



## [Topic #1] Study Electric Power Engineering – Why?

### **Why did you choose this particular programme?**

The main reason for me to choose this particular programme was to gain a broader technical knowledge about electric power grids and electric machines and drives. The master course in electrical power engineering at my university comprise only two semesters of master courses and is completed by an 18 week internship in an industrial company and the final thesis. I am now taking part in a double degree programme for students of electrical engineering. Due to that participation my master courses are extended by one year, particularly by one extra year of pure studies.

### **What are your life time goals (career related)?**

When I retire, I want to be able to say that I could contribute to an improvement of a technology that was related to train propulsion - preferably linked with power electronics as this is my most favorite topic within my study courses. Furthermore, regarding my further life, it is a very high value for me to keep a good work-life balance. Thus, I would like to work in jobs where I assume responsibility for projects or to head up project teams, but I would like to avoid to end up in a career which is demanding in a way that it leaves no space for a rest and for hobbies.

### **What are your goals for the next 3-5 years?**

Within the next 2 to 2.5 years I want to finish my studies. After that I would like to begin either with a job related to commissioning or as a trainee. Most of my study courses comprised almost solely education on a theoretical basis. Commissioning or starting as a trainee is in my opinion the most practical way to get to know the environment and the technology I am going to work with in the future.

### **What are your goals for the ongoing academic year?**

My aim for the ongoing academic year is to develop a sustainable strategy for the organization of my life in a way that I am able to manage the huge workload I am faced with. I want to get the most out of the subjects related to electrical machines and drives, which means I would like to understand the course contents sustainably. Furthermore I want to improve my knowledge of the Swedish language by practicing as much as possible.

### **Now that you have prepared your study plan and spent a number of weeks as a master student at KTH, what has surprised you the most (positively or negatively)?**

At my German university I did not have to hand in such an amount of homework and project reports on top of the preparation for lectures and exercise classes. Additionally we have had longer examination periods which allowed preparing for examinations at the end of the semester. Thereby I was able to work as a student assistant at an institute which helped me with both to gain a deeper insight into a topic of my studies, I was interested in and to earn a little allowance for the financing of my life. I am not yet able to assess whether I should consider the education model at KTH (due to the workload) as rather distracting or even as beneficial (due to the continuous learning).

Also the language courses at the German university, including intensive courses, lasted for the whole semester and not just for a half. That reduced the weekly workload by a significant amount, compared to the approach at KTH. In my eyes a continuous learning of a language – in parallel to the courses of the master programme – is the more sustainable way of getting into it.