

Board of Studies (BoS) – 3 June 2020

Due to the Corona-lockdown of ITU, the meeting was held via Zoom.

Present: Stine Gotved (faculty, chair), Baki Cakici (faculty, SAT Bus), Paolo Burelli (faculty, SAT Games), Theodor Christian Kier (student, SAT CS), Jonathan Jung Johansen (student, SAT Games), Mikala Sofie Skoglund Thomsen (student, SAT Business), Sophia Aumüller Wagner (student), Norkka Mirella Medina Nino de Guzmán (student, SAT Business), Eva Hauch Fenger (student, SAT DD), Dorthe Stadsgaard (secretary, SAP)

Absent: Jörn Christiansson (faculty, SAT DD), Annelise Agertoft (assigned guest, LS)

Assigned guests: Lene Rehder (SAP), Aske Kammer (HoSt)

Minutes

1. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of minutes from meeting 5 May 2020

The minutes were approved.

3. Course Evaluations, info on final Evaluation Summaries, reply from SAT

BoS have sent an enquiry to SAT asking to receive more information on contents and use of Final Evaluation Summaries. SAT and the Quality Coordinator decline the enquiry.

Appendix 1

Stine: As I recall, we did not so much ask for more information, but rather discussed if BoS has the right information to treat evaluation results.

Paolo: We have a thorough course evaluation process and the qualitative data seem a bit wasted. If not BoS, who should use it?!

Dorthe: We use a subsidiarity principle, meaning issues are resolved at as low a level as possible. The final evaluation (and the summary) is first and foremost a development tool, not a monitoring tool. This means the primary users are teachers, Course Managers and Heads of Study Programme who use the final evaluation (+ survey score and survey comments) to develop the course, their teaching, and the study programme. One of the tasks of Heads of Study Programme is to provide their SAT with insight into the course evaluation results on their study programme and the actions they give rise to. This cover both survey scores, survey comments and final evaluation summaries. SAT can ask for more details on course evaluations, e.g. if the survey score is very low or very high. Actions and initiatives on study programmes caused by course evaluations that require a SAT decision (e.g. changes to learning objectives) must be brought before SAT. Issues that require BoS approval are brought to BoS. SAT members can always ask BoS to discuss evaluation related topics.

Baki: I can accept the answer.

Stine. I feel reassured that all data is being used which is what matters. I agree that we can accept the answer.

Conclusion: BoS trust the course evaluation system to inform BoS when and if needed.

4. FYI: Policy for use of evaluation results – supervision evaluations added

Recently, BoS and Executive Management agreed on a Policy for use of course evaluation results. The group working on ITU's revised evaluation portfolio have added Supervision Evaluations to the policy for it to cover both types of evaluations. The wording has only been changed to add supervision evaluations and make them fit seamlessly into the policy's wording. No content has been changed. The expanded policy is also sent to Executive Management for approval.

Appendix 2

Baki: I have a comment on point 2. I do not think it makes sense to consider response rates for supervision evaluations – they are meaningful regardless of the response rate.

Dorthe: Perhaps it is not important to the individual supervisor. But a supervision evaluation score is calculated for the study programme and in that sense a high response rate is of importance.

Baki: I follow the reasoning but still think the sentence can be interpreted in two different way. I guess we can leave it as it is.

Decision: BoS approve the revised policy.

(Executive Management also approved the revised text on 3 June 2020)

5. FYI: Principles for ITU Autumn 2020

Head of Studies have drafted the principles for teaching and learning activities at ITU in Autumn 2020 (with input from various stakeholders). Executive Management decide the set up in Autumn and hence the principles.

Appendix 3

Aske: The principles are still a work in progress, so feel free to provide your input. Ultimately, Executive Management decides the principles. Putting them on BoS' agenda is both to inform you and ask for your input. The document presents principles/steering mechanisms to prepare for the Autumn semester 2020, not the actual solutions. Solutions will come later. Also, we do not know what the health authorities' recommendations will be in three months' time – perhaps we will be allowed to return to normal, perhaps the opposite or perhaps somewhere in between.

Stine: It seems the principles distinguish between learning activities and non-learning activities.

Please explain what is meant by non-learning activities.

Aske: E.g. the Friday bar.

Stine: So, it is not to say that e.g. exercises are lesser learning activities than e.g. lectures?

Aske: No, not at all.

Aske: The draft principles are currently discussed among Heads of Study Programme, Heads of Department, Executive Management etc. I am collecting input from as many groups as possible.

Baki: From BoS' perspective I would like to add a normative statement on the drop in educational quality from having to teach everything online. Health considerations are important, but I believe we are taking a quality hit. We are not properly equipped for 100 % online teaching and learning, at least not in the Department of Business IT.

Sophia: I agree with Baki. I also agree with much of the text in the draft Principles. I have a practical question; will students be allowed to be at ITU when participating in an online lecture?

Aske: I do not yet know. All the practicalities will be worked out once the principles have been decided.

Søren: In the Department of Computer Science, we do not have the same experience of not being equipped for online teaching. If we add that online teaching & learning results in a drop of quality in teaching, we should also add that we keep the same academic standards as always.

Theodor: Good work, Aske. I have been impressed by how well our teachers have handled the shift to online teaching. And if we still need to keep some things online in the Autumn 2020, the teachers will know in advance, meaning they can prepare better.

Mikala: The quality drop is a real issue on programmes in the Business IT corner, because we rely heavily on ethnography as our methodology doing data collection in companies etc.

Norkka: It is very important that business-IT students need to be able to gather data. Could we get a group or something to share experiences and good advice?

Søren: There seems to be different issues between departments. At Computer Science we did a big online exam and it seems about ¼ of the students actually prefer this exam method. It is not all bad news.

Baki: And remember grades only measure certain aspects of quality. Could we add to the principles that there is something lost when teaching everything online. Also, we do not train teachers to teach online, we are beginning to but there is a delay.

Eva: It is very well written, and it is good to have such principles. I wonder if anybody has looked at the equipment we have in the building and if we need to buy e.g. single person tables etc. Also, how do we make sure the rooms and facilities are distributed the best way and fairly between programmes and departments?

Aske: SAP is very aware of distributing resources fairly. Buying new furniture is not an option. Concerning scheduling lectures and exercises that would normally take place immediately after each other; we are very aware that this needs thorough planning.

Jonathan: What about the open areas at campus – there are congestion areas (doors etc.). We need extra guidelines/rules, hand sanitizers etc.

Aske: Such things are not in the document because it only contains principles. It is part of the practical solutions that will be developed once the principles have been decided.

Eva: I agree with Jonathan. Are face masks considered? They are useful for protection, but the opposite for learning and communication in class.

Sophia: Will the students' access to Zoom be extended for next semester? We need unlimited access, not just 40 minutes. And what about security?

Stine: Zoom is safe, we have our own onsite server.

Lene: Concerning Zoom; all students had access even before corona and unlimited access will continue. Concerning practicalities; FM is working hard to prepare regulations, guidelines, precautions etc. Feel free to send me input, suggestions etc.

Søren: Using facemasks in teaching would affect us, but it is not a decision we should take, we should ask the Health Authorities.

Aske: Thank you. I will take all your input into consideration before sending the document to decision in Executive Management.

6. Student representative from SAT DD

No students were elected for SAT DD in November 2019, but three students attend SAT DD's meetings. ITU's election regulations state the Vice-chancellor can appoint student representatives

to SAT (§25). Before lockdown, SAT DD's secretary informed the vice-chancellor and the students attending SAT DD's meetings about this.

25 May, the Vice-chancellor appointed three students to SAT DD.

SAT DD met 27 May and the students were asked to select a BoS representative.

BoS welcomed Eva Hauch Fenger (B-DDIT) to BoS.

Stine: I am very happy that all SATs now have student representation in BoS. Student voices are very important!

The other students appointed for SAT DD are Jonas Stenholt Ibsen and Jens Hovgaard Jørgensen, both from B-DDIT. Eva, Jonas, and Jens may take turns participating in BoS meetings.

7. AOB

- BoS' meetings in Autumn 2020 have been booked. Please check your calendars and accept the invitations.
- ITU Student:
 - *Jonathan: Some information on registration etc. are misleading.*
 - *Lene: Please send the links to me and I will investigate it.*
- Drop in teaching quality but not in academic standards:
 - *Jonathan: Teaching quality drops because of online teaching, but academic standards remain the same. But if academic standards do not change when there is a drop in quality of teaching, then grades will drop, and students will graduate with lower grades – how will that affect them long-term?!*
 - *Søren: Point well taken. But we cannot lower academic standards. We do what we can to make up for drops in quality teaching wise. And it is the same for the rest of society. It is tough on everybody... Do we know for a fact that grades have dropped?*
 - *Jonathan: There was a corona-evaluation earlier this semester. Could we do another one, e.g. on what kinds of teaching methods worked well online and which did not?*
 - *Stine: Learning Support is already interviewing students on these topics, collecting best practice etc.*
- Students on ITU boards:
 - *Theodor: We are trying to create a common platform for students who are members of ITU boards etc. Could you please send me your initials/email address?*
- Renewal of gym access:
 - *Sophia: I have been asked how students renew their gym access?*
 - *Søren: Try FM? If they do not manage access to the gym, they must know who does.*