

## MINUTES BITOC MEETING

Datum: Tuesday 1 November 2016  
Locatie: Ravelijn 3411  
Tijd: 12.30 uur – 13.45 uur

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**Present:** Jos van Hillegersberg (chairman), Niek Khasuntsev, Luís Ferreira Pires, Marten van Sinderen, Chintan Amrit, David Lamers, Céline Heijnen, Kyra de Lange and Jelle Smits (minutes)

**Absent:** Marloes van Grinsven, Remco van Veen, Christian Versloot and Roel Wieringa

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### 1. Opening and determining agenda

Jos opens the meeting at 12:37 and thanks the BITOC for the opportunity to move the meeting. The document *course improvement* (module 8) has come in. On request of David, this will be discussed as point 7b.

### 2. Announcements

#### Module 1 emergency meeting

In the lunch break of 21-09, there was an emergency meeting for the first-year students to identify their problems with the programming parts of the module. Luís asks Céline to update the BITOC upon the result of this meeting. Céline replies that there was a big problem with the pearl *Algorithmic*, given by Arend Rensink. A lot of BIT students had difficulties with this pearl. The reason for this was that from the beginning, a high skill level was expected. The students without programming experience could not keep up with this. As a result, a lot of students worked together to pass the week and the assignment. This increased cooperation between students resulted in a number of fraud suspicions. In the end, 60% of the BIT students failed the *Algorithmic* pearl. In order to prevent that so many students would fail the module based on this pearl, the grade of the *introduction into Java* week has been changed from a pass/fail to an actual grade. Students may choose whether they want the grade they got for the *Algorithmic* week or the grade of the *introduction into Java* week. This plan has been approved by the Exam Committee. Next to this change in grading, there is also a possibility for students to re-sit the test of the *Algorithmic* week next week.

For next year, attempts should be made to reschedule the module and give the *introduction into Java* week before the *Algorithmic* week. Next to this, there should be a meeting with Arend Rensink to discuss the teaching in the *Algorithmic* week.

Jos asks if the Computer Science students had any similar problems with the *Algorithmic* week. Céline responds that there were some complaints there, but way less. This will be looked further into by the Computer Sciences board. Niek asks if the 60% fail percentage was caused mainly by the assignment or by the test. Céline answers that the project is a condition for making the test, which resulted in some students being excluded from making the test.

Luís gives an update upon the *Introduction into Java* week he gave in week 8 of module one. Overall, he was satisfied with the result of this week. Some of the students did not know some basic programming constructs, which resulted in them getting confused. Luís thinks the students got a good introduction which gives them a good preparation for module 2. Céline mentions that she aims to organize another meeting in week 2 or 3 of module 2 to see if the students found the *introduction into Java* week useful.

Jos remarks that some universities take half a year to teach students a programming language and wonders if it is not over ambitious to try to do this in one week. Céline responds that the teaching in the

*pearl* weeks can be kept up with, but that the main difficulties occur in the assignment, since the assignment requires quite extensive knowledge.

Luís mentions he heard a student say that they got a brief lecture upon some programming constructs and then had to find out the rest themselves. This is confirmed by Kyra. Luís thinks it is hard for the BIT students to find out some parts of the programming by themselves. He thinks this is caused by the fact that the BIT students do not have the *pearl* the CS students have in week 1. During this week, the CS students get a lot of introduction. Since the BIT students do not follow this week, they have a double disadvantage, in the sense that they generally have less programming experience than the CS students, and miss the introduction.

David wonders what happened to the students who suspected committed plagiarism. He heard that they were told that they would be reported to the exam committee, and then, suddenly, could redo their assignment. Céline replies that the students have been asked for explanation over e-mail. As a result of this explanation, some students were acquitted of their accusation and some got a warning. Today, all students will receive an e-mail with their individual consequences.

Luís says he had the proposal last year to create a different set-up for module 1. This could result in the need to have other teachers for the module. Last year, this proposal was not implemented but now, it might be wise to reconsider this. Luís wants the module to be an introduction. In an introduction, you should not get as deep into the subjects as is done now. Jos replies that the current set-up is also in conflict with what is said during the open days.

Marten suggests that students without any programming experience could also be invited to come to the university during the summer holiday, just as some students have to do because of Math. Luís answers that this could help but that it is very difficult to plan during the holiday, partly by the kick-in.

## Indonesia

As promised, Luís will discuss the outcome of his journey to Indonesia. [11.27] He has spoken to students and gave a presentation about the options of the double degree. He has not spotted any students who directly qualify to come here, and the UII also has their own qualification procedure, just as we have.

However, he has also been to another university, UI, in Jakarta. This is a more modern university who is less connected to the Islamic rules. They are very interested to organize a double degree BIT next year. Starting next week, Luís will compare the course and setting up the program. Luís thinks this cooperation could be even more interested than the cooperation with UII since UII is a quite new university, working hard on proving itself and UUI is more mature.

Marten asks about the mismatch with the study points per quarter year. Luís responds that this has been compared by translating the study points to number of hours. Firstly, the university in Indonesia thought we demanded too much. This also became clear by the reaction of the students during his presentation. Their reaction was that the program was heavy. Luís thinks it is important to be transparent about this, since the students will have to be able to keep up with our program, and if they cannot reach our demands, they will most likely not be able to keep up with the program. On the other hand, Luís thinks that the students of UUI will be able to meet the demands, since the mentality of the university is different.

Jos mentions that the plan is to go to Bandung with a delegation of the UT. The focus will be upon the PhD possibilities, but he would certainly like to keep the opportunities for BIT in mind. Erwin Hans, the IEM director, has been on a trip to a number of universities in South Africa. There is also a lot of interest in BIT here. Currently, they mainly offer Computer Sciences.

## Other

Jos has to leave at 13:25, he has to give an exam.

Luís informs BITOC that the accreditation will start. A number of people have been asked to form a committee and this week they will see which support they can obtain. A self-study report will be created. Jos mentions that IEM just finished the procedure, so they could provide some tips and help.

Céline mentions that she has been to Romania and she has seen a lot of interest in both CS and BIT. She hopes to have some Romanian students next year as well.

## 3. Minutes

Luís would like to have the minutes send to him or Jos as a draft, before it is submitted as final. He has some remarks noted down for the last minutes.

Page 1: some headers were still in Dutch

Page 3: *Softer management* should be *Software management*

Also, sometimes the terms *course* and *specialization* are confused. This has to be clarified

Page 4: Some action points came up in the meeting, which are not in the action point list

## 4. Partition EWI/BMS, CS/BA curriculum

This part is prepared by Marloes. Luís will clarify. In the document Marloes sent to the BITOC, there are 2 columns. In these columns, the faculty is firstly identified and after that, they are classified. Luís did not have the time to study the spreadsheet entirely but the division is still about 50/50. Jos confirms this, but mentions that Chintan is not in the spreadsheet yet.

Jos asks if anybody has further questions about the spreadsheet. Luís says it was sent quite late, so if anybody thinks of a question after the meeting they can ask him or Marloes about it.

Jos remarks that it could be useful to know the number of students in the courses. This can be helpful for evaluating courses. Also, it is not clear from what program some students are from. Céline says that CS is currently decreasing the number of courses, and that this might result in an increase of students in BIT courses.

## 5. Amendment of the law (concerning PC meetings)

Jos opens this point with a brief introduction of the changes we are going through. The authority of the BITOC will increase from advising to decisive organ with respect to some decisions. However, it was already extremely rare that an BITOC advice was not followed. Luís mentions that the new law is not yet completely finished and some details will become clearer when it is. Next to the increase in authority, there is also another point of attention. This is the separation of the authority of BITOC and the Faculty council. The Faculty council has the tendency to re-do the work of the BITOC, in the sense that they look into the matters substantively whereas they should be guarding the process and validate the discussions in the BITOC. This will also have an effect on the speed in which decisions are made.

Luís mentions that there is an idea to create a work group which guards the process of OER creation. They will not have any formal influence since this could cause big delays. Further details about this work group are not yet available, since this is still under development.

Luís thinks it is important to keep working together with each other and has found the input of the BITOC useful, even if the BITOC disagreed with a proposal.

## 6. Workshop BITOC

Jos interpreted this point as doing a workshop with the BITOC to deepen into the method of working. Luís interpreted this agenda point differently, but thinks Jos idea might be a good idea. Luís meant with this point the workshop that has

been held already. David mentions that in the email related to this point, there was a link with workshops for committees. The intention of the agenda point was the workshop that was already held.

From this workshop, a couple of action points come, such as improving the course descriptions. These can be seen as preparation for the visitation. Luís says that the integration with Privacy and Security is quite weak right now, and that this is something which will come up during the visitation. To improve this, the new course has been given last year as an elective. During the evaluation, the course appeared as weak. However, the expectation is that this year, the course can be given more body due to integration with the project. If this expectation is true, the course will get to the core instead of an elective.

Luís clarifies that the idea is that in the core, the program will be covering with respect to the n-term. And that there is no direct control upon the electives.

David replies that in the document there is currently listed for 2 of the courses that they comply to the term, but he thinks this is far-fetched. Luís agrees to his remark. David wonders if the action point of getting the new course from elective to the core is enough to comply to point 1h. Luís says that he thinks that this is the right way to do it.

Jos says that security could also be integrated in other courses such as *Specification of information systems*. This course has dilapidated. There could also be other options like more security integration in *IT management*.

Coming back to Jos' first interpretation of this agenda point, he thinks it would be good to do such a workshop early next year. (AP)

## volgen workshop OC m.b.t. nieuwe regelgeving

### 7. Electives

David mentions that this point will be about the second attachment to mail of Marloes, concerning the replacement of the electives. Luís asks if there are any objections to the list in the mail attachment. David thinks the list was okay, but wonders if the HRM course should be in the BIT master, since its aim is strongly towards HRM. Céline replies that it is a part of IEM, so it does relate to BIT and Jos says that it might be one of the *softer* courses but has IT relevance. Luís refers to a BITOC approved decision of last year, concerning a minor with a HRM part. BITOC approved of this minor, but in the end it could not take place because of the minor policy. David thinks the old course, which this HRM course is to replace, was more interesting to him. Luis replies that the course is a replacement, and a replacement results in some changes. Next to this, Jos emphasizes that it is an elective course, so it can always be given to see how it goes. Luís emphasizes that anybody with suggestions to the list can give them, and if they are a good option they can be included in the list.

#### b. Module 8 proposal

This point concerns the improvement plan of module 8. David says the proposal is finished. Luís finds it unfortunate that Christian is not present in this meeting, since he contributed a lot to the proposal. Céline has attended a couple of discussions concerning the proposal. She cannot go into much detail but overall she thinks it is a good improvement, since students are more or less forced to stay on schedule. Of course this means the module will be more controlled but it is in nobodies interest if students lag behind.

Chintan also gave a lot of suggestions for the module improvement, but it is not clear to him which suggestions are included in the improvement proposal. Jos says that in the document, for each week all proposals are listed. However, he thinks it would be easier to evaluate it with somebody who has followed the module and that Christian could certainly help with this, since he contributed a lot. Overall, Jos thinks that Fons did a good job with this proposal and thinks it is good that the module explicitly has these improvement points. Luís says that the feedback of students is seriously considered and good decisions are made. Céline thinks there is a better overall module structure, so the students are more likely to be able to follow the module.

### 8. Other issues

Chintan has a question about the new specialization *Data science and business*. He wonders if there will be new courses or that it is filled with existing courses. Luis clarifies that it will just be a new name and that the course already exists.

David requests an update of the committee members on the website, Niek is not in the list now an most likely Chintan is not either (AP Céline). He also requests if the new OER can be put on the website.

## 9. Actions points

Meeting closed at 13:28

<i>Number</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Leader</i>
1	20-09	Invite all international students for feedback	Luís Ferreira Pires
2	20-09	Program <i>Enterprise Architecture and IT management</i> specialization	Luís Ferreira Pires
3	20-09	Change <i>Business Analytics</i> to <i>Data Science for business</i>	Luís Ferreira Pires
4	01-11	Follow workshop from Marloes mail	BITOC members
5	01-11	Update the list of BITOC members on the website	Céline Heijnen
6	01-11	Put Bachelor and Master OER on website	Céline Heijnen and Luís Ferreira Pires