

Meeting SAT Computer Science 27 August 2019

Minutes Approved

Present:

- Marco Carbone (HoP CS and SDT)
- Søren Debois (HoP SD and SEN)
- Laura Caroline Cholvat (Student rep., SWU)
- Theodor Christian Kier (Student rep., SWU)
- Emma Arfelt Kock (Student rep., CS)
- Anders Stendevad (Student rep., DS)
- Paolo Tell (Faculty rep.)
- Jesper Bengtson (Faculty rep.)
- Mette Holm Smith (Prog Coor DS/SD)
- Allette Bjørn Bundgaard (Prog Coor SWU/CS/SDT)

Absent:

- Dan Witzner Hansen (HoP SWU)
- Natalie Elaine Schluter (HoP DS)
- Philippe Bonnet (Faculty rep.)
- Sara Gjerløv (Academic supervisor)
- Liselotte Lagerstedt (Prog Coor SEN)

Minutes:

1. **Approval of agenda:** Agenda approved.
2. **Approval of minutes from Meeting 18 June 2019:** Minutes approved.
3. **Information:**

Information from meeting in Study Board (Marco and Theodor):

Mandatory activities at ITU:

Before summer, Study Board considered to regulate the use of mandatory activities (MA) by a set of guidelines. Student Council is now questioning two issues:

- a) Is MAs in general necessary?
- b) Is it legal to use TAs and peer grading to assess Mas - Should only teachers assess activities that may end up excluding students from exam?

Ad a) SAT CS student members are surprised about Student Council questioning the use of mandatory activities in this way. SAT CS finds that MAs in computer Science courses are an important tool to support students' learning process. Emma will raise this in Student Council.

Ad b) SAT CS finds that not being able to let TAs assess MAs will make it difficult for courses in the computer science corner, due to the large number of students on courses in general.

Study Board continues the discussion on next meeting.

Introduction of new course evaluation:

The new evaluation has four questions: Two questions about the course and two evaluating the teachers, introduced by management. Study Board invites management to discuss the latter two questions.

SAT CS Student members suggest that teachers might want to get some feedback on their performance.

Others:

New Head of Program on DIM is Baki Cakici.

Stine Gotved stepping down as Head of Study. Replacement not found.

4. Update from study programs: / Students.

SWU: Programs as Data: Some students are uncomfortable with F# and teacher arrange a crash course for students in F#.

Teacher for Functional Programming asks what parts are missing. Functional Programming is prerequisite for Programs as Data and a list of missing parts would be nice.

DS: No news.

CS: Everything seems fine.

SD: No news.

5. SD specialization Business Analytics – change of course title: /Søren.

Proposal:

In order to have a more covering and up to date title, SD propose to change the course title for Intelligent Systems Programming to Introduction to Artificial Intelligence. The content of the new course will only have minor changes compared to the current.

Students, which are registered but did not yet pass Intelligent Systems Programming, will have to take the new course. There will be a course restriction between the two courses. The change applies from the spring semester 2020.

Søren supports the proposal, as the new title is probably more appealing to students.

SAT asks if the change in title also involve changing the course content. Søren explains that the courses content does not change.

SAT approves the proposal.

6. **Preapproval of courses at SD:** / Søren.

Point continued from SAT CS meeting 7 June 2019.

Abstract from minutes 7 June:

“B) Søren asks SATs opinion on the present practice for assessing credit transfer at SD:

Present practice: The courses must have technical content, because SD is a technical program with limited time for students to learn technical skills.

Marco informs that Study Board discussed the need for a common ITU practice and decided that each program decide on a practice for the program.

SAT discuss the practice and two points of views emerge:

A) In general, it is important to insist on technical skills closely related to the study program. This is even more important on SD, as students already spend a lot of time on non-tech courses during their bachelor.

For SD it might be possible to loosen a bit, if courses have a close relation to the bachelor background.

B) For electives, things should be as free as possible to allow students responsibility for their own education. For mandatory courses, things should be strict.

SAT could not reach agreement and decided to continue on next meeting.”

Keywords from SAT’s discussion:

- The challenge for the SD program is to get technical enough.
- We should not decide that students could not take non-technical courses. However, it is important to inform students about their responsibility to choose their electives carefully.
- ITU must secure the quality of the programs for every candidate.
- What grade do applying students have? - are they applying for non-technical courses because they find technical courses too difficult.
- If chosen carefully, non-SD-related course may make students even better graduates.
- If students present a good reason, it should be possible to approve.
- There is a difference between CS and SD-programs and pre-approval of electives should be more restrictive for SD as they have less technical background.

SAT agreed that the following guidelines should apply on SD: If a course appears unrelated to SD, pre-approval may be possible. However, this requires that a supervisor from the CS department

finds the course relevant for the student's study plan or the student present a very good reason for how the course relates to the study plan.

7. Dates for SAT CS meetings this semester:

What day/time suits SAT members?

NB! Next meeting must be by Friday 20 September at the latest.

Mette puts up an overview of members' timeslots and Emma sets up a doodle. Deadline for members to reply is Friday 30 August.

AOB:

- Jesper informed about the outcome of a case of plagiarism in a course.
- One CS specialization course (15 ECTS) runs with only one registered. Marco explained that the number of specializations on CS were carefully considered when developing the program. With the present number of CS students, it is no surprise that some of them have low numbers of students. We expect the numbers of CS students to increase in future. There are two issues to consider with regard to the future. 1) Should small specialization exist? 2) Resources required for running the specializations. This discussion should involve the head of Department for Computer Science.