

Board meeting

Monday, March 17, 2008, at 13.00

ICT building, Joukahaisenkatu 3-5 B, 6th floor, TUCS conferens room

Items of the agenda

1. Validity of the meeting and presence of a quorum
2. Additional items
3. Closing of TUCS accounts 2007 (Donner)
4. Guidelines for the Graduate School Committee for the next application round (Tenhunen)
5. Discussion item: ICT SHOK
6. Discussion item: The Nordic Master School and the application for the Nordplus Framework Programme 2008-2011
7. Discussion item: PhD MBA
8. Discussion item: Presentation of the first version of the Nordic Master Programme advertisement brochure
9. Announcements
 - 9.1 Minutes of TUCS Board meeting of February 11, 2008
 - 9.2 Agreement with Turku Polytechnic
 - 9.3 Summer School in New Trends in Software Engineering
 - 9.4 Continuation of financing for GS-students

Board meeting

Monday, March 17, 2008, at 13.00

ICT building, Joukahaisenkatu 3-5 B, 6th floor, TUCS conferens room

Present:

Jan Westerholm, Prof

Johan Lilius, Prof., left during item 9

Jouni Isoaho, Prof.

Juhani Karhumäki, Prof., left during item 5

Timo Knuutila, Prof., left during item 7

Reima Suomi, Prof., Vice-Chair

Olli Mertanen, Vice Rector

Tuomo Saarni, Ph.D. Student

Tuukka Simonen, M.Sc. Student

TUCS staff:

Hannu Tenhunen, Prof., Director, Presenting Officer

Tapio Salakoski, Prof., Vice-director, Presenting Officer

Christel Donner, Administrative Officer, Presenting Officer, Secretary of the meeting

Satu Jääskeläinen, Graduate School Coordinator, 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 March 12, 2008.

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. Closing of TUCS accounts 2007 (Donner)

For year 2007 TUCS accounts show a surplus of 382.481 EUR. From the total surplus 73.516 EUR is reserved for salaries for Ph.D. students and the coordinator, 25.215 EUR for travel and coordination costs related to the Graduate School and 75.166 EUR is

reserved for the Nordic Master Program iICT. The rest, 208.584 EUR, can be used without restrictions.

Appendix: 01/02/08 [TUCS Budget Summary 1.1-31.12.2007](#)
02/02/08 [Account Balances 31.12.2007](#)

Proposal: The Board approves the closing of TUCS account for year 2007.

Decision: According to proposal.

4. Guidelines for the Graduate School Committee for the next application round (Tenhunen)

In the last meeting the Board delegated to the GS Committee the task of preparing a proposal for evaluating and selecting new Ph.D. students according to guidelines and budget frame established by TUCS Board. This year the application round to TUCS Graduate School is open until March 31st, 2008 and the new criteria approved by the Board Dec. 17th, 2007 will be used for student evaluation.

The budget frame for the intake is 7 positions with 48 months of funding (4y) or 14 positions with 24 months of funding (2y). The allocation of available salary months is shown in appendix 3. TUCS will prepare a financing plan for the selected students through matching funding from the departments.

Appendix: 3/02/08 [Available salary months 2008](#)

Proposal: According to the available budget frame, 15-16 new students with 2 years funding should be selected.

The deadline for receiving the master's degree is August 31st. For Ph.D. studies beginning in September, an officially certified copy of the certificate and a Ph.D. study plan submitted to the faculty for acceptance have to be presented at TUCS Office by the end of September. Exceptionally and for a good reason, the Ph.D. studies can be started later.

Decision: According to proposal, with the addition that the Ph.D. studies must begin by the end of October. The Board pointed out that exceptions from the dates can be agreed on for a good reason. The Board also asked for feedback from the Graduate School Committee concerning the new selection criteria, which will be used for the first time in this spring application round.

5. Discussion item: ICT SHOK

The current status of TUCS participation in the ICT SHOK will be reported and discussed.

- Tivit Oy started its operations on March 3; Christer Carlsson was elected an alternate member of the board; the four university representatives have agreed to form a network to work out joint positions on all relevant ICT SHOK issues
- Future Internet submitted its program proposal on March 11; the decision on how to proceed with the proposal will be made at the Tivit Oy board meeting on March 27 (Christer Carlsson will participate in the meeting); the TUCS

project was excluded from the proposal and will have to be submitted for the next round.

- Flexible Services is not yet ready; TUCS in cooperation with Jyväskylä, Oulu and University of Helsinki has worked out a joint module - discussions and negotiations are on-going; TUCS has a second module in the Media part of the program and a third module in the Living Labs section
- Device Interoperability is forming up but has not yet been submitted to Tivit Oy; TUCS is represented in one module
- Collaborative Traffic module has not yet been submitted but is in the final stages of preparation; TUCS representatives have not managed to get a module into the program
- Our universities are changing to the full cost accounting by January 1, 2009 - it may make sense to focus larger programs to start in January 2009.

Conclusion: The current status of the ICT SHOK was discussed, especially the problems concerning the full cost principle.

6. Discussion item: The Nordic Master School and the application for the Nordplus Framework Programme 2008-2011

Current situation of the Nordic Master Program project:

Innovation & Entrepreneurship module strategy and content identified and agreed to be implementing in a similar way in all participating universities. TSE will provide the first reference design and implementation.

The program brochure is under final preparation. Each partner university has own focus areas (core competences, 30 ECTS, block which can be taken in one semester) and, as part of Nordplus program, flexible mobility arrangements and financial support will be provided.

Core Competences:

ÅA:

- IAMSR: The use of intelligent technologies in the intersection between ICT and business, for problem solving, for building value services and improving the productivity of working time
- For Nordplus Embedded systems and dependable software need to be added

TSE:

- Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Global Growth
- New Business Models and New Venture Development
- Innovation processes

UTU:

- Text and Data mining for Biomedical Informatics
- Algorithms in Bioinformatics
- Computer Game Development
- Algorithms for Industry
- Security and Cryptographic in Computer Networks
- Nanoscale Electronic Systems
- Mobile Digital Multimedia Broadcasting

Nordplus application

We are preparing a Nordplus Higher Education Program application by 21.4.2008. The programme promotes quality and innovation in the education systems in the Nordic and Baltic countries by supporting many types of exchanges, projects and networks. The application is based on the enlargement of the NMP network for all the master-level ICT

education at the partner universities and inviting Tallinn Technical University, Copenhagen Business School and Stockholm Handelshögskolan.

Enlargement of the Nordic Master Programme into Nordic Master School

We have decided to enlarge the concept of the NMP to NMS (Nordic Master School). The NMS is a virtual umbrella organization that covers all ICT Master level education in the partner universities. As the pool of eligible students in the NMP will be around 900 students, it will be almost double as much is in the NMS. While the purpose of the NMP was to attract more top students to the Nordic Universities with excellent specialization possibilities and innovation studies, the aim of the NMS is to network the Nordic-Baltic universities more efficiently in order to strengthen the Nordic Innovation Powerhouse and increase the quality, attractiveness and competence of the ICT education among the local students.

The NMS network extends the NMP partnerships into Estonia: the Tallinn University of Technology has agreed to join the NMS network. We see that the Baltic belongs to this project of building the Baltic Sea Region Innovation Powerhouse cooperation as an essential part.

The project will go to the faculties during the spring. On 18.3.2008 we will have a meeting in Stockholm where we will try to find all possible problems concerning the acceptance in the faculties.

Conclusion: TUCS Board encouraged the preparation of the Nordplus-application as planned.

7. Discussion item: PhD MBA

Current status of the plan will be discussed.

Conclusion: The plan was discussed and the Board gave their support to it. More information can be found in appendix 4.

Appendix: 4/02/08 [PhD MBA in ICT](#)

8. Discussion item: Presentation of the first version of the Nordic Master Programme advertisement brochure

Conclusion: A first version of the brochure was presented. Changes and improvements will still be made, both regarding the text and the pictures, but the overall image of the brochure was good.

9. Announcements

9.1 Minutes of TUCS Board meeting of February 11, 2008

http://www.tucs.fi/downloads/minutes/board/board_20080211.pdf

9.2 Agreement with Turku Polytechnic

Vice rector Olli Mertanen from Turku Polytechnic reported on the preparations that have been done concerning their plans to become a member of TUCS. Preparations are well under way, but no decisions have still been made.

9.3 Summer School in New Trends in Software Engineering

TUCS will organize a summer school within the Network of Finnish Graduate Schools in Information Technology (Figsit) on August 4-6, 2008 in Turku. There is no participation fee for TUCS doctoral students.

9.4 Continuation of financing for GS-students

Doctoral student Petri Salmela (UTU/Mat) has been granted an additional three months of financing.

Turku, March 17th, 2008

Reima Suomi
Vice Chair of the Board

Hannu Tenhunen
Director

Christel Donner
Secretary of the meeting