

Application for prolongation of employment at Umeå Institute of Design

With this letter I would like to apply for prolongation of my employment at Umeå Institute of Design.

I would like to point out that I am very grateful for the possibility to conduct my PhD studies at Umeå Institute of Design. I am convinced that the Institute will further succeed to practically implement its future visions. However, I understand that an endeavor to do establish excellent and extraordinary education in research practice takes major efforts. The path to go as PhD is a challenge for itself and further challenged with additional difficulties. Though, as managing while designing, difficulties and uncertainties have opened up new possibilities and ways to go. This has made my PhD studies unique in the form what I could learn not only for my professional carrier but my personal development. Though taking on challenges and possibilities have led to the need of some additional time to finish my PhD-thesis. Therefore I ask Umeå Institute of Design to prolong my employment with some time that helps to compensate the irregularities that have been in my studies and to finish my studies as soon as possible.

The main reasons why I ask for this are the following:

- 1.) Irregular supervision in the beginning of the studies until the supervision with Erik Stolterman as first supervisor was established. Interrupted supervision by second supervisors due to change of positions and parental leave.
- 2.) No Design courses on a PhD level and specific PhD work related courses available at Umeå Institute of Design in the beginning of the studies until autumn 2011.
- 3.) Major dynamics in the project under which I have been financed due to insolvency of Saab automobile where the project was anchored and took place that has been basis to collect data for my PhD work. Loss of project activity due to bankruptcy of Saab automobile until the project could be reestablished under a new constellation and project activity could take place to collect data.
- 4.) Need of time for conducting a final study to prove my thesis that involves a series of sessions to test the method that has been resulting from my thesis work.

I would like to thank you for the possibilities I got and look forward contributing to Umeå Institute of design with my learning.

Kind regards

Daniela Rothkegel