

Board meeting

Monday, November 29, 2004, at 13.00
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. Vice director for TUCS (Järvi)
4. New members to the Advisory Committee (Gustafsson)
5. New chairman in the IS workgroup (Aspnäs)
6. Changes in PhD student positions (Järvi)
7. Dates for the upcoming board meetings (Aspnäs)
8. Discussion item: New form of Master's school (Järvi)
9. Discussion item: TUCS strategy (Järvi)
10. Discussion item: Acting director for TUCS (Järvi)
11. Discussion item: Educational workgroups (Aspnäs)
12. Announcements
 - 12.1 Minutes of TUCS board meeting of September 27, 2004

Board meeting

Monday, November 29, 2004, at 13.00
DataCity A, 2nd floor, TY Neuvotteluhuone 3

Members of the board:

Ralph-Johan Back, Prof., Chair
Christer Carlsson, Prof.
Jouni Isoaho, Prof.
Juhani Karhumäki, Prof.
Tapio Salakoski, Prof.
Jan Westerholm, Prof.
Jaakko Kuosmanen, CEO
Paula Steinby, Ph.D. Student, arrived during item 2

TUCS staff:

Timo Järvi, Prof., Director, Presenting Officer
Mats Aspäs, Coordinator, Presenting Officer
Christel Donner, Administrative Officer, Presenting Officer
Monika Eklund, Administrative Officer, Secretary of the meeting
Ulrika Gustafsson, Administrative Officer, Presenting Officer

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 November 24, 2004.

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: No additional items were presented.

3. Vice director for TUCS (Järvi)

Vice director Professor Kaisa Sere has applied for resignation both from TUCS board and from TUCS' vice director position because of her duties in the Academy of Finland.

The board of Åbo Akademi University has in its meeting 18.11.2004 admitted her resignation from TUCS board. The board should admit the resignation from the vice director position and name a new vice director.

The vice director does not have any specific duties, but acts as a substitute for the director when needed.

In the discussions within Åbo Akademi University professor Jan Westerholm has been proposed as the new vice director.

Proposal: Professor Kaisa Sere's resignation will be accepted and Professor Jan Westerholm (IB/ÅA) will be appointed as a vice director for the period November 30th 2004 – December 31st 2005.

Decision: According to proposal.

4. New members to the Advisory Committee (Gustafsson)

Advisory Committee member Raimo Hyvönen from Turku Polytechnics has informed us that he has retired and that he will leave the advisory committee. Hyvönen is succeeded by Olli Mertanen, and therefore, Mertanen has been proposed as a new advisory committee member. Mertanen is interested in a membership.

Since Jouko Häyrynen no longer represents Nokia, a new representative for Nokia should be chosen. The suggestion to ask Ari Ikonen has been supported. Ikonen has been consulted and he is interested in becoming a member of the advisory committee.

Appendix: [1/06/04](#): TUCS Neuvottelukunta 1.6.2003-31.5.2006

Proposal: Raimo Hyvönen's membership is ended. Olli Mertanen and Ari Ikonen are nominated as new members for the period 29.11.2004-31.5.2006.

Decision: According to proposal.

5. New chairman in the IS workgroup (Aspnäs)

In its meeting on 20.10.2004 the Information Systems workgroup suggests that Markku Nurminen is appointed as the new chairman for the group.

Proposal: Markku Nurminen is appointed as the new chairman of the Information Systems workgroup.

Decision: According to proposal.

6. Changes in PhD student positions (Järvi)

There are many changes in the Graduate School's student positions. Although they could be decided by the director I introduce them to the board because of the number of cases and because many of them concern one department.

1. Prof. Ari Paasio applies transferring Jonne Poikonen and Laura Vesalainen from guarantees to salaries (appendix 2a/06/04) starting from January 1st, 2005. Poikonen started 9/2003 and is now going to write the manuscript of the thesis. He needs salary for one year. Vesalainen started 9/2004 and her assistant's position ends July 31st, 2005. Earlier start would help keeping

some younger researchers. Paasio also gives other motivations in his application.

2. Prof. Jouni Isoaho proposes to discontinue Tuomas Valtonen's salary position as well as transfer Johanna Tuominen from guarantee to salary both starting from January 1st, 2005 (appendix 2b/06/04). Valtonen will get his PhLic degree in December and has no direct continuation to PhD. He has promised to send his resignation which will then be treated by the director. Tuominen started 1/2004 and the reason for transfer is that no research applications from the discipline were accepted by the Academy of Finland.
3. Dag Björklund (started 6/2001) will need a few months continuation to his salary ending December 31st. The reason is too optimistic estimation. This will be decided by the director.

The nature of TUCS guarantee should be clarified. I think that the primary responsibility for the salary/grant of a guarantee student lies on the supervisor/department. Sometimes, especially in project funding cases, the length of the known funding may be short at the student admission time. On the other hand the system should work also in the opposite direction, i.e. transfers from salaries to guarantees should be made.

We have from this year in salaries a surplus of 2.4 person years. In addition we have estimated that for year 2005 we have 2.3 salary positions available. So it would be possible to realize these 3 transfers. Last summer we could take only one salary student, so we could now compensate this.

Appendices: [2a/06/04](#): Prof. Ari Paasio's application
[2b/06/04](#): Prof. Jouni Isoaho's application

Proposal: PhD students Poikonen, Vesalainen, and Tuominen will be moved to salaries for the period 1.1. – 31.8.2005. The continuation is treated normally after receiving the study reports.

Decision: According to proposal.

7. Dates for the upcoming board meetings (Aspnäs)

The dates for the upcoming board meetings should be decided.

Proposal: The board meetings will be held on January 31, March 14, April 25, and June 13, 2005.

Decision: According to proposal.

8. Discussion item: New form of Master's School (Järvi)

The universities and the departments will introduce the two step study model in fall term 2005. It seems to me that most departments will change their Master's training to the new system as late as in fall 2006. So this would be an ideal time to unify all TUCS Master's school programs and the new master's programs in the departments.

An idea of the new model is presented in the appendix 3/06/04. It is not yet clear whether the whole training or part of it will be implemented as joint degrees. The motivation for the unification is presented below:

- The teaching resources are decreasing.
- To the Master's programs four kind of students may be accepted:
 - Regular students, i.e. Bachelors from own department
 - Bachelors from other Finnish universities
 - Bachelors from Finnish polytechnics
 - Bachelors from foreign universities and polytechnics
- The planning of Master's programs will be done by TUCS' workgroups
- Better connection to TUCS research focus areas
- Smaller number of English Master Programs within TUCS
- Foreign students can have additional subjects in English within TUCS MS

The board discusses the MS plans and adds momentum to the implementation.

Appendix: 3/06/04: Plan for TUCS MS

Conclusion:

- Mathematics from Åbo Akademi University should also be included in TUCS master's school. Mathematics could build a joint degree program with Mathematics from University of Turku.
- The departments could pay for the teaching given. A department that receives many credits should also get financial aid for the credits. This should be proposed to the Ministry of Education.
- The different study tracks can be created so that the laboratories are in charge of them.
- TUCS master's school is to be developed to become similar to TUCS graduate school.
- With joint degree the quotas and side tracks can be determined.
- There should be a common application process to all the master's programs within TUCS.
- The "political TUCS" is to take this suggestion about joint degrees to the Ministry of Education.

9. Discussion item: TUCS strategy (Järvi)

In the result based negotiation with the rectors TUCS was determined to present a strategy for the years 2006-2009 at next years negotiations. This should include balanced incomes and outflows. The low PhD outcome in some departments was criticized. Also Academy of Finland requires in next February a plan of actions for TUCS (GS) covering period 2006-2009.

According to the statutes of TUCS (<http://www.tucs.fi/about/johtosaanto.php>) the main tasks of TUCS concern research and education. In research we should still concentrate our forces to a handful of focus areas and increase applied research on these areas. In education the design and implementation of the Master's School as well as improvement of the Graduate School gives the right of existence to TUCS. So the requirement of external funding is only partly motivated. On the other hand TUCS will gather funding from Ministry of Education, Academy of Finland, TEKES etc. in larger extent than the departments separately could gather. This funding is used for the benefit of the departments.

The board will discuss the strategy for a new revision.

A working version of TUCS strategy 2005-2008 is attached (appendix 4/06/04).

Appendix: 4/06/04: TUCS strategy 2005 – 2008 (version 0.1)

The board discussed the strategy and the following changes were made (appendix 4a/06/04).

Goals:

- Virtual IT faculty – not any more.

Means:

- Top students from master's school could be recruited to the graduate school.
- International exchange.
- International funding: Marie Curie and European Union financing programs.
- Grouping of the laboratories – not a good idea.
- TUCS as a research centre: bigger projects to TUCS -> a coordinator is needed.
- Co-operation of laboratories via common projects.
- ICT building – not any more.

Funding:

- TUCS should have an own agreement concerning the overhead percentage.
- TUCS graduate and master's school contribute to bringing in money to TUCS.
- Lab money could mainly flow through departments – not any more.
- TUCS as a brand.

The strategy is to be discussed before Christmas. Ralph Back will appoint 2 small groups and call to a meeting.

Appendix: [4a/06/04](#): TUCS strategy 2005 – 2008 (version 0.2)

10. Discussion item: Acting Director for TUCS (Järvi)

Professor Timo Järvi has applied for resignation from his professorship in University of Turku starting from September 1st 2005. On the same date he shall resign from the acting director's position in TUCS.

Conclusion:

The director's position will be discussed during the spring 2005. Which model is to be followed? How is the organization within TUCS done?

11. Discussion item: Educational workgroups (Aspnäs)

As discussed in item 8, the planning of the joint master's programs within TUCS should start as soon as possible. The educational workgroups (CE-, CS- and IS-groups) should therefore be renewed so that they include the persons that are involved in planning the master's programs in each department. The current members of the workgroups are listed in appendix 5/06/04.

Appendix: [5/06/04](#): Workgroups

Conclusion:

Those in charge of planning the Bologna process at the departments are going to participate in the new educational work groups. There should be 5 or 6 smaller groups.

TUCS will ask the Faculty of Chemical Engineering to dissolve the CE group.

12. Announcements

12.1 Minutes of TUCS board meeting of September 27, 2004.

http://www.tucs.fi/about/organization/board/minutes/2004/board_20040927.pdf

Turku, December 10th, 2004

Ralph-Johan Back
Chairman of the Board

Timo Järvi
Director

Monika Eklund
Administrative Officer