

Meeting SAT Computer Science 4 September 2020

Minutes Approved

Present:

- Dan Witzner Hansen (HoP SWU)
- Marco Carbone (HoP CS and SDT)
- Therese Graversen (HoP DS)
- Søren Debois (HoP SD and SEN)
- 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)
- Marc Kellaway (Prog Coor SD)
- Allette Bjørn Bundgaard (Prog Coor SWU/CS/SDT)

Absent:

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

Minutes:

1. **Approval of agenda:** Agenda approved.
2. **Approval of minutes from meeting 19 June 2020:** Minutes approved.
3. **Information:** Nothing to report.
4. **Update from study programs:** /Students.

SWU: Theodor:

Third year: Some students express concerns about being so many people in lectures rooms.

Business Processes and Organization: The teacher does a splendid job adapting when students bring something about.

Functional programming course: Students from this year and last year's cohort plan a joint complaint of the course.

SAT's comment:

On the basis of the re-exam and the other reports from students, the department management, teachers on the course and Dan (HoP) discussed the problem on the course. They find the setup of the course suitable. The course has undergone a large revision during the past couple of years, and Course manager and the co-teacher continuously adapt the content and setting of the course. Dan and course manager are in close discussion about the next time the course run.

Dan suggests that students provide the course manager with precise information about which topics and parts that cause problems, what goes wrong and what works well.

Considering the sources of the problems:

- This course is the first in the SWU program, where students work individually on programming. The question arise, if students that experience difficulties with programming tend to avoid the programming tasks in the groups throughout the previous courses and thus, do not experience programming problems before the individual focus on Functional programming.

- Teachers seem to expect another level of skills from the students.

- Functional programming is much different from object oriented programming and students need time to adjust.

Second year:

Algorithms and Data Structure: The failing grade at the re-exam in Summer'20 is very high and the average grade score very low.

DS: Victor:

Second Year:

Machine Learning: Students seem to be very happy with the changes in the course. The stricter structure and introducing math next to code works very well.

Therese asks: How does Study Lab work with a semi online structure?

Victor has no reports of trouble.

CS: Nothing to report.

SD: Nothing to report.

5. Evaluation of Algorithms and Data Structures (ADS) remote examination. /Søren

Continued from last meeting.

Point of discussion:

1. Would students agree to use this form again if the situation needs it?
2. Should electrical proctoring be an allowed form in general?

Ad 1.

In a normal situation, the ordinary on-site pen & paper exam works fine, and there is no reason to change it. The teacher constructed the exam considering the teaching and intended learning outcomes on the course and this seems well aligned.

The student SAT- members report that given the CORONA-situation, most fellow students did not seem violated by having this form of electronically proctored exam. Even some students did not like being proctored and others had technical difficulties it seems to be a possible way of adjusting.

Ad 2. SAT decides to postpone this until somebody express a wish for such a form.

Written Exams in December. /Marco

Discussion

Marco explains that written exams at ITU take place in December and beginning of January. As some of them take place just after the end of the semester, students do not have time to prepare for the exam. Therefore, some teachers plan to cut down the course content. This is especially a problem for first semester CS.

Marc, the schedule-planner at ITU explains that the only change for the past two years are that written exams on site and submission of written assignments are now taking place during the same period, while they were separated before, leaving the period for written exams even more squeezed.

Other constraints:

- Teachers must have four weeks to grade written exam assignments.
- Grading should be completed before the re-exam period
- At present oral and written exams cannot take place simultaneously, due to set up of the examination rooms – some written exams require several rooms for the exam.
- The CS-department use written exams on several courses on the same semester and thus, students on those semesters experience a very compressed exam period.

The CS-department have quite a few co-taught causes, they are difficult to schedule and move around.

Before release, Marc sends the exam schedule to all HoPs, which have the possibility to highlight problems. The plan is to involve HoPs even more and earlier.

HoP will keep a head up for the next exam plan.

SAT finds the initiatives good. Additionally, a few suggestions come up:

- Extend the period of written exams to the middle of January along with orals.
- For each semester on a study program, only one written exam takes place before Christmas

6. Quality assurance of credit transfer. /Allette Appendices 7A, 7B and 7C.

Please find survey reports for preapprovals/credit transfers given during the periods May'19 – Sept'19 and Oct'19 to April'20.

SAT should look through the reports of preapprovals/credit transfers and give comments.

Postponed to next meeting.

7. Study Program Report for DS. /Therese. Appendix 8A.

SAT can comment on the report.

Postponed to next meeting.

8. **New date for meeting 2nd October:** Dan asks for a rescheduling of the meeting, as he is teaching that day.
SAT members agrees to reschedule the meeting to **Thursday 1 Oct 12.30-14.00 online.**
9. **A&B:** Nothing to report.