

DRAFT MINUTES BITOC MEETING

Date: Thursday October 1st, 2020
Location: Microsoft Teams (online meeting)
Time: 12:40-14:00

Present: Luís Ferreira Pires (chairman), Niels de Groot (minutes secretary), Maria Iacob (programme director), Jos van Hillegersberg, Marten van Sinderen, Adina Aldea, Thomas Hogema, Bernard Verheijen, Gustas Matijosius, Deepika Jangamguravepalli Bramhanandareddy, Willem Schooltink (education Inter-Actief)

Absent: Marloes van Grinsven (programme coordinator MSc), Joyce van Baaren (programme coordinator BSc)

1. Opening and Agenda

Luís opens the meeting at 12:45.

2. Announcements & correspondence

a. COVID-19

Recently, following the example of the Technical Computer Science, Maria has set up a resit policy for those who are not able to attend exams due to COVID-19. Students need to enlist as COVID-absentee and they will receive an extra resit opportunity. Maria is currently waiting for feedback from the examination committee on this proposal. Thomas asks if this is on an individual basis. Maria says it is on an individual basis, but it is available to anyone who has been impacted in any way by corona.

Since the new measures were introduced by the Dutch government, students and employees are strongly advised to work from home (again), but this has no effect on the proceedings of education at this point, as education is exempt from a prohibition on public gatherings at this time.

b. Registrations

COVID-19 has impacted our intake quite drastically. For the Bachelor, the effect is not that big: there is only a 5% increase in our students. For the Master's programme registrations have been lower due to Bachelor students with delay and a significant loss of registrations from Asian students.

c. Freshmen students

Freshmen have indicated they experience a huge disconnect between them and the programme and fellow students. Study advisors are worried about this and so Maria is planning to organize some kind of physical project session so that students are able to get together at some point.

d. Master graduations

It is possible to organize Master graduation defence ceremonies in a hybrid form. Maria asks for the advice of the BITOC on whether to organize such hybrid ceremonies, as the protocol defined for them is hard to execute well. Maria says she thinks online ceremonies would be better for now.

Marten says the hybrid form does not give any benefits, as it keeps the drawbacks of the online ceremonies while also having the complexity of organizing a physical corona-proof event. Adina agrees that the safety measures are quite a hassle, as a corona-responsible has to be appointed too. Maria says she was okay with hiring a student assistant for this, but it is uncertain whether they are allowed to function in such a role. Adina adds that it is also uncertain whether a student will have enough authority. Marten says he has noticed that students are organizing their own graduation ceremonies with friends and family, where only the committee is calling in online.

The Bachelor diploma ceremony was planned to take place at the Grolsch Veste with all EEMCS Bachelor programmes but was cancelled as a consequence of the new corona measures. Plan B is to organize a separate ceremony per programme, in compliance with the rules for corona-proof events.

e. New staff

New staff members have started today, 1st of October. For module 3, a replacement has been found to coordinate the module while Adina is on maternity leave. For module 8, Robin Effing has been asked to coordinate the module in the future, as Fons Wijnhoven has decided not to continue as module coordinator. Adina's part in eCommerce can be taken over with internal efforts by, amongst others, Maya, Guido, Renate and Maria. For the project, some PhD students can help out.

In the second quartile, only one course of the Master's programme will take place on campus, which is BPIL. All others will take place online. For the Bachelor's programme, Q2 will be mainly online, with some presential lab sessions, according to Luís. Furthermore, Enterprise Security will be given for the first time in Q2 by Abhista and Florian Hahn.

Jos says that a new position of Junior Lecturer has been created, as there is a lot of additional work. The position is mostly meant for graduating or recently graduated students who want to do some work on education before starting a career or PhD. Four recent graduates have been hired to fulfil this role and assist with education, and the positions will be evaluated and will possibly continue even after the corona crises is over.

f. Presential lectures

Enterprise Architecture is currently the only course of the Master running on campus. Maria has tried to offer it in a hybrid version, both online and on campus. She explains that it can be troublesome with all the multitasking required from the teacher during the lecture, but students seem to like it very much.

g. Open Days

The Open Days will take place online on the 12th and 13th of November.

h. Annual report BITOC 2019-2020

Based on the minutes of the past year, Luís will create an annual report of the BITOC of 2019-2020. This is to be discussed at the next meeting when the document is expected to be finished.

i. **Correspondence: Maarten Bonnema, UReka**

The mail by Maarten Bonnema is mostly meant for the student members and states that if there are any questions about UT-wide policy the UReka representatives can be contacted. With their position within the University council, they might be able to help out.

3. Minutes and Action Points

- **Minutes 27-08-2020**

There are no comments on the minutes.

- **108: BIT not being able to follow Math teaching minor:**

Joyce has contacted the coordinator.

- **132: Add evaluation reports of the OEC to the agenda:**

Done.

AP Jos will invite new staff members for an introduction round.

4. Evaluation

OEC Panel discussions M8 Business Innovation through IT Project Management

Bernard says he thinks the discussion has been quite clear and the document provides concrete points of attention which can be improved in the future. Niels adds that he has visited both sessions that these minutes are based on and he believes that it is very positive that the suggestions for improvement are crystal clear. The only thing that remains is indeed to execute these improvements.

Luís asks whether this is the module that Robin Effing will take over, which Maria confirms. She says that Fons Wijnhoven has indicated that he will stop coordinating this module and his position in this is quite definitive. Luís says that as soon as we are sure Robin will take over this module, it would be good to receive an improvement plan.

SEQ Q4 M-course Software Management

Luís says the scores were good, but it should be taken into account that the feedback is very spread out, so one would need to look at it in more detail to find out where the exact improvement points lie.

SEQ M-course Architecture of Information Systems

Thomas attended this course himself, and the reviews were quite positive, but there were some unclaritys. With the current situation, it was a bit messy as deadlines were delayed and at the end of the course this made for some extra hard work. However, Thomas believes this is mostly related to the sudden switch to online education, which may not be a problem in the future. Marten says he agrees with the unclarity that was due to changing deadlines.

SIG Master SEQ for Q4

Luís says he believes the courses did quite well in general and there no large irregularities to be found in this overview.

5. EC Change in module 6

Thomas says he mainly has a question about the transition to TOM2.0. He says the module consisted of one bulky component, with only Math as a separate unit, and he wonders if this has changed now. Maria says this is not the case and due to the wishes of the TCS programme it will remain like before.

Maria says that the EC change from HCI to AI proposed by the module coordinator will be beneficial to the programme, as there is no other place in the Bachelor programme where Artificial Intelligence is discussed extensively. The HCI part is less technical and a bit soft for BIT students, according to both Maria and Luís, so this should improve the likability of the module. Students agree with this and believe the practical application of AI/CS will benefit the experience of students.

Marten adds that the project part of HCI is now quite large in comparison with the theory, and he wonders whether that is a problem because, for example, there might not be enough theoretical basis for the project. Niels states that the theoretical parts that are being removed are not so relevant to the project, so this should not give students a disadvantage.

The BITOC agrees with the proposal for an EC change in module 6.

6. New course: Low Code Application Development

A course on Low Code Application Development has been proposed as CAPE Group expressed quite a vivid intention to contribute to an educational programme with a course on software design. After discussion the programme management decided it would be convenient to create an elective focused on low code applications. This subject was also suggested by the advisory board. One of the new employees, Gayane Sedrakyan, is now coordinating the development of the course together with CAPE and she will also coordinate the course. A plan has been drawn up, which has been sent to the BITOC.

Thomas says that it is always nice to include recent trends in the curriculum, but he is concerned that the course will be too much of a CAPE Group / Mendix advertorial. Jos says the course is meant to be a higher-level course where students are allowed to choose their own platform, which is a significant part of the project process. The goal is to move beyond Mendix and show the bigger picture of low code applications. Luís says that when he was first reading the description, he thought it sounded a lot like his course (Model-Driven Engineering). Luís just wants to make sure that there is not too much overlap between courses. Maria asks if Luís could provide Gayane with a description of his course, so she can check. As far as Maria is confirmed, the focus of this new course is quite different.

AP Luís will send Gayane Sedrakyan information on his Model-Driven Engineering course.

- Jos leaves at 13:35 -

7. Training course for participation councils

Before corona started, the BITOC was offered the opportunity to follow a group training for better participation skills. Recently, new dates were sent out, so Luís is wondering whether BITOC members would still be interested. The BITOC members are definitely still interested and believe the course can be helpful to improve their participation. Luís will look into the availability of a course to be followed by the BITOC as a whole. If there is no possibility to join an existing course, Luís will look for one especially customized for the BITOC.

AP Luís will look into training opportunities for the BITOC.

8. AOB & questions

There are no questions.

9. Closure

Luís closes the meeting at 13:45.

The next BITOC meeting will take place on October 29th.

10. Action Points list

The finalised actions points are in the style 'strikethrough'. Since multiple action points were found in duplicate in the minutes, two action points are merged to one action point list for clarity.

Nr.	Date	Subject	Leader	Status/deadline
108.	2019-09-24	Ask for the reasoning behind BIT not being allowed to follow a Math teaching minor.	Joyce	Ongoing.
132.	2020-08-28	Add the evaluation reports of the OEC to the agenda of next meeting.	Mirande	Done.
133.	2020-10-01	Invite new staff members for an introduction round.	Jos	New action point.
134.	2020-10-01	Send Gayane Sedrakyan information on his course Model-driven Engineering	Luís	New action point.
135.	2020-10-01	Look into training opportunities for the BITOC	Luís	New action point.