty board shall decide what further conditions shall apply for doctoral students in order for acceptable conditions of study to be considered to be met. Furthermore, the regulations state that the University undertakes to provide doctoral students with the following:

- Information about and an introduction to the programme and the department’s researchers and research groups, seminars and other such activities, and opportunities for students to organise themselves into unions
- A desk, access to a computer, telephone, University email address and the other resources required for the doctoral student to complete his or her research studies
- Regular opportunities to have his or her research project discussed at seminars or the equivalent

Decision
Within the Faculty of Science, “acceptable study conditions” are to include the following (in addition to the above):

- Access to all facilities, all experimental equipment, all consumables and the computer software required to implement the research studies project, as defined in the individual study plan.
- Unlimited access to a computer (i.e. a personal computer) for four years of actual study time. During any period of study in excess of these four years, access to a computer is still guaranteed but it may be shared with others.
- Access card to the University’s premises and access to any other premises which the doctoral student needs to visit for the implementation of the study programme.
- Access to the library resources offered within LU.
- Coverage of printing costs for the doctoral thesis in the mandatory edition as defined by the faculty.
- Coverage of the cost of research visits, field work and excursions within the context of the doctoral thesis project, as defined in the individual study plan.
- Coverage of the cost of participation in at least two international conferences during the period of study *

* Applying for funding, for example for conferences, is a natural part of research studies and should always be encouraged. However, a doctoral student is not to be dependent on the outcome of his or her applications to be able to take part in at least two international conferences.
This decision was made by the faculty board after a presentation by Tobias Nilsson and a consultation with the faculty’s research programmes board and presiding committee.

*The signed and formally valid document is in Swedish. This is a translation only.*

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