

*Turku Centre for Computer Science - TUCS*

**Board meeting**

Tuesday, June 24, 2003, at 13.00  
DataCity A, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Meeting room Monologi

**Items of the agenda**

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3. [Change of financing source \(Donner\)](#)
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**Board meeting**

Tuesday, June 24, 2003, at 13.00  
DataCity A, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Meeting room Monologi

**Minutes**

**Present:**

**Members of the board:**

Ralph-Johan Back, Prof., Chair  
Pirkko Walden, Prof.  
Jouni Isoaho, Prof.  
Juhani Karhumäki, Prof.  
Tapio Salakoski, Prof.  
Kaisa Sere, Prof., Vice-Director  
Paula Steinby, Ph.D. Student  
Henry Lönnbäck, M.Sc. Student  
Niko Railo, M.Sc. Student

**Presenting Officers:**

Timo Järvi, Prof., Director, Presenting Officer  
Mats Aspnäs, Coordinator, Presenting Officer  
Christel Donner, Administrative Officer, Presenting Officer  
Ulrika Gustafsson, Administrative Officer  
Pia Le Grand, Administrative Officer, Presenting Officer, 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 Wednesday, June 18, 2003.

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

Decision: According to the 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: Item 8 was added to the agenda.

## 3. Change of financing source (Donner)

On the Board meeting on May 12, 2003, it was decided that Chihab Ben Moussa will get project funding for the time period 1.9.2003 - 31.8.2004. Ben Moussa has been on project funding since 1.1.2003, but the situation has now changed and he needs TUCS financing.

Proposal: Since Chihab Ben Moussa has TUCS guarantee he will get TUCS grant during the time period 1.8.2003 - 31.8.2004.

Decision: According to the proposal. The continuation of the financing will be decided in connection with the handling of the next study reports.

## 4. Applications to the TUCS Graduate School (Järvi)

This item was left on the table in the board meeting on June 9, 2003 (see [http://www.tucs.fi/about/organization/board/minutes/2003/board\\_20030609.pdf](http://www.tucs.fi/about/organization/board/minutes/2003/board_20030609.pdf)). The changes in the presentation are printed in *italics*.

TUCS Graduate School Committee held a meeting on May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2003, where 49 of the 64 the applications that had arrived by the deadline of May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003, were examined (15 applications had been rejected by Timo Järvi and Mats Aspñäs). This time 10 applicants were estimated to 3- or 2½. In addition, 11 applicants were rated as 2+. A listing of all the applicants is marked 1a/06/03. The GS committee's evaluation of the applicants is summarized in 1c/06/03.

The applications of the potential TUCS students have been sent to the members of the board on June 4, 2003, prior to the last board meeting (paper format, marked 1b/06/03). The rest of the applications can be viewed at the meeting or in the office of Administrative Officer Pia Le Grand.

At present TUCS has *at most* 5 salary positions open for Autumn 2003. There are 2 grant positions available (*if Ben Moussa has been given a grant position*). We have asked whether the laboratories can take new Ph.D. students using project money: Carlsson has given a positive reply concerning 1-2 positions. (On the other hand he wants to move BenMoussa from project funding to grant.) Karhumäki promises to pay project funding for 2 Finns during the rest of the year and he hopes to be able to continue this for 1 person next year. Isoaho has undecided applications in the Academy of Finland and wonders whether TUCS can accept students conditionally.

My proposal is presented in a *changed* table (appendix 1f/06/03). I have used the following principles:

- For salary or grant position the laboratory must have some outside funding.
- Second doctoral degree is not funded.
- Salary and grant positions are meant for relatively young researchers.
- Status has been proposed only for those, who have already begun their Ph.D. studies.

Appendices: 1a/06/03: Listing of the applicants (electronic)  
1b/06/03: Applications of potential students of the TUCS GS (paper, sent to the regular board members on June 4, 2003)  
1c/06/03: Evaluation of the applicants by the GS committee (electronic)  
1d/06/03: TUCS Ph.D. student positions (electronic)  
1e/06/03: Financing of TUCS Ph.D. students according to laboratories (electronic)  
1f/06/03: Proposal (electronic)

Proposal: As in appendix 1f/06/03. The requirements must be fulfilled before TUCS starts to pay salary/grant.

Decision: According to the completed appendix 1g/06/03. The requirements must be fulfilled before TUCS starts to pay salary/grant.

On their next meeting, the board will make a decision about giving the TUCS status (without funding or guarantee) to some students, who got 2 or more in the Graduate School Committee's evaluation, and who are already involved with the TUCS departments.

## **5. Postdoctoral applications (Järvi)**

Part of the Postdoctoral applications item was left on the table on the last board meeting on June 9, 2003, see

<http://www.tucs.fi/About/Organization/Bminutes/2003/BMProt.9.6.2003.pdf>.

All applications that had arrived by the deadline as well as the statements from the laboratory heads were sent to you for the last board meeting.

*After the agenda had been e-mailed, Vladimir Kvassov has withdrawn his application (appendix 2d/05/03). On the other hand PhD Chang Sik Kim has applied continuation to his post doc grant (appendix 2e/05/03 below). Prof Salakoski has supported his application (appendix 2f/05/03 below). Kim's CV has been requested and it will be sent later.*

Provided that TUCS funding will continue on the same level than 2003, we can give two grants up to the end of 2004. I suggest that two grants lasting one year would be given with an option to continue for another year.

Below I have collected the information in the statement into numerical form (below). The grading is crude and based on my personal estimation of the statements.

Applicant	Ref 1		Ref 2	
	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Init</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Init</i>
EG	2	ON	2	JK
LHa	1	JW	1	BB
IJ	1	ON	0	JW
CSK	2	TS		
GR	0	JW	0	ON
DPV	0	ON	0	KS

I rank the applicants as follows:

1. *Chang Sik Kim*  
*another TUCS post year, BioInfLab*
2. Evan Griffiths  
PhD in Math, Uni of Wisconsin Madison, USA
3. Lixin Han  
PhD in CS, Nanjing Uni, China
4. Ibrahim Jaluta  
DTech in CS, HUT
5. Deo Parkash Vidyarthi
6. George Rapakov

(Places 5 – 6 are equal.)

Appendices: 2a/06/03: Postdoctoral applications considered for grant positions (electronic)  
2b/06/03: Statements from lab leaders (paper, sent to the regular board members on June 4, 2003)  
2c/06/03: Financing situation of postdoctoral positions (electronic)  
2d/06/03: Kvassov's withdrawal  
2e/05/03: Kim's application  
2f/05/03: Prof. Salakoski's recommendation

Proposal: *PhD Chang Sik Kim (contact person Prof. Tapio Salakoski)* and PhD Evan Griffiths (contact person Prof. Juhani Karhumäki) will be selected for post doc (grant) position for a one year period, Kim starting from October 1, 2003. Griffiths's starting date and the continuation will be decided later.

Decision: PhD Chang Sik Kim's (contact person Prof. Tapio Salakoski) contract is extended with one year (grant position). Griffiths's application is rejected.

## **6. Integration of new Ph.D. students (Le Grand)**

During the Planning Day some ideas about integrating new Ph.D. students to the TUCS community were expressed. New students should be given information about the TUCS and get a chance to meet older students. Foreign students would, especially in the beginning of their studies in Finland, need help with a lot of practical matters from a tutor, who could be an older Ph.D. student at the TUCS GS.

Proposal: A welcome event for new students will be arranged twice a year. The welcome event will consist of an information meeting, where the TUCS staff will provide the new students with information about the TUCS. After the formal meeting there could be an informal gathering for all TUCS Ph.D. students.

Ph.D. students at the TUCS Graduate School will be invited to act as tutors for new foreign students at the Graduate School. The tutor(s) will get a compensation, which is partly meant to cover expenses related to their task. The compensation will be € 20 per new foreign student for students getting a grant, and € 28 per new foreign student for students getting a salary (the compensation for students getting a salary amounts to the same as for students getting a grant after taxes and other salary costs). The tutor's tasks will be defined by the TUCS staff.

Decision: A welcome event for new students will be arranged twice a year. The welcome event will consist of an information meeting, where the TUCS staff will provide the new students with information about the TUCS. After the formal meeting there could be an informal gathering for all TUCS Ph.D. students.

Ph.D. students at the TUCS Graduate School will be invited to act as tutors for new foreign students at the Graduate School. The tutor(s) will get financial compensation for the costs related to their task. The amount of this compensation is decided by the TUCS Director. The tutor's tasks will be defined by the TUCS staff.

## **7. Accepted English language proficiency test scores to the Graduate School (Le Grand)**

TUCS has traditionally asked the non-Finnish applicants to the TUCS Graduate School to prove their knowledge of English by submitting a certificate of knowledge of English. The two accepted tests are the TOEFL (Test Of English as a Foreign Language) and the IELTS (International English Language Testing System).

Regarding the IELTS and the TOEFL minimum scores accepted by Åbo Akademi University, the University of Turku and the Turku School of Economics and Business

Administration, there are some differences. As you can see from the table below the ÅA applies somewhat stricter minimum scores:

Test	ÅA	UTU	TuKKK
TOEFL	575 (paper-based test) 232 (computer-based)	550 (paper-based test) 213 (computer-based)	550 (paper-based test) 213 (computer-based)
IELTS	average score 6.5, no individual scores below 5.5	average score 6.0, no ind. scores below 5.5	average score 6.0, no ind. scores below 5.5

The TUCS has according to my knowledge applied the highest common minimum scores and the decisions have been made by the TUCS board. The minimum scores must follow the universities' requirements. Since the applicants to the TUCS GS do not apply to a specific laboratory (at a specific department, at a specific university), the TUCS must follow the highest common minimum scores of the universities.

Proposal: The language requirement for non-Finnish applicants to the TUCS Graduate School must be proved by either a TOEFL or a IELTS official score report. The minimum scores are as follows:

Test	Minimum scores
TOEFL	575 (paper-based test) 232 (computer-based)
IELTS	average score 6.5, no individual scores below 5.5

Decision: The language requirement for non-Finnish applicants to the TUCS Graduate School must be proved by either a TOEFL or a IELTS official score report. The minimum scores are as follows:

Test	Minimum scores
TOEFL	550-575 (paper-based test) 213-232 (computer-based)
IELTS	average score 6.0-6.5, no individual scores below 5.5

## 8. Laboratory money (Järvi)

Project Manager Mikko Jalonen (ETT/ITL/TY) has sent an urgent application for lab money to be used for building an AV-laboratory in TUCS. He has promised to give a short presentation of the project as well as to give a handout about it. Below is a motivation for the project:

*Digital media and its applications form a highly emerging research field in the future. As a high-tech research center TUCS consists of several separate research laboratories. These laboratories are rather comprehensive on the field of digital media, but the lack of a high-quality audio-visual studio is an undeniable problem. "The TUCS DigiTV Network Laboratory" is closely related to digital media, but it is mostly concentrated on network and transmission protocol issues. Thus, the need for a high-quality AV-laboratory is emerging and it should be equipped to enable close co-operation with the network laboratory. Moreover, together these laboratories form a reasonable unit which can be called as "The TUCS DigiTV Laboratory".*

The application consists of the following (in Finnish):

*Kaiuttimet + äänikortti:  
5 kpl Genelec 1032AM  
1 kpl Genelec 7071A  
RME Multiface + PCI-Card  
yht: 9273 euroa*

*TV:  
Finlux 82X 32" True Flat 100Hz 1100 euroa*

*ATK-laitteet:  
kokonaisuus 3500 euroa*

*Tilan remontointi + kalusteet:  
sohva + pöytä 1000 euroa  
remontti kulut + materiaalit (eristelevyt yms.) 1127 euroa  
yht: 2227 euroa*

*Studion kokonaiskulut ovat siis 16.000 euroa (alv 22%),  
13 115 euroa (alv 0%)*

We have still ca € 70 000 lab money left. This was intended to be divided in October. I think that the IT Department could cover the construction costs.

Appendices: Were handed out at the meeting.

Proposal: TUCS will reserve € 10 000 for this purpose.

Decision: According to the proposal.

## **9. Announcements**



## **9.1 Minutes of the TUCS board meeting of June 9, 2003**

Appendix: 3/06/03: Minutes of the TUCS board meeting of June 9, 2003

[http://www.tucs.fi/about/organization/board/minutes/2003/board\\_20030609.pdf](http://www.tucs.fi/about/organization/board/minutes/2003/board_20030609.pdf)

Turku, June 25, 2003

Ralph-Johan Back  
Chairman of the board

Timo Järvi  
Director

Christel Donner  
Administrative Officer

Pia Le Grand  
Administrative Officer