

**Board meeting**

Monday, January 25, 2010, at 13.00

ICT building, Joukahaisenkatu 3-5 B, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, TUCS conference room

**Items of the agenda**

1. Validity of the meeting and presence of a quorum
  2. Additional items
  3. Updating of the evaluation criteria and selection process (Tenhunen)
  4. Employment of the Graduate School Coordinator (Tenhunen)
  5. Discussion item: SCOCI – International Masters programme
  6. Discussion item: The policies of Academy of Finland
  7. Announcements
- 7.1 Minutes of TUCS Board meeting of December 7, 2009

## Board meeting

Monday, January 25, 2010, at 13.00  
ICT building, Joukahaisenkatu 3-5 B, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, TUCS conference room

### Members of the board:

Jan Westerholm, Prof.  
Johan Lilius, Prof.  
Christer Carlsson, Prof., Chair  
~~Sirpa Simola, Director~~  
Juhani Karhumäki, Prof.  
Timo Knuutila, Prof.  
~~Reima Suomi, Prof., Vice-Chair~~  
~~Jaakko Kuosmanen, Managing director~~  
~~Tuomo Saarni, Ph.D. Student~~  
~~Erik Östman, M.Sc. Student~~  
Tuukka Simonen, M.Sc. Student

### Deputy members:

~~Hannu Toivonen, Prof.~~  
~~Barbro Back, Prof.~~  
~~Pirkko Walden, Prof.~~  
~~Jouni Isoaho, Prof.~~  
~~Hiro Honkala, Prof.~~  
~~Jukka Teuhola, Prof.~~  
Hannu Salmela, Prof.  
~~Olli Mertanen, Vice Rector~~  
Sami Hyrynsalmi, Ph.D. Student  
~~Staffan Enberg, M.Sc. Student~~

### TUCS staff:

Hannu Tenhunen, Prof., Director, Presenting Officer  
Tapio Salakoski, Prof., Vice-director, Presenting Officer  
~~Christel Donner, Administrative Officer, Presenting Officer~~  
Outi Tuohi, Graduate School Coordinator, 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 January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

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 6 (The policies of Academy of Finland) was added to the agenda.

### **3. Updating of the evaluation criteria and selection process (Tenhunen)**

Some minor changes and clarifications of the evaluation criteria is needed before the spring 2010 application round. The evaluation criteria should be updated annually.

From now on student members will not be participating in the evaluation and ranking meetings of the Graduate School Committee. It is also desirable that each GS Committee member will do a personal ranking of the top 20 applicants based on pre-evaluation and personal insight to application material. GS Committee will present the consensus ranking of students to TUCS Board, through graduate school director and coordinator. TUCS Board will decide on the final ranking and make funding or status decisions.

The TUCS Graduate School application is open during 15.2.2010-26.3.2010 with deadline on 26.3.2010 at 16.00 Finnish time.

Appendices: [01/01/10 Pre-evaluation overview 2010](#)  
[01a/01/10 Updated pre-evaluation overview and guidelines 2010](#)  
[02/01/10 Guidelines for subjective pre-evaluation](#)  
[03/01/10 Guidelines for objective pre-evaluation](#)  
[04/01/10 Guidelines for pre-evaluation of publications and credits](#)

Proposal: The Board accepts the suggested changes to the evaluation criteria and selection process.

Decision: According to proposal with some minor changes. The final version can be found in appendix 1a/01/10.

The board agreed on that applicants can be invited to an interview by their possible supervisor. TUCS can cover part of or in some cases all of the applicants travel expenses. The role of the student members of the GSC was discussed and it was decided that they will not be present at the GSC evaluation and ranking meetings.

### **4. Employment of the Graduate School Coordinator (Tenhunen)**

TUCS Graduate School Coordinator Ulrika Gustafsson was granted leave of absence until the end of February 2010, but she has now resigned from her position. Her substitute Outi Tuohi is currently employed until the end of February. The salary cost of the coordinator is paid by the Ministry of Education until the end of 2011.

Due to the organizational changes at the universities and the coming application round, the position will not be declared open at this time.

Proposal: The current coordinator Outi Tuohi will be employed until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010.

Decision: According to proposal.

Outi Tuohi was not present during the handling of item 4.

## **5. Discussion item: SCOCI – International Masters programme**

Appendix: [05/01/10 SCOCI](#)

Prof. Carlsson introduced a new international Master's programme in soft computing, optimisation and computational intelligence. The programme will be offered jointly by the Department of Information Technology, Department of Natural Sciences and Department of Chemical Engineering, Åbo Akademi University and Department of Mathematics, University of Turku. Funding for the programme will be applied from the Ministry of Education by the University of Turku and Åbo Akademi University. Prof. Westerholm inquired about the role of the European Centre for Soft Computing (ECSC) with which the programme is given in cooperation. The students have the possibility of studying half of the two year programme in ECSC. Also teachers have the possibility for mobility. Prof. Karhumäki stated that new programmes are not necessarily needed, but more clarity and guidelines for the existing ones. Prof. Salmela inquired about the role of TUCS in the implementation of the programme. The role of TUCS in the programme is the same as in other Masters programmes; a coordinating role.

## **6. Discussion item: The policies of Academy of Finland**

Prof. Karhumäki wanted to bring up the issue of the recent review of the state and quality of scientific research in Finland by the Academy of Finland. The state of doctoral education in general was seen as weak in Finland. The Academy wants to invest in the quality of research and is directing more money to post-doctoral researchers instead of the education of doctoral candidates. Will matching funding be followed? If yes, does that mean the diminishing of funding for basic research? The issue needs to be discussed. Prof. Tenhunen said that the voiced concern needs to be taken seriously, new tools for implementing matching funding must be found. More flexibility to matching funding is needed. The issue should be discussed with the heads of departments and rectors.

## **7. Announcements**

### **7.1 Minutes of TUCS Board meeting of December 7, 2009**

[http://www.tucs.fi/downloads/minutes/board/board\\_20091207.pdf](http://www.tucs.fi/downloads/minutes/board/board_20091207.pdf)

Turku, January 25th, 2010

Christer Carlsson  
Chair of the Board

Hannu Tenhunen  
Director

Outi Tuohi  
Secretary of the meeting