

# Board of Studies (BoS) – 26 November 2020

**Present:** Stine Gotved (faculty, chair), Paolo Burelli (faculty, SAT Games), Baki Cakici (faculty, SAT Bus), Marco Carbone (SAT CS)

Sophia Aumüller Wagner (student), Jonathan Jung Johansen (student, SAT Games), Norkka Mirella Medina Nino de Guzmán (student, SAT Business), Eva Hauch Fenger (student, SAT DD), Mikala Sofie Skoglund Thomsen (student, SAT Business)

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 Tove Pedersen from SAP

**Absent:** Head of Studies (as ITU currently has no Head of Studies), Jörn Christiansson (faculty, SAT DD), Jens Hovgaard Jørgensen (student, SAT DD), Theodor Christian Kier (student, SAT CS), Annelise Agertoft (LS)

## Minutes

### 1. Approval of agenda

*The agenda was approved.*

### 2. Approval of minutes from meeting 5 November 2020

*The minutes were approved.*

### 3. MSc Data Science, draft curriculum

– *Barbara: KDS builds on top of BDS. The first students from BDS graduated this Summer. We aim to accept a lot of them on KDS from September 2021. We asked BDS students if they would choose KDS at ITU if it was possible, and a lot of them said they would. They also reported that they are most interested in the technical side of Data Science. The Employers' Panel and SAT CS are positive towards KDS.*

*The study programme has three core lines; 1. Theory/technical: Mathematical & algorithmic foundations, 2. Application: Data processing and visualization, production-level skills, 3. Meta/reflection/communication: Communication & ethics.*

*We propose not to have specialisations, at least not right away. Instead we propose to allow the students to choose electives freely (7.5 ECTS on 2 semester, 15 ECTS on 3 semester).*

*SAT CS found the interdependencies of core courses was missing – it was a question of explaining it more clearly, which I hope I have done today. They asked for a dedicated security course and wondered why there are no specialisations. The programme is set up to grow, and at this point we want the students to have their choice of electives. When student intake has grown, specialisations can be considered.*

– *Sophia: Admission – who fulfills the requirements? Is it open for others that BDS graduates? Do you need a technical background to be admitted?*

- *Barbara: It is open for other students than BDS, also from outside ITU. There is a technical angle, so applicants need a somewhat technical background.*
- *Stine: Having four courses on one semester is often stressful for the students. You have two semesters in a row with four courses. Have you considered this well?*
- *Barbara: To a large degree we follow the same structure as KCS. We have tried to strike a balance between project-oriented courses and non-project courses. My vision is to work closely with the teachers on the same semester even out the workload, coordinate deadlines etc.*
- *Paolo: Games used to have four courses in the first semester, but that did not work well at all. We have changed it – we could not find a way to make it work. If all the students come from our own BDS it is less of a problem. But if many students come from outside ITU it will be a problem having so many courses on first semester, as they spend much energy getting to know each other, ITU etc.*  
*Do you have a plan B if CrossDit is discontinued? If not, perhaps your students could collaborate with e.g. Games or CS or another MSc. We could make something meaningful so we all still fulfil the criteria for cross-disciplinary competences.*
- *Barbara: One view is that KDS is essential cross-disciplinary. If CrossDit is discontinued, we will initially replace it with an elective. If that is not enough, the students can also use projects for cross-disciplinary work.*
- *Stine: I recommend having the same project/study groups on all courses so they do not need to juggle up to four groups.*
- *Baki: I am excited for the programme to be launched. Two issues seem to be hiding: 1. Electives; if you want to offer your own electives you might run into staffing problems – will you have enough staff?*
- *Barbara: We have 3-4 electives to begin with. We are hiring new faculty at the moment. Three new faculty start in January. Staffing issues is really a question for HoD.*
- *Baki: My advice is to be careful not to promise students electives that might not be staffed or might not have enough students and end up being cancelled for that reason. My advice is to keep the number of electives to a minimum at the beginning.*
- *Barbara: We will have to see the students' preferences and patterns of choosing electives.*
- *Baki: Another issue: Coordinating study groups: I advise against that. When we have tried that on DIM we saw that some groups 'assigned' some members to some courses and others to other courses – to optimize their efforts and grades. We have also seen this with three courses on one semester.*
- *Eva: A general comment: Four courses on one semester – the problem is that often 7.5 ECTS courses require as much work as a 15 ECTS course...*
- *Marco: At CS it seems to work ok with four courses on one semester. Teachers coordinate closely (distribution of workload, deadlines etc.). Concerning electives: Many teachers run electives on top of the teaching they are assigned to. It is a balance between having a good selection of electives and not scattering students to much or having electives with very few students.*
- *Barbara: We will come back to BoS in December with the final curriculum and mapping.*

**Conclusion:** *The working group for KDS will consider BoS' input and return to the December meeting with the final curriculum and mapping of learning objectives for BoS' approval.*

#### 4. Adjustment of curriculum and legal claim to admission on B-DS

- *Mette: When we launch KDS, we need to change legal claim for BDS graduates from KDIM and KCS to KDS. It also means, that BDS wants to discontinue the two tracks used to prepare students for admission to KDIM and KCS. The tracks are replaced with a mandatory course and an elective. BDS graduates can still apply for KDIM and KCS, but they will not have legal claim to admission.*
- *Mikala: I know several students who took the business track on BDS, and they were happy with the possibilities it gave them to choose an MSc e.g. at CBS.*
- *Mette: They can still do something similar by choosing the right electives.*
- *Stine: Has it been discussed in SAT?*
- *Mette: Yes. Both SAT and the Employers' Panel approve. Students admitted in 2020 and before keep the legal claim to KDIM and KCS. It applies from admission 2021.*

**Decision:** *BoS approve of the changes.*

#### 5. Mandatory activities: Working group on Exemptions and discriminatory treatment

*Stine: The exemption committee receive a new kind of questions which concern exemptions from mandatory activities. We need to be sure we are not discriminating students with disabilities. We have solved the issues for the students who applied to us for an exemption. But we see a need to work out general guidelines or such for courses and mandatory activities and disabled students.*

*Tove: SAP and study programmes needs to have a uniform practice. When students ask what to do when they cannot fulfill the mandatory activities on a course, we want to have a procedure instead of them having to apply for an exemption.*

*Marco: When you grant exemptions, you must talk to the teacher about it, the teacher needs to be consulted on what kind of exemption is given.*

*Stine: Let us not dive into how to solve the issues. I ask that we establish a task force to work on this.*

*Tove: This only concerns mandatory activities and not exams.*

*Stine: Is anybody opposed to making a task force? No. we will establish the task force when the new BoS starts up next year and the new DoE has started at ITU.*

*Tove: The legal basis of mandatory activities is about to change. There is a revised ministerial order on its way. We have to wait for that as well. I do not know when the revision is introduced.*

*Marco: I think the SAT secretaries should participate.*

*Stine: I will make sure the composition is discussed in relevant forum.*

**Decision:** *The Exemption Committee has the lead in proceeding to establish the task force when the revised ministerial order .*

#### 6. Quality Policy 2021, BoS writes their consultation response

- *Dorthe presented the main changes:*
  - *QS 1.2, women students on BDS and BSWU. Removal of the figures as they tend to change during spring. Instead the QS reads 'meet the target set by Executive Management'.*
  - *Student Centered Learning (SCL): The introduction to section 2 on teaching and learning has had SCL explicated to make it more visible that SCL is a core approach.*

- *Part of QS 2.8 on robustness is moved to QS 2.5 on Qualification Framework and mapping where it fits better.*
- *Paolo: In the Preamble it says that teaching should be world class – but we have no way to measure this. QS 2.6 on VIP/DVIP ratios: There is a clash between this document and staffing discussions. Our staffing meets the Quality Policy standard, but not the department budget.*
- *Baki: The term Research base. There are some grammatical wrongs in QS 2.8. QS 2.1: The policy for use of eval results has not resulted in changes to the Quality Policy. The QS can be read as if we compare courses based on scores, which the policy rules out.*
- *Stine: The meeting is coming to an end. We will have to continue in writing.*

**Conclusion:** *BoS members are to send their input to the BoS statement on the draft Quality Policy 2021 to Dorthe by the end of 27 November. 30 November, Dorthe will draft the BoS statement and share it with BoS for comments. The final statement is to be sent to Executive Management and Education Group 1 December.*

**7. BoS meetings; Zoom or Teams?**

*Postponed to December.*

**8. AOB**