

**Minutes 197th PC-TCS-meeting
Tuesday 11 February 2025
10:45 – 12:30 hr. Microsoft Teams**

5 *Present:*

Members: A. Sperotto (Staff), L. Kruitwagen (student), N. Alachiotis (Staff), L. Mariot (Staff), A. Rensink (Chair, staff), P. Cecchini (student), F.G.J. Weijsenfeld (student), J. Verschuren (student)

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Guests: N. Luijten (Protocolist), S. Padberg (Registrar), M. van Grinsven (M-Coordinator), S. Vonk (B-Coordinator), V. Zaytsev (PD), E. Meijerink (B-Coordinator), G. Heijenk, H.D. van Andel (educational officer Inter-Actief)

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1. Opening and determining agenda

The chair opens the meeting at 10:47. Agenda points 10 and 11 are added to the agenda. Point 5 will be discussed first.

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2. Announcement

There are three new student members, F. Weijsenfeld, P. Cecchini, and J. Verschuren.

Programme Management

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- The Bachelor Conference was a success. Module 6 had successful demos. Quartile three has started with around 30 new master students.
- There have been several meetings and activities as part of the preparation towards the accreditation.
- For module 1 there is a good plan for the curriculum revision, which is proposed by the teachers. There will be a stronger ownership of courses by the research groups.
- There will be an Industrial Advisory Board meeting on the curriculum revision.

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Programme Committee

- The new members could not yet access the P-drive. This will be dealt with in point 10.

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3. Incoming/outgoing correspondence

-CEEP Data Science & Artificial Intelligence
No comments.

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4. Minutes of the 196th PC-CS meeting d.d. 14 January 2024

Page 3: Line 100: Intelligent instead of intelligence

DATE: 11 FEBRUARY 2025

With these changes, the minutes are approved.

Action points:

- 45 • 709 – Can be removed from the list
- 711 – Stays on the list
- 712 – Can be removed from the list
- 713 – Can be removed from the list
- 714 – Can be removed from the list
- 50 • 715 – Stays on the list

5. New master specialization – Sustainable Computing

55 Heijenk presents his proposal for a master's specialization named Sustainable Computing. After the presentation, the PC has multiple questions.

60 The M-coordinator asks the following: Are you purposefully excluding a February intake? Do you already have a program mentor in mind? Furthermore, she would advise changing the name of the course "Foundation of Sustainable Computing", to exclude the name Foundation. Heijenk says he does not have a program mentor in mind. He did not want to exclude the February intake but had considered it in detail.

65 The PD wants to think about the global picture. The other master tracks are all about Science and Technology, and that is not included in this track. He fully supports the renaming of the courses. SET is a program with the name sustainable in the title and is struggling to get students. It might be interesting to talk to them. He thinks it is ambitious to start in September already. Is this the new IST track? Should there be more networks in this track to replace the IST track?

70 Weijsenfeld asks what the argument is to introduce a new specialization instead of introducing electives on the topics. Heijenk says that the topic needs more than a few electives to cover the scope of the topic. It will provide new electives for other tracks to choose from. Weijsenfeld says that being concerned does not imply a direct interest in learning. What did you do to measure interest in this specialization? Heijenk was hoping
75 Marketing and Communication could help to measure the interest, but it has not taken off.

80 Cecchini asks if some advertisement has been done to the current bachelor students. Heijenk answers that it has not, he first wants the "Go" from the Program Management and the PC. The chair asks what the opportunities are for bachelor students to learn about this master's. The M-coordinator says the open days are usually the place for this, but she would advise against this in this stage of development. An announcement on Canvas and a session for TCS specifically could work. Next year there can be electives in

DATE: 11 FEBRUARY 2025

85 the bachelor to give a taste of the track and explanation on the open days. Heijenk says that there could maybe be a timeslot in M12 to mention this. Cecchini asks if a bachelor's in TCS would grant direct access to the master.

90 Mariot suggests polls or surveys to check the interest in students. Heijenk likes the idea and will talk to the M-coordinator. The chair asks what Heijenk expects on the number of students. Heijenk would not expect more than 25 students in the first year. There is no minimum for the first year. The ambition for the future would be 50 students. The PD explains that it would make it the largest track if that were the case.

95 Weijsenfeld asks why companies would hire such a master student. Heijenk says that he is a member of the National Coalitie Digitale Duurzaamheid, and he has spoken to many companies that would like people with that expertise.

100 The chair asks how the PD sees the addition of another specialization to the master tracks. Does that mean that IST would be phased out in the future? The PD says that the IST electives are very popular, even though not so many students choose the track itself. Heijenk would like to see how it develops. If the two specializations target the same students, one of the tracks could potentially be phased out.

105 **Action Point (Chair):** Gather an advice about the master specialization Sustainable Computing and send it to Heijenk.

Heijenk leaves the meeting.

6. Advice B-TCS revision

110 The PD explains that the EER states that if anything is called a grade, it should be added to Osiris in a separate unit and is valid forever. Some modules have many small separate parts and compensation schemes, so the implementation of that needs to be ironed out for the new curriculum.

115 The chair asks if the restructuring of modules in smaller units already meets the requirements of the assessments in the EER. The PD says it does not yet, but it will be. Weijsenfeld asks if module 1 is the only module that gets restructured before the next academic year. The PD says that ideally the entire year 1 is restructured. Furthermore, why are the study units only three ECs? The PD says 3 EC is the right amount to assure ownership by a teacher or group. Weijsenfeld says that five subjects in one module are a lot of overhead, even if they cohere. Furthermore, all tests will be on one day. There are exceptions, but if a student cannot get that, they will have a very long exam. The PD says
120 that it will push people towards studying as a block. The exam will be short if bonus points are achieved. Furthermore, about the 5 study blocks, one will always go to
125 mathematics and one to the project.

DATE: 11 FEBRUARY 2025

130 Verschuren has a process related question. He feels that teachers are not being involved in the process as much as they wish to be. The Program Management feels like they have, so Verschuren thinks there is a mismatch in this. The PC starts with the letter of the PC. It states there is an impression that most colleagues have very little understanding of the need for and hence little support for the structuring of this. The PD says that the module coordinators were involved in many occasions. They wanted to formulate a framework that could be used in all modules, and then shared with content teachers. This has been developed with other people. A couple of months ago, they
135 reached a point where the proposal is doable and they are now working with module teachers. Verschuren asks what the timeline is for finishing the plan for module 1 and giving the teachers enough time to adapt. The PD says that the final design is well underway for module 1. The module 1 have been involved in the discussion for some months now so they know what to do. Verschuren asks if the document of the
140 framework can be shared with the PC, since it is finished. The PD says that there is no document. He proposed to have a separate meeting for this discussion. The chair would like this meeting and is glad for the suggestion.

145 Weijsenfeld asks why the proposal is not on paper. The PD says that there are multiple versions of the proposal. They are written but they are not meant to be shared. The chair seconds Weijsenfeld's suggestion. The PC is interested in the version that is outlining the current version. Providing advice to the program management is the responsibility of the PC, and they would like the documents necessary for it. The PD says, in that case, the PC has all the information. There are two principles that he wants to highlight in his response to the request. First, the assessment scheme needs to be
150 changed to work with the validity of grades. Second, he wants to have a critical look of the curriculum in general. For module 1, they have a plan, and once it is written down, it will go to the PC. The chair says that the PC also needs to give advice on the framework in general, not only the implementation of one module.

155 The PD refers to slide 9 of the shared presentation. It shows ideas on how a student can be motivated to see the module as one block. The list was not composed by him. Sperotto asks if the ways of exemptions are left to the teacher. The PD replies yes. Sperotto thinks the teachers need some guidance on this. This is a huge change and she cannot know the implications it will have. The PD says it is not a huge change. The teachers can use the framework to emulate the module as it is. The PD wants to make sure that the exemptions make sure that the students have less work later. Sperotto asks why he calls it exemptions if it effectively emulates what we have now. The PD says he calls it rewards, and that these are not his slides. Sperotto wonders if this is not causing
160 more work for the teacher. She worries about how they can ensure equivalence in testing in this way. The chair says it would be very useful for the PC to get a stable and coherent proposal that the PD stands behind. The PD says that he can give a
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DATE: 11 FEBRUARY 2025

presentation to the PC in another meeting, and after he can write some documents.

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7. BSc EER

No comments.

8. QAI

The results from the interviews will be discussed next meeting.

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9. A.O.B / Questions and Conclusion

B-Coordinator Vonk and Meijerink will arrange the curriculum revision meeting.

10. Onboarding new PC student members

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All students have been given access by the registrar. She will ask the Dean to make a letter of appointment for each student member. **Action Point (Chair):** Give some information on each student member to be put on the website. Sperotto has already added all students to the mattermost channel.

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The curriculum working group will consist of Sperotto, Verschuren and the chair. The EER working group will consist of Kruitwagen, Alachiotis, Weijsenfeld and Cecchini.

The chair suggests having a hybrid meeting next time.

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11. Reflection on PC training

This will be discussed later.

12. Next steps advice B-TCS restructuring

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The advice for the new track needs to be arranged. All PC members will send their comments and the chair will concatenate it.

The chair closes the meeting at 12:57.

Next meeting: 2025

Nr	Given in month	Meeting	Description	Responsible	Deadline
711	10/12/2024	195	QAI – Computer Systems for TCS	Kruitwagen/ Mariot	February 2025
715	14/01/2025	196	Send the remarks on the Master EER to the M-coordinator.	Kruitwagen	February 2025
716	11/02/2025	197	Gather an advice about the master specialization Sustainable Computing and send it to Heijenk.	Chair	March 2025

UNIVERSITEIT TWENTE.

DATE: 11 FEBRUARY 2025

717	11/02/2025	197	Give some information on each student member to be put on the website.	Chair	March 2025
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