

Board meeting

Monday, February 2, 2009, 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. TUCS Budget 2009 (Donner)
4. Complaint from the application round 2008 (Tenhunen)
5. Updating of the evaluation criteria (Jääskeläinen)
6. Flexible starting time of the doctoral studies at TUCS (Jääskeläinen)
7. Language requirement of the international applicants (Jääskeläinen)
8. Announcements
 - 8.1 Minutes of TUCS Board meeting of December 9, 2008
 - 8.2 Financial follow-up for used TUCS salary months
 - 8.3 Information about new Master´s degree programs
 - 8.4 The agreement with TuAMK
 - 8.5 Additional TUCS financing for GS student

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Present:

Johan Lilius, Prof.

Christer Carlsson, Prof., Chair

Jouni Isoaho, Prof.

Juhani Karhumäki, Prof.

Timo Knuutila, Prof.

Olli Mertanen, Vice Rector, arrived during item 5

Teijo Lehtonen, 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 January 28th, 2009.

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

Decision: Validity and quorum were confirmed.

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 7 (Language requirement of the international applicants) were added to the agenda.

3. TUCS Budget 2009 (Donner)

The proposal for TUCS Budget 2009 can be found in appendix 01/01/09.

Appendix: [01/01/09 TUCS Budget 2009](#)

Proposal: The Board will approve the budget for year 2009.

Decision: According to proposal. An updated and improved version of the budget and a plan of action will be presented in the next meeting.

4. Complaint from the application round 2008 (Tenhunen)

Mr. Markus Voltti, M.Sc. has filed a complaint on January 9, 2009 concerning the latest TUCS application round for funded TUCS graduate positions. The application deadline was for the latest round of applications March 23, 2008.

Appendix: [02/01/09 Complaint](#)
[03/01/09 Statement from the supervisor](#)

Proposal: Mr. Voltti's complaint concerns the correctness of the evaluation of his application.

TUCS Board has asked, through the Graduate School Director, the Graduate School Committee to carry out a revision of Mr Voltti's application. The TUCS Graduate School Committee found at its meeting on January 26, 2009 that the evaluation of Mr Voltti's application had been carried out in accordance with the guidelines decided by the TUCS Board on December 17, 2007.

TUCS Board concludes that Mr. Voltti's application was evaluated according to TUCS Board defined guidelines. Therefore no further actions with respect to the earlier TUCS Board (12.5.2008) decision on the funded TUCS Graduate School positions are needed.

Decision: According to proposal.

Teijo Lehtonen wanted to add a motion to the proposal, regarding granting a TUCS GS salary position for 6 months. The motion was seconded by Tuukka Simonen.

The Board did not take the motion under consideration as it did not address the handling of the complaint.

5. Updating of the evaluation criteria (Jääskeläinen)

TUCS GS Committee has discussed the evaluation criteria in the meeting January 26, 2009, and concluded to propose a number of modifications for the spring 2009 application round.

Appendices: [04/01/09 Proposal for the new criteria](#)
[05/01/09 Publications](#)
[06/01/09 Doctoral studies credits \(ov\)](#)
[07/01/09 Doctoral studies credits \(op, ECTS\)](#)
[08/01/09 Points from the Master's Thesis and grades](#)
[09/01/09 Evaluation criteria 2008](#)

Proposal: The Board will accept the suggested changes to the evaluation criteria.

Decision: According to proposal with some minor changes. The Chair of the Graduate School Committee, the leader of TUCS GS and the Coordinator

will formulate the final version. The final version can be found in appendix [4a/01/09](#).

6. Flexible starting time of the doctoral studies at TUCS (Jääskeläinen)

The general practice of TUCS has been that the studies and the TUCS funding will start at the beginning of September after the spring application round. However, this practice has been noticed to impractical, as often some students would like to start earlier and some later. Few expectations have been made already before based on a request from the supervisor.

Proposal: The general instruction will still be that the studies and funding at TUCS will start September 1, but with a good reason the start can take place between June 1 and December 1. If the student wants to start at another time than September 1, he/she must make a written request together with his/her supervisor to TUCS Director as soon as possible after the admission decisions have been published.

Decision: According to proposal.

7. Language requirement of the international applicants (Jääskeläinen)

The current rule of TUCS is that the English language test will not be required from applicants, who have conducted their secondary education in Finland, in the EU countries, in the U.S, the UK, Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand or in South Africa, nor from the applicants, who have completed a Master's Degree (minimum of two years Master's programme) in the EU, the U.S, Canada, Australia, New Zealand or in South Africa and English has been the main medium of instruction in that Master's programme.

The limits for the language tests are as follows:

Applicants of the University of Turku:

IELTS: Average 6.5; no individual scores below 5.5.

TOEFL: 550 points (paper based total) or 232 points (computer based total) or 90 points (iBT total).

Applicants of the Åbo Akademi University:

IELTS: Average 6.5; no individual scores below 5.5.

TOEFL: 575 points (paper based total) or 232 points (computer based total) or 90 points (iBT total).

Applicants of the Turku School of Economics:

IELTS: Average 6.5; no individual scores below 5.5.

TOEFL: 575 points (paper based total) or 232 points (computer based total) or 90 points (iBT total).

The original test result must be sent to TUCS by the testing center (TOEFL with TUCS code 8410).

Proposal: TUCS intends to fund in the first place doctoral students of the University of Turku, Åbo Akademi University and Turku School of Economics. Therefore a language test is not required from applicants, who have already obtained the right for doctoral studies at one of the universities within TUCS community. In addition, applicants, who have conducted their secondary education or two-year Master's Degree Programme in the

EU, the U.S.A, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the UK, Ireland or South-Africa, are also waived from the English language test.

The only accepted language tests are TOEFL and IELTS, and the test score must come directly from the testing centre. The minimum test scores are the same as in international Master's degree programs at UTU, ÅAU and TSE. The tests that are accepted and the minimum test scores for TUCS Graduate School (independent of the universities) are:

IELTS: Average 6.5; no individual scores below 5.5.

TOEFL: 575 points (paper based total) or 232 points (computer based total) or 90 points (iBT total).

Decision: According to proposal.

8. Announcements

8.1 Minutes of TUCS Board meeting of December 9, 2008

http://www.tucs.fi/downloads/minutes/board/board_20081209.pdf

8.2 Financial follow-up for used TUCS salary months

The financial follow-up for planned and used salary months is presented in appendix 10/01/09.

Appendix: [10/01/09](#)

8.3 Information about new Master's degree programs

New Master's degree programs in Embedded computing have been accepted jointly at Åbo Akademi University and University of Turku, planned to start in 2009 at ÅAU and in 2010 at UTU. In addition, the right to grant degrees in technology was added to the existing degree programme in Information technology at UTU.

8.4 The agreement with TuAMK

The agreement with TuAMK was signed December 22nd, 2008.

Appendix: [11/01/09 The agreement](#)

8.5 Additional TUCS financing for GS student

Doctoral student Jussi Nissilä (TSE) has been granted three additional months of TUCS financing. After this, Nissilä has in total received 24 months of TUCS financing.

Turku, February 2nd, 2009

Christer Carlsson
Chair of the Board

Hannu Tenhunen
Director

Satu Jääskeläinen
Presenting officer

Christel Donner
Secretary of the meeting