Turku Centre for Computer Science - TUCS

Board meeting

Monday, December 8, 2003, at 10.00
DataCity A, 2nd floor, TY Neuvotteluhuone 3

Items of the agenda

1. Validity of the meeting and presence of a quorum

2. Additional items

3. Acting Director for TUCS (Donner)

4. Vice-Director for TUCS (Donner)

5. TUCS Coordinator (Donner)

6. Postdoctoral applications (Järvi)

7. Victor Tsygankov's study progress (Le Grand)

8. Dates for the upcoming board meetings (Le Grand)

9. Discussion item: TUCS visual image (Rientola)

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11. Announcements

11.1   The Software Development Centre (OK)

11.2   Minutes of TUCS board meeting of November 5, 2003

11.3   Announcements by the Director

11.4   Exchange with the University of Paderborn, Germany

11.5   ICALP'04 and LICS'04

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Minutes

Present:

Members of the board:
Ralph-Johan Back, Prof., Chair
Pirkko Walden, Prof.
Jouni Isoaho, Prof. (arrived at 10.22, during item 6)
Juhani Karhumäki, Prof.
Tapio Salakoski, Prof.
Kaisa Sere, Prof., Vice-Director (absent during item 4)
Reima Suomi, Prof., Vice-Chair
Jaakko Kuosmanen, CEO (arrived at 10.04, during item 2)
Eugen Czeizler, Ph.D. Student
Niko Railo, M.Sc. Student

TUCS staff:
Timo Järvi, Prof., Director, Presenting Officer (absent during item 3)
Mats Aspnäs, Coordinator, Presenting Officer (absent during item 5)
Ulrika Gustafsson, Administrative Officer
Christel Donner, Administrative Officer, Presenting 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, December 3, 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:　　　Items 11.4 and 11.5 were added to the agenda.

3. Acting Director for TUCS (Donner)

TUCS Director, Prof. Ralph-Johan Back, will continue to be on a leave of absence until 31.12.2005.
Prof. Timo Järvi has been TUCS acting director since January 1st 2002 and his current appointment is until December 31st 2003. Prof. Järvi has expressed his willingness to continue as TUCS director during this 2-year period.

Proposal:　　　TUCS board recommends for the Åbo Akademi University that Prof. Timo Järvi will continue as TUCS director for the time period January 1st 2004 – December 31st 2005. TUCS will pay 50 % of Prof. Järvi's salary (and the University of Turku will pay the other half). The director will in addition to his salary get a monthly compensation of 1.680 EUR from TUCS.

Decision:　　　According to the proposal.

4. Vice-Director for TUCS (Donner)

Professor Kaisa Sere has been TUCS vice-director since February 1st 2002 and the current appointment is until December 31st 2003. The vice-director does not have any specific duties, but acts as a substitute for the director when needed. Prof. Sere has expressed her willingness to continue as TUCS vice-director.

Proposal:　　　Prof. Kaisa Sere is appointed vice-director for TUCS for the time period of January 1st 2004 – December 31st 2005.

Decision:　　　According to the proposal.

5. TUCS Coordinator (Donner)

Lecturer Mats Aspnäs has been TUCS coordinator since February 1st 2002 and the current appointment is until December 31st 2003. Aspnäs has expressed his willingness to continue as TUCS coordinator.

Proposal:　　　Lecturer Mats Aspnäs is appointed TUCS coordinator for the time period January 1st 2004 – December 31st 2005. TUCS will pay 50 % of salary class A24 to the coordinator. The coordinator will also get a monthly compensation corresponding to the difference between salary class A26 and A24.

Decision:　　　According to the proposal.

6. Postdoctoral applications (Järvi)

TUCS has received 9 postdoctoral applications.

The applications are in appendix 1a/10/03. TUCS has asked statements about each applicant from two lab leaders (appendix 1b/10/03).

Christel Donner has given information about current status of TUCS post docs. Provided TUCS funding will be confirmed as discussed in the result negotiations, we can hardly give one grant up to the end of 2004.

The applicants are:
– Dameng Deng
– Xiaodong Fu
– Lixin Han
– Kyoko Iwasawa
– Vladimir Polyakov
– Jie Wang
– Ge Xiaohu
– Juliana Yim
– Liu Yu

Juhani Karhumäki has given an extraordinary good statement about Deng and Olli Nevalainen recommends him.

Barbro Back writes that Han, Polyakov, and Yim fit to the profile of her research area and she probably has money to hire one of them. Olli Nevalainen recommends neither Han nor Polakov. Reima Suomi recommends Yim. In a telephone discussion with Barbro Back she decided not to hire anyone at the moment.

The other applicants did not receive positive statements.

Despite of worsening monetary situation, I propose that Deng should be given a post doc grant for one year. The starting date could be agreed with his host Juhani Karhumäki.

Appendices: 1a/10/03: Applications (electronic)
                1b/10/03: Statements (electronic)

Proposal: Dameng Deng will be given a post doc grant for one year. He will be located in the Discrete Mathematics for Information Technology Laboratory

Decision: The decision concerning Dameng Deng's application was postponed, all other applications were rejected.

7. Victor Tsygankov's study progress (Le Grand)

According to the decision made by the board on their meeting on 12.5.2003, Ph.D. student Victor Tsygankov submitted a study plan for the remaining part of his doctoral studies. On the basis of this study plan Tsygankov's supervisor Prof. Reima Suomi proposed that the financing of Tsygankov's doctoral studies would be continued until 31.12.2003, when a new assessment would be done (BM 9.6.2003).

Appendices: 2a/10/03: Suomi's report on Tsygankov's study progress (electronic)
                2b/10/03: Tsygankov´s comment (electronic)

Proposal: Based on Prof. Suomi's report Victor Tsygankov's financing could be continued until 31.8.2004.

Decision: According to the proposal.

8. Dates for the upcoming TUCS board meetings (Le Grand)

The dates for the upcoming board meetings should be decided.

Proposal: The board meetings will be held on February 2, March 15, April 26, and June 17, 2004.

Decision: The board meetings will be held on February 2, March 15, and April 26. The date for the meeting in June will be confirmed later.

9. Discussion item: TUCS visual image (Rientola)

The need for clear communication and marketing plans for TUCS has been stressed several times during the past years. TUCS overall strategy was outlined during last summer, and it has now been the right time for developing a visual image as well as communication and marketing plans (included in the TUCS budget 2003) for TUCS. The work is done together with the marketing agency Rientola.

The first step in the process has now been taken. To clarify the needs and goals, Rientola arranged a workshop for a group of people representing the departments participating in TUCS. The main purpose of the workshop was to define the target groups and their expectations, define strengths and weaknesses, and to discuss the expectations for the future. Based on the discussions and on other collected information Rientola has now worked out a proposal for a visual image. The proposal was presented (by Rientola) at this meeting.

10. Discussion item: The ICT house

The current situation of the ICT house was discussed. At this point it looks like it would be possible to move in in the spring 2006.

11. Announcements

11.1 The Software Development Centre (OK)

At the Board meeting held on October 7th 2003 the TUCS Board decided that the administration of Software Development Centre (OK) should be transferred back to the Turku Polytechnic as of January 1st 2004. OK will be considered as a TUCS laboratory, but TUCS will have no financial or legal responsibility for OK after December 31st 2003.

A workgroup consisting of Christel Donner, Timo Järvi, Johan Lilius and Olli Mertanen decided on their meeting November 18th 2003 the following.

- The rental agreement should not be in ÅA´s name after December 31st 2003
- The employment for all employees ends December 31st 2003
- The employees have to keep their earned vacation days (some exceptions may be possible)
- The new employments will be discussed separately
- A clarification of projects that will continue 2004
- Salaries related to the ProceMods-project will be transferred as soon as possible
- The ProceMods-project will be transferred to the department of Computer Science from January 1st 2004
- A clarification of the employees work during 2003 is needed
- Could more invoices related to the projects be sent during 2003?

11.2   Minutes of TUCS board meeting of November 5, 2003

 http://www.tucs.fi/about/organization/board/minutes/2003/board_20031105.pdf

11.3   Announcements by the Director

Appendix: 3/10/03: Announcements by the Director (electronic)

11.4   Exchange with the University of Paderborn, Germany

TUCS Director has been in contact with representatives from the University of Paderborn and discussed a possible exhange between doctoral students at TUCS Graduate School and the International Graduate School of Dynamic Intelligent Systems at the University of Paderborn.

11.5   ICAPL'04 and LICS'04

Prof. Juhani Karhumäki informed about two international conferences, ICAPL'04 and LICS'04, which will be arranged in Turku in July 2004.

Turku, December 23, 2003

Ralph-Johan Back   Timo Järvi
Chairman of the board   Director

Christel Donner   Pia Le Grand
Administrative Officer   Administrative Officer