Useful facts about the Aalto SCI Doctoral Program, April 2018

Head of the Doctoral Programme
Prof. Tapio Lokki
Department of Computer Science

Welcome all new students
Full-time and part-time students

- **Full-Time Mode**: Graduation in 4 years; 80 % min. of work time spent on doctoral studies.
  - follow-up of full-time students after 5 years
- **Part-Time Mode**: Less than 80 % effort, graduation in 4-8 years.
- Student status can be changed by application (PT -> FT needs justification)
- 69 full-time new doctoral students and 20 part-time students started in 2017 at SCI.
Aalto SCI Stipends

• A stipend (award) system at Aalto SCI until 31.12.2021
• Award system meant to be a *strategy tool*:
  1. finish fast (<= 4 yrs.)
  2. finish young or fast (at less than 30 yrs. of age or in 4 years)
  3. study fast (all credits taken within 18 mos.)
  4. get results (publishing first paper)
Aalto SCI Stipends

- 500 € scholarship for the first refereed article
- 500 € scholarship for completing studies
  - 40 ECTS in less than 18 months
- 2000 € scholarship for completing the doctoral degree
  - if max 8 full semesters from when accepted to the program until pre-examiners are assigned or
  - if the degree is completed by the end of the calendar year the candidate turns 30
- Annual dissertation awards 3000 € (top 10%, for SCI ~8)
Supervision Agreement

• Supervision agreement: both doctoral student and supervising professor have rights and responsibilities
• For full-time students, commitment from both parties
• In Applied Physics and Mathematics and Systems analysis, 18 month checkpoint (mid-term exam) – this means a 2+2 years contract.
• Other departments might have their own checkpoints
What if things go wrong?

• First and foremost, try to talk to your supervising prof.
  • changing supervision practices, instructor(s), etc.
• Next level is the head of department
• You can also contact your department’s Doctoral Committee member or me (in confidence)
Personnel in DPSCI

Emma Holmlund

• Pre-examination
• International matters, e.g. cotutelle agreements

Mari Dagnall (CS, NBE) and Laura Öhrnberg (PHYS, MS and DIEM)

• Applications for doctoral studies
• Confirmation of the study plan
• Scholarships
• Appointing the opponent
• Press release and dissertation release
• Graduation
• Licentiate thesis examination - graduation
• Individual study attainment (only Laura)

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Seminars and recommended short courses for doctoral students (1/2)

• **Research Ethics Course for Doctoral Students**
  - Recommended for first or second year doctoral students.
  - Lecturer is Dr. Henriikka Mustajoki.
  - 2 ECTS
  - Next one, fall 2018
Seminars and recommended short courses for doctoral students (2/2)

• **Writing scientific journal articles**
  • Will be arranged in the end of fall 2018
  • The lecture provides young researchers and doctoral students with understanding of writing scientific journal articles.
  • Especially starting researchers have experienced the lecture as very beneficial.
  • Lecturer is Dr. Pekka Belt.
Career after the doctoral degree

You should think about it already

Tips and tricks

https://into.aalto.fi/display/endoctoralsci/Doctoral+Career+after+Graduation
ANY QUESTIONS?