

Turku Centre for Computer Science - TUCS

Board meeting

Monday, June 13, 2005, at 13.00
DataCity A, 2nd floor, TY Neuvotteluhuone 3

Items of the agenda

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Board meeting

Monday, June 13, 2005, at 13.00
DataCity A, 2nd floor, TY Neuvotteluhuone 3

Present:

Members of the board:

Ralph-Johan Back, Prof., Chair
Christer Carlsson, Prof.
Jouni Isoaho, Prof.
Juhani Karhumäki, Prof.
Tapio Salakoski, Prof.
Jan Westerholm, Prof., Vice-Director
Reima Suomi, Prof., Vice-Chair
Hannu-Pekka Kulta, M.Sc. Student

TUCS staff:

Timo Järvi, Prof., Director, Presenting Officer
Mats Aspnäs, Coordinator, Presenting Officer
Christel Donner, Administrative Officer, Presenting Officer
Venja Lehtikari, Administrative 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 June 8, 2005.

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. Change of financing source (Donner)

On the Board meeting held April 25th, 2005 no decisions were made concerning the financing sources for the Ph.D. students Marcus Alanen and Qaisar Malik for the time period September 1st, 2005 – August 31st, 2006. Both Alanen and Malik have been on project funding (with TUCS guarantee) since they started at TUCS, Alanen since January 2003 and Malik since September 2004.

Proposal: Since TUCS has a surplus of salary positions for the moment, Marcus Alanen will receive TUCS salary for the time period September 1st, 2005 – August 31st, 2006. Qaisar Malik will continue to receive project funding until August 31st, 2006.

Decision: According to proposal.

4. Revision of an earlier salary decision (Donner)

On the Board meeting held April 25th, 2005 it was decided that Ph.D. student Ping Yan will receive TUCS salary until December 31st, 2005. The decision was made based on the information that he would graduate in December 2005, which was based on inaccurate information, since Yan will defend his thesis June 16th, 2005.

Proposal: Ph.D. student Ping Yan will, according to the new decision, receive TUCS salary until August 31st, 2005.

Decision: According to proposal.

5. Applications to TUCS Graduate School (Järvi)

TUCS Graduate School Committee held a meeting on May 30th, 2005, where all the 71 applications that had arrived by the deadline of May 16th, 2005 were examined. In addition 3 applications arrived late and they were not accepted. Based on expert statements (appendix 3/04/05) the committee evaluated the candidates. This time two applicants were estimated to 3- and four to 2½. After them, 20 applicants were rated as 2+ (2,3 means a big plus [8 appl.], 2,25 means a usual plus [12 appl.]). An idea was to go through the former subgroup and decide to which group, 2½ or 2+, each of the members belonged, but the committee run out of time. A listing of all the applicants is in appendix 1/04/05. It contains also the GS committee's evaluation of the applicants as well as my proposal for the selection. The applicants are ordered firstly by GS committee's scores in a descending order and secondly by last name.

The applications forms, research interests, recommendation letters and certificates are attached (appendix 2/04/05). The rest of the applications can be viewed at the meeting or in the office of Administrative Officer Venja Lehtikari.

At present we have 15 salary positions for the years 2002-5 (9 of them are information industry program places) and 13 for years 2003-6. We have applied to regain the former positions and the board of the Academy of Finland has dealt with applications on June 7th. If we get all the 15 places TUCS will have at most 11 salary positions open for autumn 2005 (appendix 6/04/05). I'll try to get information about Academy's statement before our meeting. There are *hardly any* grant positions available. We have asked laboratories and all professors whether they can take new Ph.D. students using project money. I have marked the answers in the comments column. CREST has opened Ph.D.

student positions of their own and they are going to fill them after TUCS board meeting. Some of our applicants have also applied to CREST.

There are principles discussed in the board about student selection:

- Selection should be based on applicant's ranking and suitability in the research profile of TUCS.
- A supervisor in a TUCS laboratory is named.
- In the long run laboratories should have balanced funding (i.e. equal number of students paid by TUCS and the laboratory).

I would like to add two principles:

- The student is not automatically selected for 4 years, but already advanced students could have a shorter period.
- The salary and guarantee classes are merged, so that a student could be moved between Ministry of Education doctor school position and project salary. Now the movement happens mainly in one direction.

Otherwise I have used the following principles:

- 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 or those starters who have other funding but not so high scores.

My proposal is presented in last columns of the table (appendix 1/04/05). I have tried to find all possible sources of financing. In this aspect the situation in TUCS seems to be rather positive. Many laboratories have reached a steady state with good research funding. The division of different student funding sources during the last six years in the departments can be seen in statistics (appendices 3/04/05 and 4/04/05). On the other hand results from the same period are presented in degrees (appendix 7/04/05).

The supervisors should take care that the studies will be completed as soon as possible (max 4 years) and apply external money for present as well as for new students.

I have also ranked the salary students. In the case that we get less than 15 places from the Ministry, I propose that we drop the same number of salary students starting from the last rank.

Appendices: 1/04/05: Applicants to the Graduate School
2/04/05: Scanned applications
3/04/05: Expert evaluations
4/04/05: Department statistics 2000-2005
5/04/05: Laboratory statistics 2000-2005
6/04/05: Student positions 2005
7/04/05: Degrees 2000-2005

Proposal: According to appendix 1/04/05. The intake is conditional regarding salary positions. If Ministry of Education allocates TUCS less than 15 places, the last ranking salary students will be dropped off respectively.

New proposal: A new appendix 1a/04/05 was distributed at the beginning of the meeting. The intake is conditional regarding salary positions. If Ministry

of Education allocates TUCS less than 15 places, the last ranking students will be dropped respectively.

Decision: The statistics about the student financing between departments should be taken into account when distributing new Graduate School positions. In the next student selection these rules should be applied.

The Ph.D applicants listed below will be accepted as new TUCS Ph.D. students, starting September 1st 2005. The supervisor is mentioned in the brackets. The salary positions depend on the decision of the Ministry of Education, to allocate the same amount of salary positions (15) as before.

Heidi Joki	TUCS Status (Isoaho)
Kai Kimppa	TUCS Status (Nurminen)
Markku Laine	TUCS Status (Karhumäki/Harju)
Janne Lahtiranta	TUCS Status (Nurminen)
Ville Lukkarila	TUCS Status (Kari)
Anne-Maria Ernvall-Hytönen	TUCS Guarantee (Jutila)
Olli Lahdenoja	TUCS Guarantee (Paasio)
Kristian Nybom	TUCS Guarantee (Lilius)
Jussi Poikonen	TUCS Gurantee (Ipatov)
Mikko Pänkäälä	TUCS Guarantee (Paasio)
Khan Niazi Muhammad	TUCS Part-time student (Sere)
Matus Kalas	TUCS Grant (R. Back)
Vladimir Rogojin	TUCS Grant (Petre)
Marketta Hiissa	TUCS Salary (B. Back)
Thomas Byholm	TUCS Salary (Westerholm)
Johannes Eriksson	TUCS Salary (R. Back)
Jan Packalén	TUCS Salary (Carlsson)
Hanna Suominen	TUCS Salary (Karsten/Salakoski)
Fredrik Degerlund	TUCS Salary (Sere)
Sami Mäkelä	TUCS Salary (Leppänen)
Teijo Lehtonen	TUCS Salary (Plosila)
Tero Jokela	1. reserve salary position (Ipatov)
Janne Maunu	2. reserve salary position (Paasio)

In addition Riku Klén would be requested some further clarifications in order to be accepted to the Graduate School. The item was left on the table.

The decisions can be found in appendix [8/04/05](#).

6. Dates for the upcoming board meetings (Lehtikari)

The dates for the upcoming board meetings should be decided.

Proposal: The board meetings will be held on 4th of August, 26th of September and 28th of November. The meetings will start at 13.00.

Decision: According to proposal.

7. Announcements

7.1 [Minutes of TUCS board meeting of April 25, 2005](#)

Turku, June 22nd, 2005

**Ralph-Johan Back
Chairman of the Board**

**Timo Järvi
Director**

**Christel Donner
Administrative Officer**

**Venja Lehtikari
Administrative Officer**