

MINUTES BITOC MEETING

Date: Dinsdag 20 september 2016
Location: Cubicus C101
Time: 14:00 uur – 15.00 uur

Present: Jos van Hillegersberg (chairman), Jelle Smits (minutes), Niek Khasuntsev, Remco van der Veen, David Lamers, Christian Versloot, Luís Ferreira Pires, Céline Heijnen, Marloes van Grinsven, Chintan Amrit, Marten van Sinderen

Absent: Roel Wieringa

1. Opening en vaststellen agenda

Meeting opened by Jos at 14:11.

Time and location in the agenda were changed as the meeting was moved.

2. Mededelingen

Chintan is at the BITOC for the first time. As long as all members do not speak too fast, Chintan can keep up with the Dutch.

Céline announces that in the lunch break of 21-09 there will be an emergency meeting for the new first-year students because there are strong signals that a big group has difficulties in keeping up with the programming of the first Pearl of Computer Sciences. Some of these students consider switching to the IBA or IEM program. The goal of the meeting is to discover the problems these students encounter. Next to that, the students are given extra information about the extra programming week in week 8 of module 1.

Remco asks if the students experience difficulties because of changes in the module. Luís answers that last year, a lot of students dropped out in module one and that this should be prevented. Niek confirms this statement, stating that around 50% of the BIT students failed module 1 last year. Luís continues that the current set-up of the module gives the students a wrong impression of the programming: a lot of detailed aspects are addressed in limited time. The extra programming week mentioned earlier aims to begin with the very basics of programming. Because the week really aims upon the students without pre-knowledge of programming, it is possible for the somewhat experienced students to prove that they master the subjects.

Niek inquires if the module has changed opposed to last year, Luís answers that it has not. However, he would like to see a different set-up of the module. Rather than starting with algorithms and other advanced programming subjects, it might be better to begin with the basics and build further upon that knowledge. On request of Computer Science, these changes have not yet been made to the module this year.

3. Minutes and list of action points

At the request of Céline and Luís, the minutes will be in English from now on.

Chintan Amrit replaces Berend Roorda, so Berend Roorda is not absent this meeting.
Christian was not listed as present or absent, but he was absent with notification.

Page 2: abbreviations are not always specific enough. For example, 'EC' can refer to the Examination Board or study points.

List of actions:

Remco remarks that the points should be numbered through. The first point of this year gets number 1.

Marloes requests Jos to put her action point of *checking if EWI/BMS split for BIT master is still about 50/50%* on the agenda for the next meeting.

The action point of 31-05 mentions *UUI* instead of *UII*. This has to be corrected.

The list of action points is now empty.

Minutes of the last meeting are approved.

4. Update Master Double Degree met UII (Luís)

Luís introduces this subject by clarifying that the document he sent to the BITOC on 19-09-2016 is currently in the approval procedure of the UT. In 1.5 week from today, Luís will visit Indonesia to clarify any ambiguities.

Jos asks when the program is scheduled to begin. Luís answers that the goal is to gain students through preselection or by inviting talented 1st-year students. Since the college year has already begun, it is only possible to invite 1st-year students. During the visit, Luís will see if there are any qualified students.

Marten asks if there are already students signed up. Luís answers that he notices general interest, but he can clarify this when he visits Indonesia.

5. Transition to education in English

Céline opens by mentioning the changes to the program of the current first-year students. These changes are in the Academic Skills part of the modules. Academic Skills in module 1 has been changed from 'group work' to 'intercultural skills'. 'group work' has been moved to module 4. The 'intercultural skills' part is now a part of all EWI-programs and aims to make students aware of differences between cultures and differences in conceptions, especially now that the BIT program is in English and has international students. The main aim of the course is to prevent collisions in group assignments.

So far, there are no complaints about the internationalization or language change.

When Luís returns from Indonesia, he plans to invite all international students to get further feedback. The study advisor Thea de Kluijver already speaks to the students separately to guide them.

Jos asks how many international students there are now. The answer is that there are about 3 German, 2 Chinese, 2 Romanian, 1 Greek, 1 Polish and 1 Bulgarian students. In total, there are 48 students enrolled on the blackboard page of module 1.

Last year, all first year BIT teachers got a request to assess their level of English. The results have been mailed to BITOC and most teachers have at least the required level of skill. Luís mentions only the first year teachers have been asked to assess their skill level, and he doubts whether it is relevant for the teachers of the second and third year. Remco answers that he thinks it might be good to inventarise those teachers as well since some of these teachers are different from the first year. Luís further explains that all teachers give regular lectures and have the skill to speak comprehensible English.

Céline further extends that the English of the EWI teachers is generally fine but it is harder to obtain information from the BMS faculty. Céline will continue her attempts to obtain information

Jos mentions that he has heard that the website of the batavierenrace, used in the project for module 1, is in Dutch and not in English. Remco says the website is available in English as well.

6. Master specializations

Decrease the number of specializations

Luís would like to address extra attention to this point. He would like to move back to two master specializations because of the number of students. Currently, about 20 students are enrolled in the BIT master. There are 3

specializations these students can choose from. For only 20 students, 3 specializations is a lot. Since EWI has started to 'rationalize' master specializations, Luís would like to take the opportunity to do this as well. The aim is to combine the best aspects of the specializations so that the specialization is not lost but reintegrated in the others. So far, it is unclear how it should look like in terms of the courses. Before Luís looks into this he wanted to address this subject to the BITOC.

Remco answers that he is currently doing Enterprise Architecture and IT management and that he thinks these can be easily combined.

Jos mentions his concern about the required amount of programming knowledge. Currently, it is possible for IEM to follow the BIT master without any big concerns, but if the amount of required programming knowledge is increased, this might become a problem. Luís says he'd like to look into possibilities to change the specializations, keeping the amount of programming language in mind. He mentions that IEM currently has to do the course *Softer Management*, which is not a real programming course but gives a good introduction to the software development perspective.

Changing the course name of *Business Analytics*

Luís would like to change the name of the course *Business Analytics*. The current name is not strong enough. By thinking of the new name, Luís wants to think about the core of the course and make the name out of this. He gives the name *Data Science for Business* as an example. Variations of this name are also possible.

Marten thinks *Big Data for Business* would also be a good fit. Remco says that the students in the course often refer to it as *Data Science*. Marten remarks that this name is confusing with the master specialization of Computer Science with the same name. Chintan suggests 'Applied Data Science', on which Luís remarks that this name is too broad and would also fit for courses of other programs.

Marloes says that she was not at the last Advisory council and wonders where the problem with the name comes from. Luís answers that they decided that the name was not fitting enough. Marloes agrees that this could be true for businesses, but that it does fit the contents of the course. Remco also thinks the name is not wrong, but he sees many other names in practice, such as *Analytics* and *Data Science*. At the university of Eindhoven, the course is also called *Data Science*.

Jos thinks the good part of *Business Analytics* is that the contents are clear. Another name such as *Data Science and Technology* or *Data Science and Business* could also fit.

Enterprise Architecture

Marten wonders if Enterprise Architecture should be changed. Jos spoke with a number of people who said that Enterprise Architecture does not do what it is planned to do. Rather than finishing a project as planned, they have a big paper in front of them saying how it should have gone. An option would be to combine it with Business Modelling. Whereas Enterprise Architecture is on technology level, Business Modelling has a bigger perspective. Luís thinks it is important to keep the 'bridge' to IT, regardless of changes to the contents of the course.

Remco suggests making a new name for the course when changing the master specializations. Luís says he tends to keep the course as it is or to combine it with another one.

Marloes suggests to not decide it in the BITOC meeting but to also ask the first year students about their ideas.

Remco and Jos both indicate that they would like to see further detail of this idea. Luís will look into the possibilities.

7. Rondvraag

Remco mentions that he will send out a doodle for dinner in November

David asks about the blackboard organization for the master students. Marloes answers that this organization has been created and only has to be filled with the students.

Luís thanks the BITOC for moving the meeting.

Chintan would like to know if it is possible to offer extra help for the students in module 1 so that we do not lose them to another program. Luís answers that the problem is not with the skill level of the individual students but the big variance in their programming skill level. Some students start without any programming knowledge, whereas others already have

some experience. This will always remain a problem. As mentioned before, Luís is developing a special week giving a basic programming introduction in week 8 of the module. This is meant for the students without or with little programming knowledge. Students with somewhat advanced knowledge do not have to follow this week. This way, the amount of students passing module 2 should be bigger.

Niek mentions that if the students already had difficulties with the first programming week (algorithmic), their difficulties will probably increase next week when they have functional programming.

8. Sluiting

Meeting closed at 14:48

9. Actiepuntenlijst

The list of action points is empty