

## Meeting SAT Computer Science 1 October 2020

### Minutes Approved

#### Present:

- Dan Witzner Hansen (HoP SWU)
- Marco Carbone (HoP CS and SDT)
- Therese Graversen (HoP DS)
- Patrick Bahr (HoP SD)
- Viktor Shamal Andersen (Student rep., DS)
- Theodor Christian Kier (Student rep., SWU)
- Paolo Tell (Guest from faculty)
- Sanne Louise Aaby-Diedrichsen (Academic supervisor)
- Mette Holm Smith (Prog Coor DS) første del af mødet
- Marc Kellaway (Prog Coor SD)
- Allette Bjørn Bundgaard (Prog Coor SWU/CS/SDT)

#### Absent:

- Jesper Bengtson (Guest from faculty)
- Cecilie Bech Rønsholt (Student rep., SD)
- Daniele Galati (Student rep., DS)

#### Minutes:

Paolo chairs the meeting.

- 1. Approval of Agenda:** Agenda approved.
- 2. Approval of Minutes from meeting 4 September 2020:** Minutes approved.
- 3. Possibility to re-schedule next SAT CS meeting:** Meeting rescheduled from 6 November to 18 November, 12.30 – 14.00.
- 4. Information:** Welcome to Patrick Bahr, new Head of Program of KSD.
- 5. Update from study programs:** / Students.

SWU: Theodor:

- Algorithms & Data Structures: Re-exam: Rumor says, students want to complain.

- Functional Programming: Re-exam: Students are afraid they get stuck in the course. Dan informs that Søren, Jesper and Dan looked at the exam and find no problems with the level of the exam. It seems, if something points backwards to courses on the first three semesters, because some of the reported problems are in basic skills, that students should know from those courses. Dan finds this concerning. Førsteårsprojekt and Grundlæggende programmering might need some revision to ensure better alignment.

Marco suggests switching to another programming language than Java.

Dan replies that Java has advantages especially regarding object oriented programming.

This year Kattis were introduced on Grundlæggende programmering, to help students preparing for the exercises.

Some students have a low level in programming already on Grundlæggende programming and they seem to have problems catching up on later semesters.

Theodor sends a message to students inviting them to explain in more details, which problems they face on Functional Programming.

SAT approves of this initiative.

DS: Viktor: Nothing to report, no major issues.

Therese reports that this semester students seem to have a very low attendance to courses and lectures. This counts especially for Machine Learning and Network Analysis and for exercises in general. This is alarming.

The question is, how to get students to realize that they run a serious risk on failing, if they do not show up?

**OBS!** Sanne report that the Study Career and Guidance also meet students that attend classes etc. and still fail the courses.

Thus, the problem of failing is not just solved by getting students to participate.

Victor: suggest asking students why they do not participate.

Paolo points out that it is difficult to get in touch with students who do not respond to e-mails and do not participate in lectures and exercises.

## 6. **Change of Curriculum on SWU:** / Dan and Allette. Appendices 5A, 5B and 5C

Dan presents the change and reasons behind the decision to introduce Security as a mandatory course on SWU.

The SWU programs has a unique mix of technical and non-technical courses, and it is important to maintain this. Reducing Forretningsprocesser og organization from 15 to 7,5 ECTS means reducing non-technical business parts of the program. However, the importance of having Security as a mandatory course outweighs SWU getting more technical.

The subjects cut off Forretningsprocesser og organization remain on SWU in a new elective.

Comments from SAT:

Theodor: It is a good proposal. A bit of the business part is removed from Forretningsprocesser og organisation, but the advantages outweighs this.

However, the Security course might need a revision content wise.

Students without interests in Security might not be happy.

The change is for the better for the program.

SAT approve the proposal.

## 7. **Course evaluation Spring 2020:** /Study Board. Appendices 6A and 6B

DS, Therese:

Due to the Covid19-situation, it was difficult to know what to expect of the course evaluation results: Results show no disasters. However, two courses need concern:

Applied Statistics (2<sup>nd</sup> semester): The course is still scoring low in the evaluation and many students

failed the exam. The exercises were not mandatory this year, and experience is that students did not work properly with the exercises. Students in general gave too little effort to Applied Statistics and instead used their energy on First Year Project. It ought to be the opposite way round.  
Large Scale Data Analysis (4<sup>th</sup> semester): The course was re-designed and is now in the phase of adjusting for both teachers and students. Thus, the lower score in the evaluation is not unexpected.

BSWU, Dan:

Second Year Project, Functional Programming: SAT discussed the challenges on this course several times before (see point 5 above). Dan talked to teacher and new adjustments is implemented for Spring 2021.

Reflection over IT: The score of the course has risen, even it is a non-technical “soft” course.

Paolo added:

Systemudvikling og projektorganisering: Nothing throughout the course indicated, that the score would be low and there is no clue as to what lies behind.

Theodor: Took the course and is also surprised. Have had no comments from fellow student.

Merging of the course with Second Year Project: Software Development in Large Teams already started even if Systemudvikling og projektorganisering do not discontinue until spring 22.

KCS: Marco:

All evaluation looks good with quite high scores.

How to Make (Almost) Anything is the only course with a score in need of concern.

KSD: Patrick:

The scores seem healthy.

Frameworks and Architecture for the Web is the only course with a score in need of concern.

## 8. **Quality assurance of credit transfer.** /Study Board. Appendices 7A, 7B and 7C.

Postponed from last meeting.

### **7A:**

SWU:

Dan explains that when assessing the applications, much focus is on determining and securing a substantial overlap with the mandatory courses to be replaced at SWU. For electives there is more space left for students to choose courses that they might not be able to take at ITU.

DS:

Therese explains that it is also important to be aware of mandatory courses at ITU linking to other courses. Students should gain skills abroad that enables them to take the subsequent courses when they return to ITU.

SD:

No comments.

CS:

No comments.

No further comments from SAT.

**7B:**

SWU:

No comments.

DS:

No comments

SD:

Marc explain that most of the pre-approvals on SD concerns individual specialisations. It is part of the assessment practice that individual specialisations require recommendation from a teacher on SD.

CS:

No comments

SD:

No comments

No further comments from SAT.

- **Study Program Report for DS.** /Therese. Appendix 8A.  
Postponed from last meeting.

Therese presents the report:

Key issues:

- Establish more contact between Head of Programme and students.

- Difficulties in attracting more DS-faculty. To protect faculty from overload, many exams that used internal grading have now had an external examiner (censor).

Many things are on track now and the main points are now:

- The general level of math. among DS-students – is the level of math. high enough and/or pointed in the right directions - so we teach students what they need to know? First step is to look at the level of math. students have, when they enter DS.

- Clean up in examination forms: It must be very clear to students, how exams work out in practice.

It is a bit sad that this year there was no increase in female students with a Danish entrance exam.

**9. AOB:**

Patrick are invited to the SAT CS meetings henceforth.