

Meeting SAT Computer Science 23 June 2021

Minutes Approved

Present:

- Dan Witzner Hansen (HoP SWU)
- Marco Carbone (HoP CS)
- Therese Graversen (HoP BDS)
- Patrick Bahr (HoP SD)
- Viktor Shamal Andersen (Student rep., DS)
- Theodor Christian Kier (Student rep., SWU)
- Niclas Hedam (Student rep., CS)
- Andreas Blanke (Student rep., CS)
- Sara Gjerløv (Observer, Study & Career Guidance)
- Marc Kellaway (Observer, Prog Coor SD)
- Mette Holm Smith (Observer, Prog Coor BDS + KDS)
- Allette Bjørn Bundgaard (Prog Coor SWU + CS) (Minutes)

Absent:

- Barbara Planck (HoP KDS)
- Paolo Tell (Guest, faculty)
- Jesper Bengtson (Guest, faculty)
- Sanne Louise Aaby-Diederichsen (Observer, Study & Career Guidance)

Minutes:

1. **Approval of agenda:** Marco leads the meeting. Agenda approved.
2. **Approval of minutes from meeting 1 June 2021:** Appendix 2. Minutes Approved.
3. **Follow-up on the Study Environment Assessment Action Plan:** / Lise Lawaetz Winkler, Dean of Education Support.

Please find the Action Plan as Appendix 3.

Introduction: The Study Environment Assessment Action Plan was approved by the Board of Studies 31 May. At that occasion, a student representative mentioned that he was a bit puzzled to find that the point about utilizing SAT members to refer students with wellbeing issues to the right information and help was left out of the action point 1.2 (Awareness on where to get help and information). The questions on when and how to involve student representatives also relates to action point 1.3 (Exclusion, bullying, harassment, and discrimination) and the discussions of these action points were somewhat overlapping when discussing and drafting the Action Plan.

Guest, Lise Lawaetz Winkler from Dean of Education Support would like to follow up on these aspects of the Action Plan.

Lise would like to know perspectives from SAT members (especially student members) on:

Action point 1.2 (Awareness on where to get help and information):

- Which role could and would you like to play in relation to well-being and referral?
- What would it take to utilize SAT members in relation to student well-being (educational workshops, campaigns to increase awareness and visibility, etc.)?
- Could a [wellbeing ambassador initiative as in CBS](#) be relevant to pursue at ITU?
- Other input?

Action point 1.3: (Exclusion, bullying, harassment, and discrimination/Inclusion and diversity):

Student involvement is a crucial part of framing and focusing actions within this huge area. We should not discuss the content of activities within this area, but on behalf of Education Group and other involved stakeholder your input to the *form and approach* to this action point would be valued.

- Would you prefer to discuss challenges, approach, and activities at SAT meetings, or would other meetings formats be better?
- Would you prefer to discuss with students or other ITU stakeholders?
- How can we ensure that the most relevant and urgent themes get picked up and discussed?
- Which role could and would you like to play in relation to inclusion and diversity?

Lisa adds to her written presentation that Dean of Education and ITU in general focus on the wellbeing of students.

Comments from SAT:

Ad Action Point 1.2:

Students inform that Student Council (SC) is presently undergoing a restructuring. The students in SC want SC to play an important role in wellbeing issues in future as connection link between students and ITU.

Sara adds that SC are highly welcome to get in touch with the Study & Career Guidance, if they want to know more about the existing wellbeing initiatives for students.

Ad Action Point 1.3:

This action point covers a lot of topics and challenges. Lise would like SATs input to which fora issues within this category should be addressed

Keywords from SATs discussion:

- Academic issues should be discussed in SAT (e.g., workload, exam, content etc.)
- SAT is concerned that regarding individual cases of e.g., harassment, bullying etc. SAT may not be able to solve the problems or may not be the best to solve things. Instead, SAT finds it important that such cases are dealt with by people with the right skills, so victims get the best treatment.
- Some issues affecting the wellbeing of students might be beyond the control of ITU.
- It is important to distinguish between being busy/confused etc, which is normal feelings for students and low wellbeing which affects the health.

A) Sources to low wellbeing may be grouped according to whom should deal with them:

- Administrative issues (procedures etc.), Administration
- Harassment,
- Teaching (structural problems, workload, late grades etc...), SAT/Head of Program
- Health issues, Student counselling

B) Wellbeing issues may also roughly be divided according to how to deal with them:

- issues where the solution lies in creating/changing a culture (study environment etc.) and
- issues where ITU must react right away (harassment, bullying etc.).

It is important to map issues carefully, so discussions and solutions do not get mixed up.

From students' point of view, wellbeing issues sometime tend to get lost because the system to deal with them are quite wide-meshed and somehow undefined.

From teachers' point of view, The reports of low wellbeing are often quite non-specific, making it hard to address the problems in a concrete way.

Lise thanks for the lively discussion and sums up the takeaway from meeting: SAT would like to be consulted about issues of wellbeing still.

4. Information: /all.

Marco: Study Labs for MSc start up for 1. semester students this autumn.

Set up for the Study Labs in the CS corner follow the lead of the SWU Study lab.

Hiring of TAs is in progress at present. Heads of Programs are concerned as how to find qualified TAs at this rather late stage, but hopefully, this will prove to be of no concern.

Pernille, Dean of Education is on top of the project that runs as a pilot this semester.

5. Update from study programmes: / Students.

SWU, Theodor: The exact individual exam dates for oral exams have been late this semester. It seems that ITU have no rules as to when those should be known.

The question is, if there should be a deadline for the individual oral exam dates to be known?

Some SAT members reflect that such a rule would be difficult to get to work in real life.

Additionally, the time slot between the last mandatory activity and the exam date is often very short or changes happen in the last minute. This means that feed back to the mandatory activities cannot be given well in advance of the exam.

Dan informs that the course manager of the course contacted Dan and reported the problem. This should not happen anymore.

Marco informs, that he already discussed this with Pernille, Dean of Education and ITU will investigate what can be done to improve the way things are done.

BDS, Victor: Nothing to report for BDS specifically.

In general Student Council works to ease students' access to the SAT members.

KCS, Niclas: Nothing to report.

Andreas graduated and thus resigns as member of SAT CS.

No substitute is elected, but students are welcome to participate in the meetings.

Next election is in December

Ideally, all programs were represented by a student member in SAT (KSD are not represented now). However, this requires that students from all programs runs for the election.

With the start of the new master program in Data Science, Allette already contacted legal and asked that the numbers of members be extended to 10 (5 faculty and 5 students).

6. Study Programme Report for all CS programmes. / Head of Programs.

App 6A (Report from KSD), 6B (Report from BSWU).

Each year, head of programme writes a Study Programme Report addressing issues from the past year. Before submission to Education Group, SAT read the reports and discuss the results with Head of Programme.

BDS and KCS: The reports are not ready. They will be sent in written hearing during the summer.

BSWU: Nothing to report and no comments from SAT members.

KSD: Nothing to report and no comments from SAT members.

Dan and Patrick inform that comments later are welcome. Please send those directly to Dan/Patrick.

7. SAT CS Meeting dates for the autumn semester 2021: Please bring your calendar, as we set the dates on the meeting.

Members gave input. Some still awaits details about the autumn semester and thus it is not possible to set dates now. However, the first meeting should be late August on a Thursday at 13-14.30. Allette set this date.

The meetings will be held as hybrid where participants can participate online or on ITU. We will see, how this works.

8. AoB:

Nothing to report.