

Board meeting

Thursday, December 20th 2001, at 12.00
DataCity, 2nd floor, TY Neuvotteluhuone 3

Minutes

Present:

Mats Aspnäs, Prof.
Christer Carlsson, Prof.
Jouni Isoaho, Prof. (5-9)
Timo Järvi, Prof., Chairman (1-7, 9)
Juhani Karhumäki, Prof.
Henri Latvanen, M.Sc. Student
Ivan Porres Paltor, Ph.D. Student
Kaisa Sere, Prof.
Reima Suomi, Prof., Vice-Chairman

Ralph-Johan Back, Prof., Director, Presenting Officer
Tapio Salakoski, Prof., Vice-Director, Presenting Officer

Administrative Officer Ulrika Gustafsson, Presenting Officer (financial affairs),
secretary of the meeting

1. Validity of the meeting and presence of a quorum

The notice of a board meeting has to be sent three weekdays before the meeting takes place. The meeting must be valid and the members present have to constitute a quorum. The meeting constitutes a quorum when the chairman and at least five members of the board are present.

The notice of this board meeting was sent on Monday, December 17th 2001.

Proposal: The validity of the meeting and presence of a quorum will be recorded.

Decision: According to proposal.

2. Additional items

The agenda of possible additional items will be handed out in the beginning of the meeting.

Proposal: Possible additional items will be presented.

Decision: One additional item, "The appointment of a new student representative for the doctoral students to the TUCS board", will be presented as an announcement marked 9.3.

3. New member to the Advisory Committee (Back)

Because of the increased cooperation between TUCS and the Turku Polytechnic it would be good if the Polytechnic would be represented in the TUCS Advisory Committee. The Director of TUCS has discussed with the Vice-Director of the Turku Polytechnic, Dr. Raimo Hyvönen, concerning this matter. Mr. Hyvönen has shown interest for this position.

Proposal: Raimo Hyvönen is appointed to the Advisory Committee as a new member starting January 1st 2002.

Decision: According to proposal.

4. International M.Sc. program (Salakoski)

There has recently been quite a lot of discussion about starting M.Sc. programs in Information Technology that are mainly targeted for students from abroad. The Ministry of Education has given clear signals that an International M.Sc. program in an existing Finnish university is a better alternative than the founding of a private IT-university. The industry has also shown interest towards the plans for a TUCS international M.Sc. program, as indicated by comments by the members of TUCS industrial advisory board and the attendants of a seminar organized by Teollisuuden Työnantajat.

We at TUCS are ready to considerably increase our international recruitment of M.Sc. students, by starting one or more new International M.Sc. programs in the general area of Information Technology. More information about this matter is presented in appendix 1a/12/01. The project proposal is presented more detailed in appendix 1b/12/02.

Appendices: 1a-1b/12/01

Proposal: The Board accepts the project proposal that is presented in appendix 1b/12/01.

Decision: According to proposal.

5. TUCS industrial project cooperation (Back)

OK (ohjelmistotuotannon kehittämiskeskus) is a co-operation between TUCS and the Turku Polytechnic, with the purpose of organizing industrial co-operation projects. The center has until now been officially a subproject of the Telematics project, but this project will end soon. The Turku Polytechnic has handled the administration until now. The proposal is that this center will continue as part of TUCS, but continuing the close co-operation with the Turku Polytechnic. This way of continuing the OK is supported by the Telematics project, the Turku Polytechnic and the City of Turku, as well as by Åbo Akademi. The appendix contains more details.

Appendices: 2a-2b/12/01

Proposal: OK is constituted as a part of TUCS, according to the proposal in the Appendix 2a/12/01. The name is changed to Software Development Center (eng.), Ohjelmistotuotannon keskus (fin.), Centrum för Programutveckling (swe.). The abbreviation continues to be OK. The steering group is appointed according to appendix 2b/12/01.

Decision: OK is going to be constituted as a part of TUCS. The name of the centre will be Software Development Centre (eng.), Ohjelmistokehityskeskus (fin.), Centrum för Programutveckling (swe.). The abbreviation continues to be OK. TUCS will support OK with 500.000 FIM in year 2002. Johan Lilius, Olli Mertanen, Ilkka Ritakallio and Kristiina Sunell were appointed to members of the steering group. The fifth member of the steering group will be appointed later.

6. Manager for the TUCS industrial project cooperation (Back)

The present manager for OK, Kristiina Sunell has applied for the position as the manager of the new center. She has been very successful, and has gained the confidence of all the parties involved in OK. It is therefore considered important that she can continue in her position as manager of the new center, even after it has become part of TUCS.

Appendix: 3/12/01 (CV of Kristiina Sunell will be handed out at the meeting)

Proposal: Kristiina Sunell is proposed as the manager for the OK, for the period of

1.1.2002 - 31.12.2002.

Decision: Kristiina Sunell will be appointed to the manager for OK, for the period of 1.1.2002 - 31.12.2002.

7. Discussion item: Organizational changes for TUCS (Back)

Ralph-Johan Back pointed out that TUCS has been given the task of co-ordinating IT-research and education in the three universities in Turku. The departments participating in TUCS have, however, the primary responsibility for research and education in this area. There is therefore a need to strengthen the legitimacy of TUCS with respect to the departments, and improve the co-operation between TUCS and the departments. A possible way to achieve this is to start a working group which would include the director of each department in TUCS, and which would support the TUCS director in preparing the issues for TUCS board meetings.

Back's suggestion was supported by Christer Carlsson and Tapio Salakoski. Carlsson pointed out that the meetings of the working group should be well prepared and that only important matters should be brought up. This arrangement would make the TUCS board meetings shorter and more efficient. Carlsson suggested that a schedule for the meetings of the working group should be made up on the next board meeting.

Back also mentioned that there is need for an administrative manager for TUCS. He/she would be in charge of TUCS administration, including planning and other similar kinds of activities that have to do with TUCS development. The administrative manager (hallintopäällikkö, administrativ chef) would be either full-time or half-time employed. Presently the TUCS vice-director also takes care of the tasks that would belong to the administrative manager of TUCS. Back mentioned Mats Aspnäs as a possible administrative manager.

Carlsson was of the same opinion as Back. TUCS needs an administrative manager, and to have an administrative manager with a doctoral degree would increase the understanding, and make the decision processes faster.

Back mentioned further that the position as vice-director could be considered as a more formal position, without specific administrative duties, if there is an appointed administrative manager.

8. Acting Director for TUCS (Back)

The TUCS Director, Prof. Ralph-Johan Back, will be on a leave of absence between 1.1.2002 - 31.12.2003. Åbo Akademi University has announced the position and called for applications for the period mentioned above, and has received one application by the deadline of December 17th 2001. The current chairman of the TUCS Board, Prof. Timo Järvi, submitted the application.

Proposal: TUCS board recommends for the Åbo Akademi University that Prof. Timo Järvi will be appointed Acting Director for the period of January 1st 2002 - December 31st 2003.

Decision: According to proposal.

9. Announcements

9.1 Announcements by the director

Appendix: 4/12/01

9.2 Minutes of the TUCS board meeting of November 26th 2001

Appendix: 5/12/01

9.3 Student representative Ivan Porres has resigned, since he has obtained his

doctoral degree. The doctoral students have elected PhD. student Christina Cerschi as their student representative and PhD. student Sébastien Lafond as deputy student representative.

Turku, December 21st, 2001

Timo Järvi
Chairman of the board

Ralph-Johan Back
Director

Ulrika Gustafsson
Administrative Officer

Reima Suomi
Chairman in item 8