

Board of Studies (BoS) – 15 December 2020

Present: Baki Cakici (faculty, SAT Bus), Jörn Christiansson (faculty, SAT DD)
Jonathan Jung Johansen (student, SAT Games), Mikala Sofie Skoglund Thomsen (student, SAT Business), Jens Hovgaard Jørgensen (student, SAT DD), Theodor Christian Kier (student, SAT CS),
Lene Rehder (SAP), Dorthe Stadsgaard (secretary, SAP)

Assigned guests: Lene Rehder (SAP), Annelise Agertoft (LS)

Guests: Barbara Plank from CS, Mette Holm Smith from SAP and Ea Feldfos from SAP

Absent: Head of Studies (as ITU currently has no Head of Studies), Annelise Agertoft (LS), Stine Gotved (faculty, chair), Marco Carbone (SAT CS), Sophia Aumüller Wagner (student), Paolo Burelli (faculty, SAT Games), Norkka Mirella Medina Nino de Guzmán (student, SAT Business), Eva Hauch Fenger (student, SAT DD)

Not enough faculty members were present at the meeting to make decisions. To be decided, item 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 needed a vote from members not present. By 16 December, all items were decided.

Minutes

1. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of minutes from meeting 5 November 2020

The minutes were approved.

3. Approval of updates to The Appendix to Curricula

Ea: Introduced the appendix. It is basically a clean up where we have removed redundant or expired parts. Also, we have added items concerning KDS.

Jonathan: Perhaps we need to see if we approve the KDS curriculum before we can approve this document?

Ea: The only thing added for BDS is admission requirements, so that should not be necessary.

Baki: I do not feel qualified to determine if the Legal Basis chapter is correct, but I trust that it is.

Ea: The chapter has not been part of the document earlier. It has been added because it belongs in a document such as this.

All members approved of the updated Appendix to Curricula.

4. Teaching Prize 2020

Jonathan: We are only to make comments. The decision on who to nominate for the national prize is taken by the committee.

Baki: I am on the list so I will not take part in the discussion.

Lene: It is also possible to nominate a teaching team.

BoS support the list of nominees and have no further nominees or comments.

5. MSc Data Science, approval of curriculum

Barbara: Concerning BoS' comments on having four courses in one semester; thank you for your input. We are aware of potential issues and we will follow the semester, courses and students closely the first time it runs. Then we will see if any changes need to be made.

Baki: The mapping document is difficult to read, and in general I find that the mapping exercise hides as much as it shows. How do you rate the mapping?

Barbara: When we made the mapping, the ILO's spread out quite nicely across the courses.

Barbara: I appreciated BoS' comments in November on groups and group work, I will keep them in mind when running the programme.

Jörn: I have a content-related question: Is there anything about interactive visualization in the programme?

Barbara: Yes. Visualization is a core part of DS and you will find it in the course on data preprocessing and visualization on first semester. As to interactive visualization; if you have suggestions or similar for the topic (also on the best teacher for it at ITU), please get in touch.

Jörn: Ok, I see it in the courses now. We might have a new faculty soon who could teach it. I will get back to you.

Baki: DIM has a 15 ECTS course containing visualization. I can spar with a CM or teacher on your course.

Barbara: Thank you both.

All members approved the curriculum for KDS.

6. BoS meetings – Zoom or Teams?

Jörn: I have had more experience with Zoom and perhaps that influences my opinion, but I find Zoom more robust than Teams and the functionalities a bit easier to navigate.

Theodor: I agree that Zoom works better.

Baki: I do not really like any of the two platforms, so it is not important to me which one we choose.

Jens: I also prefer Zoom.

All members present agreed that it works well using a link in Teams to access documents.

BoS decided on Zoom as BoS' future platform for meetings.

7. Thank you for 2020

Thank you all around for 2020 and a very Merry Christmas.

8. AOB

Theodor: Written exams being held on campus. The students are making a petition, signed by more than 300 students who finds it a major problem to sit exams on campus. I know that BoS cannot change it, but I wanted to raise the issue.

Jonathan: I support the point.

Jens: Me too. And I hear the same from many other students, particularly concerning exams before Christmas, right before students are to spend Christmas with their family.

Mikala: Some students find it stressful to have to make the decision on whether to go to campus or postpone their exam. And postponing the exam is also problematic as re-exams are in March alongside courses.

Baki: Looking at it from the other side, remote exams require students to find a quiet, solitary place for the duration of the exam. I understand the concern, but I would also worry that several students would not be able to find a place to sit an exam for 4-5 hours.

Theodor: I do not find that a big issue.

Mikala: If only students could make the choice themselves; sit the exam on campus or remote.

There is a general consensus among BoS students that written exams at campus put stress on students and is an unnecessary risk health-wise.