Meeting SAT Computer Science 18 June 2019

Minutes Approved

Present:

- Dan Witzner Hansen (HoP SWU) last part of the meeting.
- Marco Carbone (HoP CS and SDT)
- Natalie Elaine Schluter (HoP DS) first part of the meeting.
- Theodor Christian Kier (Student rep., SWU)
- Paolo Tell (Faculty rep.)
- Mette Holm Smith (Prog Coor DS/SD)
- Allette Bjørn Bundgaard (Prog Coor SWU/CS/SDT)

Absent:

- Søren Debois (HoP SD and SEN)
- Emma Arfelt Kock (Student rep., CS)
- Philippe Bonnet (Faculty rep.)
- Jesper Bengtson (Faculty rep.)
- Sara Gjerløv (Academic supervisor)
- Liselotte Lagerstedt (Prog Coor SEN)
- Anders Stendevad (Student rep., DS)
- Laura Caroline Cholvat (Student rep., SWU)

Minutes:

1. Approval of agenda: Point 8 taken after point 3 and point 6 postponed to next meeting. Agenda approved.

2. Approval of minutes: Minutes approved.

3. Information: None.

4. Update from study programs: / Students.

SWU: Theodor: Status on exam in First Year Project: For the last part of the exams, another external examiner participated and things seemed to loosen up.

5. **Use of Mandatory Activities at ITU:**

SAT CS discussed the proposal and have the following comments:

Mandatory activities are widely used on the courses in the Computer Science Department. SAT CS finds it essential to have the possibility to use mandatory activities and that teachers should decide if they are part of a course or not.

SAT do not find that mandatory activities are too widely used at the courses, but it is important to make sure that the total workload for students on a given semester do not exceed what is reasonable and that

deadlines at the courses do not overlap etc. It is also important that students know of the amount beforehand.

The courses at Computer Science Dept. are widely technical and mandatory activities have important pedagogic roles:

- <u>Keeping students to their work:</u> Very often, mandatory activities on technical courses are exercises in applying theory and technics taught in the course. Exercise hours often allocate time for students to solve mandatory assignments with assistance from TAs. However, experience shows that leaving exercises optional, tend students not get them done and they run a serious risk of lacking behind during the semester. Once lacking behind in technical courses it is very hard to catch up in time for exam.

- <u>Checkpoints to detect progression:</u> Mandatory activities shows progression to both students and teachers.

6. Pre-approval: Postponed to next meeting.

7. Study Program Reports, SWU and CS Hearing:

Study Programme Reports for DS, SD and CS goes into a written hearing.

SWU: Dan presented highlights from report:

Focal points for next year:

- Increase the student intake at SWU
- New curriculum autumn semester ´20 - due to changes on 4th semester.
- Reach the goal for intake of female students on SWU.
- Reduce completion time. It has improved slightly, but still need to go down.
- Raise and strengthen activities in Study Lab – in progress.

Significantly decrease in the use of X-forms on SWU Exams during the last two semesters.

SAT discussed the use of Quota 2 in the admission procedure on SWU (Kvote 2). It is important to consider what we want to achieve by Quota 2 in order to design a procedure and structure to:

- Help admitting well considered students to SWU.
- Increase the possibility that students complete the program.

Other comments and suggestions from SAT:

Students from 4th and 2nd semester find a summer study lab would be great.

Education for TAs? Dan: Education exists both for TAs in general and separate on SWU, but TAs seems to try to avoid them. Paolo: Important that teachers know what TAs learn in this education.

Coordination workshops: Teachers meet for coordination of each semester.

8. Course evaluation spring 2019 DS: V/Head of Programs.

Natalie presents highlights from the evaluation:

In general first year courses are quite low in score, second year scores higher.

To courses did quite well.

Large Scale Data Analysis: Yellow score. Most problems seem to relate to a new teacher who started at ITU close to semester start and took over the course, at this late stage.

Applied Statistics: Red Score. In general, students seem to be ok with the course, but the course is hard and theoretical and those courses are not popular among students. In addition, it is difficult to make the theoretical content practical. Natalie contact course manager to discuss if changes should happen.

SAT discussed the results and find it important to take into account that the time of asking students might influence on the results. ITU conduct the courses evaluation at a quite early stage in the semester and often it is only by the end of the course that the understanding and clues of the course become clear to students.

9. Evaluation Reports, Final Projects and Other Projects.

Comments from SAT: Response rates for those surveys are still very low.

10. AOB:

SAT discussed if the increased number of students on SWU have an effect on the possibility to use oral exams in the traditional way: SAT agreed that oral exams are a good examination form. Orals should still be used, if they are best. However, it may be worth considering other ways of conducting. SAT considers oral exams to be worth the effort teachers have to put in conducting them.

Next meeting: Tuesday 27 august, at 13.00 – 14.30.