

The buddy system

Each year, a ‘buddy’ is appointed for each of the five research programmes. This will typically be a member of the PhD board, but others may be appointed if the programme does not have a member of the committee.

The buddy’s task is to promote the social environment amongst PhD students in a research programme (or across programmes), and for this purpose they can set up lunch or coffee & cake meetings at the doctoral school’s expense. Buddy meetings constitute a study environment promoting activity under the auspices of the doctoral school without a formal agenda and minutes (but with an annual evaluation in the PhD board). The more specific goal is to provide an opportunity for the PhD students to informally exchange experiences and discuss issues related to their course. A buddy can also arrange thematic meetings with guest appearances (e.g. a supervisor, programme leader, coach, doctoral school administrator). There are no set rules for meeting frequency, but 2-4 times per semester will contribute nicely to reaching the objectives.

Meals for buddy meetings will be kept at a modest level, e.g. a sandwich and water, or coffee and cake per participant. Meals are fetched from the cafeteria (no electronic ordering) and ‘paid for’ by a requisition obtained from Martin Lund in the faculty administration (mlund@sdu.dk / 6550 3117). After the event, a list of the participants’ names must be submitted to Martin (for VAT and auditing purposes).

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