Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science

Date   April 26th, 2018

Minutes of the 124th meeting of the OLC-IT

Present:, Ammerlaan, Bolding, Boschma, Hartvelt (minutes secretary), Havinga, Heijenk (Programme Director), Huisman, Kempen, Kortstra, Molenkamp, Padberg-Heskamp, Sperotto, Van Grinsven, Vonk

Heerlien is not present. Ammerlaan is the candidate officer of educational affairs of Inter-*Actief* and is present for the first time.

1. Opening and determining agenda

The meeting is opened at 10:46.

Kempen mentions she proposed to add a point about the amount of presubscriptions for the bachelor to the agenda last time. It is added.

2. Announcements PD

PD mentions he went to an EIT Digital meeting in Brussels a few weeks ago. Our programme participates in the master school of EIT Digital through a combined HMI master (HCTD) and a Cyber Security Master. In these Master programmes, students partake in a two-year Master of which one year is followed in Twente and one year is done at another university. This meeting in Brussels was about a plan to expand these programmes. They talked about offering an online first semester for the Cyber Security Master through Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), after which students can enter the rest of the programme at their university of choice. The idea is to offer more opportunities and more avenues for education to students. In the US, Georgia Tech, who are in the top 10 of the world as far as computer science goes, have already experimented with this. They recently started a full online Master, which proved to be a huge success. Another result from the meeting in Brussels was adding our Data Science programme into an additional EIT Master programme, increasing the total to three.

PD also mentions that a matching day for prospective bachelor students will be organised. Last year, such a matching day for BIT was organised, which was very successful. Computer Science will organise a similar day this year, at the end of May.

PD starts talking about the presubscriptions, mentioning that, using similar conversion rates to previous years, we expect about 200 bachelor students for the computer science programme in total. The discussion is cut short, as this point will be further discussed under the added agenda point under A.O.B..

3. Incoming/Outgoing Correspondence

We didn't score well in the Dutch 'keuzegids'. As discussed before, these results are based on the NSE results of last year. We will wait for the results of this year's NSE to draw conclusions.

There are two large components of students who enter our Master programmes. Firstly, our own bachelor students, and secondly, international students. The keuzegids is not published in English, and our own bachelor students are not really influenced by this document. Therefore, the impact of bad scores in the keuzegids is limited.

Bolding mentions that Boschma wanted to address the fact that the bad scores are probably caused by a few bad courses, and requests more panel discussions to improve these courses. PD mentions this is indeed the plan.

Havinga mentions he sent the letter for English name of the bachelor this morning. PD will take a look at it, and mentions he does not expect any problems.

4. Minutes & Actions of the 123rd meeting

There are a few textual remarks on the minutes of the 123rd meeting, which will be processed by the secretary. Furthermore, a small discussion about the name change is had. The actual decision about the name change has not been made final. The programme committee agrees to discuss the possible name change during the next meeting.

265   Huisman mentions there is a correlation between the algorithms pearl and the programming grades. Instead of asking the students for their programming experience, about which the students apparently lie to get a better project partner, the grades of the algorithms pearl will be used to create project groups. The action is thereby finished.
283   Finished, is on the agenda for today.
292   Ongoing
296   Ongoing
297   This has been discussed with Rensink. He agrees we would want to be able to repeat this course. However, he believes it is a better idea to first organise the course for a single time, and then start the discussion with the TU/e about repeatability, because starting that discussion now would not be fruitful.
298   Done
299   Next Monday, an event is organised by Inter-*Actief* to gather ideas.
300   Is on the agenda for today
301   While the action is done, there is no information as Heerlien is not present. Thus, the action will remain on the list and will be discussed during the next meeting.

5. Courses Delft put in Cyber Security Specialisation

Bolding says he thinks there is a lot of overlap between the course in Delft and the counterpart in Twente. Even though Hartel says there is basically none, the learning goals are very similar. Huisman says she knows the teachers of the course, and expects the Delft counterpart to be much more formal. PD agrees with Bolding and sees a lot of overlap in the learning goals. So either there is a lot of overlap, or the learning goals are incorrect. Huisman says we should communicate back that, also because there is no telelecturing, students should not be able to do both courses in their programme. All present members of the programme committee agree. Havinga will formulate this advice and send it to PD. PD will communicate this back to Hartel.

6. Master TER

Molenkamp mentions that, regarding the confidentiality, a solution should be found if the requirement for confidentiality is added throughout the graduation project. The main problem is that not accepting a request for confidentiality from the company where the student is graduating puts the student in a very difficult position. Therefore, having the discussion prior to the start of the graduation process would be preferred. However, when the company and the student want to file for a patent as a result of the project, it should be possible to decide for confidentiality of the documents afterwards. The conclusion is that we will keep it the way it is currently in the TER, but be lenient about later requests for confidentiality, in case there are good reasons from the company, such as patents.

The formulation 'dead period' should be changed to period of inactivity, as it sounds less gruesome.

The 2 year inspection period of assessments is not desirable, but is consistent with the bachelor TER. There is a small discussion, but the PC will not pursue changing this.

There is a questions from Molenkamp about the PhD students. PD mentions that the PhD students that supervise a graduation project can only advise the committee and advise the grade of the student, but cannot make the decision.

There are no other points of discussion about the Master TER. The PD asks the programme committee to formulate an official advice. The programme committee is positive about the document with the proposed changes.

Havinga asks whether there are students who want to take a look at the bachelor TER on the 29th of May, as there are not enough people of the TER working group available on that date. Boschma mentions he will attempt to be present. PD mentions the new guideline TER is not available yet, and the deadline has passed. Even if we receive a new guideline TER, it will not be discussed during this meeting in May. Bolding will invite the available people for the meeting on the 29th.

7. Evaluations Modules Q2

The members of the programme committee agree that there is no reason to undertake action in any module as a direct result of these grades, except for module 6. A document about the proposed changes for module 6 has been sent to the members of the programme committee prior to this meeting. Recurring complaints about module 6 were about the organisation of the design part, and the presentation skills of the teacher. After a discussion with the teacher, he will be put on a course to improve his presentation skills.

As the members of the programme committee have not had enough time to take a look at the improvement plan, it will be discussed during the next meeting.

8. A.O.B. and Proposal Item Next Meeting

Kempen is worried about the number of students, also regarding the organisation of the educational part of the Kick-In. She has been in contact with the marketing and communication department of the UT, who estimate the number of students at 180 CS and 80 BIT students.

As a result of the higher presubscriptions, the TU Delft will instate a numerus fixus for 2019/2020. We expect 600 students in Delft and 250 in Eindhoven. Eindhoven already has a numerus fixus for next year, at 250 students. This is down from 350 students this year, so Eindhoven is scaling down. This is due to the entire university hitting a cap, though. PD mentions Delft has closed the presubscriptions for international students already, before it was officially allowed, to control the influx of students. However, he expects the actual number of students that will start the study in Delft is lower, as the conversion rates they expect are not realistic. The main question is whether we will get all the people who are rejected in Delft and Eindhoven, overflowing the UT. We have seen additional presubscriptions after people got the message Eindhoven was already full.

There is a discussion about how many students we can actually handle at the UT. PD mentions, after asking all module coordinators, that we would be able to accompany up to 250 students, maybe even more. The hard limit would probably be at the limits of lecture halls.

The question is also whether the amount of prospective students will actually continue to grow as hard as it has the past couple of years, as the amount of students studying CS has fluctuated a lot in the past. Overall, it is very difficult to predict the following years and we cannot say now whether a numerus fixus should be instated at the UT, and whether it is even realistic. The process to instate a numerus fixus is very tedious and long, and might take more than a year. So even if we would need a numerus fixus, it might not even be possible in 2019/2020. The PD expresses he is not really concerned yet and would not be surprised to see the number of presubscriptions go down a bit in the following years.

Kempen expresses her concern about 2019/2020, when the other universities have their numerus fixus and the UT might get all the leftovers from the other universities, diluting the talent pool at the UT and reducing the quality. Boschma mentions he shares this concern. A small discussion about the number of teachers and student assistants per student ensues, as the amount of personal time per student might decrease as the number of students increases. However, the consensus is that this is not a problem, and the increasing number of students also leads to an increase in the number of student assistants.

Furthermore, there is a discussion about the feeling of a small scale university among first year students. In the past, there was social pressure on people not being present, as not being present in a group of 30 stands out. However, as the group sizes increase, the social pressure to be present decreases. The do-groups should exert this social pressure to a certain extent, but this is not a full solution. It feels like the feeling of a small scale university is disappearing due to the increasing number of students. The stimulating environment that was present is disappearing a bit.

PD summarises the discussion by saying he cannot find a hard limit somewhere, above which the small scaledness and the feeling of a 'social programme' disappear. The chairman wants to postpone this discussion to a later date at which this starts to be a problem. Kempen mentions she would like to make a plan with how to move forward and how to monitor the situation. As a result of this, the action is made for the PD to research how a numerus fixus would work, what would be necessary for it, and how long it would take to instate it.

9. Questions and Conclusion

Kempen mentions she will ask around for possible new members for the programme committee. Padberg asks whether she can also ask around for a new minutes secretary, as one still has not been found. Kempen will do this. Boschma mentions he is also busy with trying to find new members.

Kempen invites the student members to the feedback lunch on Monday the 30th of April, during which students can give input on the education programme and possible improvements.

The meeting is closed at 12:21.

Actions

#	Meeting	Action	Person	Deadline
292	December 2017	Look at the content of Logic and Computing & Artificial Intelligence part of Reflection I and II	PD	January 2018
296	March 2018	Organise a meeting with van Grinsven to evaluate the overlap of the reflection and ethics courses	Heijnen	April 2018
301	March 2018	Relay the outcome of the discussion about the level of English among students to the faculty committee	Heerlien	April 2018
302	April 2018	Formulate the advice that the Twente and Delft courses cannot be combined in the same programme	Havinga	May 2018
303	April 2018	Relay the advice that the Twente and Delft courses cannot be combined to Hartel	PD	May 2018
304	April 2018	Invite the available meeting to the working group meeting to discuss the guideline TER	Bolding	May 2018
305	April 2018	Research the process and impact of instating a numerus fixus for the CS programme	PD	May 2018
306	April 2018	Ask around among students for members and a minutes secretary for the programme committee	Kempen	May 2018