

DEPARTMENT STAFF MEETING 1/2012, minutes

UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT STAFF MEETING 1/2012

Date: Friday 28 Sept 2012 at 14.15-16.40
Place: Auditorium D113 (Exactum, 1st floor)
Present: list of attendees in attachment

1 Opening of the meeting and coming to order

The Head of the department, Chair Esko Ukkonen called the meeting to order at 14.18, and found that it had been convened in due order.

Pauliina Pajunen was elected secretary and Harri Laine and Juha Puustjärvi were appointed examiners of the minutes and tellers of the votes.

The convocation agenda was approved as the order of business.

2 Action plan: the staff and policy plan for 2013 (employee involvement)

In his introductory speech, the chair presented the department's policy plan and pointed out that it is still under development. The draft of the 2013-2016 policy is available at:

https://www.cs.helsinki.fi/henkilokunta-intranet/Tkkl_toimintasuunnitelmaluonnos_2013-16.pdf

- The department's profile and focus areas were discussed. It was noted that the following new research areas will be in focus during the 2013-2016 period:
 - more teaching and research on data security (to meet social needs)
 - development of software systems, coaching developers, and software measurement (FiDiPro Professor Jürgen Münch)

- computational creativity
 - algorithms theory and new computation paradigms
 - neuro-informatics
 - ubiquitous computing and interactive technologies
 - 'Big Data'
- The decrease of basic funding was discussed, as was the impact of the general economic situation on the employment opportunities of students. The meeting found that the students even enter working life too soon.
 - The large number of foreign students was discussed, and how teaching is impacted, as well as the effect on how other students learn. It was noted that the students do not necessarily speak English well enough to follow the teaching. It was suggested that more challenging language tests are introduced into the application process. It was further noted that, in addition to the language barrier, cultural differences also complicate teaching.
 - The progress of students who have entered via MOOC was discussed, as was the marketing of these programmes to young people. The meeting decided that the progress of these students will be followed up closely.
 - Further discussions included the monitoring of expedience in teaching arrangements and teaching, and the quantitative indicators of scientific publications (publications per PI). A qualitative indicator for publications was hoped for on the department's agenda.

2.1 Staff-related development in 2013-2016

The outline for the staff policy is available at

https://www.cs.helsinki.fi/henkilokunta-intranet/Tktl_henkilostosuunnitelmaluonnos_2013-16.pdf

- The staff policy for the planning period 2013-2016 was discussed.
 - Two tenure-track professorships will be appointed
 - The tenure-track process will be extended > university lecturers can also be appointed as tenure track positions
 - In future, the goal is to make employment contracts last through a whole project
 - At the moment, there are no resources for recruiting senior researchers.

3 Action plan: department budget 2013 (employee involvement)

The draft for the budget is available at:

https://www.cs.helsinki.fi/henkilokunta-intranet/Tktl_budjetti_2013.pdf

- Next year's budget was discussed. It was noted that the budget is ending up on the plus side this year, but next year's budget is looking negative so far. The budget will depend on the realisation of external funding and the overheads.

4 Current affairs

- Petri Kutvonen presented the changes that have been made to Drupal:
 - The old web pages will be stamped with 'Tätä sivua ei ehkä enää ylläpidetä' (This page might not be updated any longer) instead of 'Vanhentunut sivu' (Obsolete page).
 - It is recommended that all Drupal pages be modified according to the new guidelines. They are available at <http://www.cs.helsinki.fi/csstyle>
- Heikki Lokki presented a memorandum on the reformation of the university teaching periods, which led to a discussion on the duration of teaching periods and the

independent work of students. (Memo available at:

https://www.cs.helsinki.fi/henkilokunta-intranet/Opetusperiodiuudistus_muistio.pdf

- The statement issued by the teaching development committee at the department on the memo on longer teaching periods: https://www.cs.helsinki.fi/henkilokunta-intranet/Opetuksen_kehittamistyoryhman_lausunto.pdf

5 Other business

- The following journals will be discontinued at the library, due to little interest:
IEEE Computer Graphics & Applications (issn 0272-1716)
IEEE Intelligent Systems (issn 1541-1672)
IEEE Internet Computing (issn 1089-7801)
IEEE Multimedia (issn 1070-986X)

6 Closing of the meeting

The chair brought the meeting to a close at 16.40.

Esko Ukkonen
chair

Pauliina Pajunen
secretary

Juha Puustjärvi
examiner of the minutes

Harri Laine
examiner of the minutes