

Board meeting

Monday, April 12, 2010, at 13.00

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

Items of the agenda

1. Validity of the meeting and presence of a quorum
2. Additional items
3. Nomination of a deputy member to the Board and the GSC
4. Recommendation on Study Reports (Tuohi)
5. Guidelines for the Graduate School Committee for the next application round (Tenhunen)
6. Date for the upcoming meeting (Tuohi)
7. Discussion item: New TUCS director/s
8. Discussion item: Remodeling of Graduate Schools
9. Announcements
 - 9.1 Minutes of TUCS Board meeting of January 25, 2010
 - 9.2 Additional TUCS financing for GS students
 - 9.3 Conference guarantee for the 7th NEXT

Notice of a Board meeting

Monday, April 12, 2010, at 13.00

ICT building, Joukahaisenkatu 3-5 B, 6th 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.~~
Iiro 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
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 April 7th, 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 9.3 (Conference guarantee for the 7th NEXT) was added to the agenda.

3. Nomination of a deputy member to the Board and the GSC

Hannu Salmela is no longer available to act as deputy member at the TUCS Board and the GS Committee.

Proposal: Kai Kimppa is nominated with immediate effect as a member of the Board and the Graduate School Committee. The membership is valid until the new Board and possibly new GSC has been nominated.

Decision: According to proposal.

4. Recommendation on Study Reports (Tuohi)

The Graduate School Committee discussed the study reports March 29th, 2010 and agreed on a recommendation for the status of continuation for the doctoral students for the period September 1st, 2010 – August 31st, 2011. There were some inconsistencies between the student's and the supervisor's evaluations of the student's progress. These have been marked in the appendix 01 and careful attention should be paid while making decisions regarding these students.

Appendix: [01/02/10](#) [The proposal](#)
[01a/02/10](#) [Decision](#)

Proposal: The TUCS GS committee recommends to the TUCS Graduate School Director the continuation of the status, the continuation of financing, or no status according to appendix 01.

Decision: According to proposal with some minor changes. The final version can be found in appendix 01a/02/10.

Students that have their status discontinued next period, may make together with their supervisor a request upon the continuation of their status in the future, if their circumstances change. Those students do not have to apply formally again. The TUCS Director will consider if the request is justifiable and the speedy graduation of the student is to be expected and will then make a decision regarding the continuation of the status at TUCS GS.

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

The 2010 application round closed on March 26th, 2010 and the new criteria approved by the Board in January 2010 will be used for the student evaluation.

The budget frame for the intake autumn 2010 is at maximum 18 positions with 24 months of funding each, evenly spread over the four-year period. The allocation of available salary months is shown in the appendix 02.

Appendix: [02/02/10](#) [Available salary months](#)

Proposal: TUCS GS will aim at selecting 12-18 new students with 24 months of funding each.

Decision: According to proposal.

The GS Committee, after the pre-evaluation, will do the over-all evaluations and rank the applicants based on their merits and excellence for graduate studies. The final ranking of applicants is grouped into three groups: (i) strong applicants which should receive TUCS financial support for the graduate students (green), (ii) good applicants which potentially can be funded and should get TUCS status (yellow), and (iii) weak applicants who should not get status or funding (red). GS Committee will have only one meeting in which the overall evaluation and ranking will be done. The GS Director and the GS Committee Chairman will then together formulate a final priority selection and financing plan which takes the overall strategic issues into consideration for TUCS GS and which is then handled at the TUCS Board. TUCS board will decide on funding and status positions.

6. Date for the upcoming meeting (Tuohi)

Date for the next Board meeting should be decided. The present Board will attend the meeting unless the new Board has already been nominated.

Proposal: The next Board meeting will take place on May 17th 2010 at 13.00.

Decision: According to proposal.

7. Discussion item: New TUCS director/s

New director/s for TUCS from September onwards.

Conclusion: A new strategy for TUCS is needed before new director/s can be considered.

The Board recommended that TUCS Director will assemble a working group consisting of the heads of departments to consider the future role and strategy of TUCS and TUCS GS.

The present directors will continue until next fall and take care of the graduate school application for the Academy of Finland, the TUCS strategy process, and results negotiations with rectors. Based on the strategy process outcome and results negotiations, the positions for new director/s will be announced and they could start at the end of the year or at the beginning of the next year.

8. Discussion item: Remodeling of Graduate Schools

The Academy of Finland is proposing that by the year 2012 all universities would have only one or few multidisciplinary graduate schools that consist of several doctoral programmes with each programme focusing on their respective fields. The programmes can be multinational, national or just within the host university. Some universities have already adopted the new structure (e.g. University of Oulu). The new system is designed to force the universities to take graduate schools as part of their research strategy and become more committed to the graduate schools.

Already in this year's applications for funding of the graduate schools the new criteria is applied, at least to some extent. The Academy will make final decision regarding the procedure during this year's application round in April.

Conclusion: The remodeling of the graduate school system is closely related to the previous item. A change in the role of TUCS GS is seen inevitable; it can either grow or diminish. The future of TUCS GS depends a lot on the decisions of both University of Turku and Åbo Akademi University.

The role of student members at the GS Committee was clarified. Student members get to influence on the evaluation criteria, principles and the assemblage of both Board and GSC. At the evaluation meetings of the GSC the student members cannot be present. Student members supervise the interests of the students in the evaluation process through Board and Board meetings.

9. Announcements

9.1 Minutes of TUCS Board meeting of January 25, 2010

http://tucs.fi/downloads/minutes/board/board_20100125.pdf

9.2 Additional TUCS financing for GS students

Doctoral student Riikka Vuokko (IT/ÅA) has been granted an additional six months of financing, three months from TUCS and the other half from the department.

Doctoral student Olli Lahdenoja (IT/UTU) has been granted three months of TUCS financing.

9.3 Conference guarantee for the 7th NEXT

The 7th New Exploratory Technologies (NEXT) conference takes place 20th – 21st October 2010 at Turku. The Chairman of the organizing committee, professor Aulis Tuominen, requests TUCS to grant the conference a conference guarantee for the amount of 5000€. The guarantee was granted.

Turku, April 12th, 2010

Christer Carlsson
Chair of the Board

Hannu Tenhunen
Director

Outi Tuohi
Secretary of the meeting