

DATE

17 January 2017

OUR REFERENCE

EWI16/BOZ/5615/LvdP

Minutes 137th OLC-TW-meeting Tuesday 15 November 2016, 15:45 hrs.

5 *present:* Nelly Litvak (chairwoman), Hil Meijer (joined at 15:53 hrs, left at 17:17 hrs.), Gjerrit Meinsma, Georg Still (temporarily replaces Marc Uetz), Lotte Weedage, Jelle Neeft, Hidde Wieringa, Dieuwertje Alblas, Steven Horstink (educational officer Abacus), Jan Willem Polderman (PD), Marloes van Grinsven (M-coordinator) and Lennard van der Putten (writing minutes)

10 *absent:* -

1. Opening

The chairwoman opens the meeting at 15:48 hrs.

15 2. Minutes 136th meeting 27 September 2016

- *Textual corrections:*

p. 1, l. 33: 'Data Mining' should be corrected to 'Data Science'. The action point itself will also be corrected.

p. 1, r. 52: 'TBK' should be corrected to 'TBK in Groningen'.

20 p. 2, r. 20: 'feal' should be replaced with 'feel'.

Furthermore, the table heads and the term OLD (PD) will be translated into English.

With these corrections, the minutes are approved.

- *In response to the points raised in the minutes:*

There are no remarks in response to the minutes.

25 - *Actions:*

204: It is not clear whether the module coordinators know about the compensation rules. According to Meijer they do not. Action remains on the list.

210, 211, 212, 213, 220, 224, 226, 230, 231, 232: done, to be removed from the list.

222: not done, remains on the list.

30 223: not done, remains on the list. New reports of the panel evaluations will come shortly. The question rises whether the OLC has to give an advice on the quality of panel evaluations. This will be discussed at agenda item 5 (panel evaluations).

225: it seems that the expensive book of Winston in module 8 is rarely used. The PD contacts the module coordinator, action remains on the list.

35 229: not done, remains on the list.

- *Advices and correspondence:*

There are no remarks on the advices and correspondence.

3. Announcements

40 The PD announces that there is a new B-coordinator from December 1st, Stefanie Kraanen. A solution is found for the poorly scheduled resits in the sixth semester. Next year, the resits of module 11 will be during the resit week in July. Last year, the resits of module 11 were at the end of module 12, which was inconvenient for the bachelor students, who were busy finalizing their bachelor assignments. Because the courses in module 11 are being followed by bachelor students as well as master students, resits in the beginning of module 12 was not an option.

45 Litvak announces that she will resign from the OLC after today's meeting. This means that next meeting a new chairman has to be chosen. Meijer says that the members of the OLC should choose a new chairman. The new chairman can be a student or a staff member, however it is more practical to choose a staff member, since staff members usually stay longer in the OLC. Apart from
50 the election of a new chairman, a new OLC staff member has to be acquired. Litvak suggests Judith Timmer, she will ask her if she's interested.

4. Publish study results (intermediate tests) in Blackboard (postponed)

5 The chairwoman asks the OLC about their opinion on the case that students are not comfortable with the fact that sometimes a grade list including student numbers (or even full names) are published on Blackboard. Meinsma notices that grades easily can be entered in the Grade Center on Blackboard anonymously. According to Wieringa, it is even possible to import and export an Excel file with the grades in the Grade Center. There is some discussion about the amount of extra workload of entering the grades in the Grade Center. If the extra workload is negligible, lecturers are willing to do the effort of putting the grades in the Grade Center. Other universities generally publish grade lists containing only the student numbers. However, students don't feel anonymous then either, since student numbers are also mentioned on reports and projects that are seen by other students and therefore, student numbers are known by the rest of the students. On the other hand, it takes two extra days until the grades are published (anonymously) on Osiris. However, sometimes students don't want to wait two more days due to the time until the resit. The suggestion is to advise not to publish grade lists with student numbers any more. Meijer will write a draft advice. **[action Meijer]**

5. Evaluations

20 - *Module 1 2016-2017 panel evaluation 1:*
The PD thinks it is a good idea to look at the newly suggested books on Linear Algebra on whether the difficulty level is appropriate. Litvak will have a look at the suggested books.

- *Module 4 2015-2016 panel evaluation 2:*
There are no remarks on the evaluation.

25 - *Module 5 2016-2017 panel evaluation 1:*
Alblas notices that the lecture notes of Statistics that the students have bought are being used, which contradicts with what has been written in the evaluation. The course material differs significantly with the material from the book that has been used last year, while the learning goals on Osiris haven't changed. The situation has already been discussed by the chairwoman with the module coordinator, but nothing has been changed. The chairwoman will sum up the remarks of the OLC on the evaluation and the e-mail from Alblas. **[action Chairwoman]**

30 The chairwoman notices that the quality of the panel evaluations is quite variable. The feedback on Presenting a Mathematical Subject was too personal, there were a lot of remarks in the evaluation that weren't constructive. The feedback should be intended for improvement, not for criticism. Perhaps the questions for the panel members should be rephrased. The OLC thinks that panel members should get some sort of instruction in order to inform them of what is expected from them.

35 The chairwoman will write an advice on instructing the panel members. **[action Chairwoman]**

- *Module 8 2015-2016 panel evaluation 2:*
It seems a bit odd that the lecturer who marks the Python assignments, doesn't have knowledge of Python himself. Due to this, the students cannot get proper feedback on the programming part of the course. Perhaps the lecturer can take a short Python course in the preceding quartile or maybe another lecturer who has knowledge of Python can give the course. It already has been discussed with the module coordinator. The OLC will await this year's course evaluations and if the situation remains the same, we will discuss it again and take action then.

40 - *Module 9 2016-2017 panel evaluation 1:*
Wieringa asks if the list of replacing math courses for minors can be published. The new B-coordinator will have a look on whether the list can be published or not. **[action B-coordinator]**

45 - *Module 12 2015-2016 panel evaluation 2:*
There are no remarks on the evaluation.

6. Evaluation Scientific Computing and reaction lecturer

50 The evaluation of Scientific Computing is fairly good, apart from the remarks mentioned earlier. The evaluation on the contents of the course is good, the evaluation on the organization is a bit poor, but the lecturer is working on it.

7. Mastermath: evaluations second semester 2015-2016

55 Mirande van der Kooij has filtered the relevant courses for the UT out of the evaluations of all Mastermath courses for us, which is very useful. Overall the evaluations are fairly positive.

8. Mastermath: minutes student consultation 15 April 2016

The chairwoman notices that there are some remarks on the LNMB courses not having a high enough difficulty. The OLC thinks that the difficulty of the courses is sufficient.

5 **9. Mastermath: minutes student consultation 7 October 2016**

Neeft remarks that the scheduling of the Mastermath exams is still a bit unfortunate. The chairwoman says that there was a meeting on Mastermath yesterday, where this has been discussed. We will return to this subject at another OLC meeting.

10 **10. Double Degree UT-UGM**

Neeft notices that the report gives the impression that the double degree is interesting mainly for the Indonesian students, since for example the spoken language is mainly Indonesian during the year at UGM. This can be a barrier for Dutch students. The PD says that it may be an error in the report, since the people at UGM can also speak English well. The exchange is meant for common interest of the Indonesian students as well as the Dutch students.

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The course schemes on page 7 give the impression that some courses have to be taken in the Netherlands and Indonesia at the same time. The PD explains that this is not the case. All the courses will be taken at the UT, but the UGM courses mentioned in the scheme are obligatory for the Indonesian students and will also be given at the UT.

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Since the project is initiated by SOR, the OR schedule for the double degree is more developed than the SACS schedule. Especially the number of internships for SACS students have to be increased, since the available internships are mostly for OR students at this moment.

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Meinsma notices that the number of EC's of the double degree programme is the same as the number of EC's of a regular AM master, while other double degree programmes (for instance AM/AP) require a higher amount of EC's. The PD explains that this programme satisfies the final objectives of both studies and the double degree UT/UGM will be offered to make it more attractive for the students. The requirement to have an internship report and the final project on a level of a scientific publication seems to be very ambitious. Suggestion is to write these reports in the form of scientific papers. The chairwoman suggests we give a positive advice on the double degree, with the requirement that opportunities will be sought for the SACS students and that the schedule for Dutch students and what is expected of them is absolutely clear. **[action Chairwoman]**

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11. Bottlenecks Statistics module 5

This has already been discussed in agenda item 5.

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12. Other points brought up by the meeting attendees

Wieringa asks if there is an official rule about the language during lectures. The PD remarks that English is the main language during lectures, he has sent an e-mail about the spoken language to all lecturers and student assistants. Wieringa notices that not all student assistants know the rule or keep to the rule. The PD remarks that they should be intended to speak English, also in case of individual questions.

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13. Questions

Meinsma asks when we choose a new chairman for the OLC. This will be done at the beginning of next meeting. In the meantime, everyone should decide for themselves whether they want to be candidate chairman or not. The chairwoman thanks everybody for the pleasant and fruitful collaboration.

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14. Closing

The meeting closes at 17:27 hrs.

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Actions

Nr	Description	Meeting	Responsible
204	Opmerkingen OLC over compensatieregeling terugkoppelen naar Module-coördinatoren	19/1/2016	OLD
222	Vakomschrijvingen Final Project en Traineeship verder uitwerken.	7/6/2016	Meinsma
223	e-mail sturen naar notulist tweede panelgesprek van Module 3 (verslagen dit jaar veel beter dan voorheen, maar niet modules tegen elkaar afzetten)	7/6/2016	Chairwoman
225	Contact opnemen met coördinator van Module 8 ((duur) boek van Winston)	7/6/2016	OLD
229	Add Data Science and Machine Learning to the list of courses	27/9/2016	Van Grinsven
233	Write a draft advice on publishing study results on Blackboard	15/11/2016	Meijer
234	Formulate the bottleneck issues considering Statistics in module 5 in order to discuss it with the lecturer	15/11/2016	Chairwoman
235	Write an advice on instructing the panel members	15/11/2016	Chairwoman
236	Consider the list of replacing math courses for minors to be published or not	15/11/2016	B-coordinator
237	Write a positive advice on the double degree UT/UGM with the constraint that the role of Dutch students has to be clear and that also the SACS students have an internship in prospect	15/11/2016	Chairwoman

Advices and correspondence

Nr	Description
110	Quality of the panel evaluation reports (5740)
111	Double degree UT-UGM (5742)

5 Points of attention

Nr	Description