

Board meeting

Friday, June 28th 2002, at 9.00
DataCity A, 2nd floor, TY Neuvotteluhuone 3

Minutes

Present:

Ralph-Johan Back, Prof., Chairman
Christer Carlsson, Prof. (arrived at 9.10, during item 2)
Sébastien Lafond, Ph.D. Student
Tarmo Hahto
Jouni Isoaho, Prof. (arrived at 9.15, during item 3)
Juhani Karhumäki, Prof.
Tapio Salakoski, Prof.
Kaisa Sere, Prof., Vice-Director
Reima Suomi, Prof., Vice-Chairman

Timo Järvi, Prof., Director, Presenting Officer

Administrative Officer Ulrika Gustafsson, Presenting Officer (financial affairs)
Administrative Officer Pia Mickelsson, Presenting Officer (personnel, educational affairs), 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 Tuesday, June 25th 2002.

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: Item 8 was added to the agenda.

3. Laboratory Money Applications (Gustafsson)

TUCS budgeted a total of 302 700 euros for the research laboratories for the year 2002. 84 100 euros of the total sum has been granted to OK. Since TUCS this year finances a bigger amount of Ph.D. grants than planned, a 40 000 euros deficit has to be covered by money budgeted for the laboratories. The rest, 178 600 euros, can be granted to the laboratories. TUCS will handle laboratory money applications twice a year. This time TUCS can grant a maximum of 89 300 euros (178 600/2). The next possibility to apply for laboratory money is in the autumn, 2002.

TUCS received three laboratory money applications in May 2002. The Learning and Reasoning laboratory applied for 20 000 euros, the Data Mining and Knowledge Management Laboratory applied for 17 000 euros, and the Microelectronics Laboratory applied for a total of 116 000 euros (appendix 1/02/06/28).

Appendix: 1/02/06/28 (paper)

Proposal: TUCS grants 20 000 euros to the Learning and Reasoning laboratory, 17 000 euros to the Data Mining and Knowledge Management Laboratory, and 17 000 euros to the Microelectronics Laboratory.

Decision: According to proposal.

4. Administrative Officer: Public Relations and Communications (Järvi)

TUCS currently has two administrative officers, one that handles educational matters and one that handles financial matters. Since TUCS has grown, and therefore also the number of tasks, a need for a third administrative officer, one that would be responsible for public relations and communications, has arisen. We already had that position in last autumn, viz. Ms Tiina Lehto, but for some reason she resigned.

The possible tasks for the new administrative officer are defined in appendix 2/02/06/28. The exact division of labour between the information secretary and the administrative officer responsible for PR and communications should be made when

the new administrative officer starts. To begin with, the new position would be founded for one year.

Appendix: 2/02/06/28 (paper)

Proposal: TUCS founds a temporary position (salary class A21/II) called 'Administrative Officer: Public Relations and Communications'. The position is founded for the time period 1.9.2002-31.8.2003.

Decision: According to proposal.

5. Postdoc applications (Järvi)

TUCS has received three new postdoctoral applications. In addition three applications were left on the table in the meeting on May 6th, 2002. The applicants are listed below.

- Bin Han, Ph.D. Zhejiang Uni., Spring 2002?
- Tero Laihonen, Ph.D. UTu, 1998
- Jose M Peña, Ph.D. Uni. of the Basque Country, Dec 2001
- Vesa Halava, Ph.D. UTu, May 02
- Jouni Smed, Ph.D. UTu, 02
- Andrei Tudorel, Ph.D. Socio-economic Statistics, Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest, 96

Halava's, Smed's and Tudorel's applications are in appendix 3a/02/06/28. Han's, Laihonen's and Peña's applications were examined at the Board meeting in May and can be viewed in Administrative Officer Pia Mickelsson's office.

Prof. von Wright has sent a statement about applicant Bin Han:

Bin Han verkar nog i och för sig lämplig som postdoc, men hans ämnesområde är inte aktuellt för forskargrupperna inom ÅA/IB.

Prof. Karhumäki has sent a statement about applicants Tero Laihonen and Vesa Halava:

TERO LAIHONEN He has been extremely productive in his so far rather short research carrier. From the point of view of his achievements he clearly would deserve a researcher position. On the other hand, he has had a post doc position already about three and half years. He did not manage to get the academy researcher position from the Academy of Finland.

VESA HALAVA. He defended his thesis in April, and the theses was accepted with the grade laudatur. He has turn out to be very productive young re-searcher. Indeed, he has

already about 10 articles in referered journals and/or conference series, and he has 13 items in Math Reviews data base. He certainly deserves to have a postdoc position (which he could potential obtain also from Automata Theory Group)

Prof. Salakoski has sent a statement about applicant Jose M Peña:

En ole saanut häneen yhteyttä, joten lienee syytä katsoa asia rauenneeksi. Jos hän ilmoittaa itsestään, katsotaan asiaa uudestaan. Hän vaikutti kyllä oikein hyvältä.

Prof. Nevalainen has sent a statement about applicant Jouni Smed:

Jouni Smed finished his PhD dissertation in 3½ years. For reasons independent from him, some of the formalities took longer than usual. The fast schedule should be noted because of the applied nature of his work - the author had to spend a lot of time communicating with the partner companies. In addition to the reprints included in the dissertation, Smed has published concurrently three other articles in scientific journals and two TUCS reports. At the moment, he is expanding his research interests to algorithms in computer games, and his research activity is currently in a very active phase.

Prof. Carlsson has sent a statement about applicant Andrei Tudorel:

1. Hans forskningsområde som är Bayesiska inferensmodeller och klassiska statistiska metoder för data-analys tangerar en del arbet vi gör inom fuzzy logik, approximate reasoning och agentteori, men han är snävt stokastiskt orienterad och är inte hemma med modernare teorier.
2. Han har mycket liten artikelproduktion i goda internationella tidskrifter, han har huvudsakligen skrivit i rumänska tidskrifter och har arbetat på undervisningsmaterial. Det är 6 år sedan han disputerade och en total artikelproduktion på 14 artiklar, av vilka bara två i renommerade internationella tidskrifter är i tunnare laget.
3. Hans forskning är sådan att han inte utgör något resurstillskott för IAMSR, varför jag inte rekommenderar att han antas.

Ulrika Gustafsson has given information about current status of TUCS post docs (appendix 3b/02/06/28).

It is not possible to increase the number of salary positions this year, but we can fill one position from the beginning of next year. Tero Laihonon has already held the position for 3½years, so he should not be selected any more. Vesa Halava or Jouni Smed are new Ph.D.s, who should deserve the position. Both are young and promising researchers. Halava is studying the Post correspondence problem where as Smed's new research area is 'algorithms and data structures in computer games'. Smed promises to take new graduate students to his field and give a course on the topic. Halava is going to continue the ongoing research. Perhaps weight should be laid on opening new research directions as Discrete Mathematics for Information Technology is already well supported in TUCS.

The number of grants seems to be full, too. On the other hand no applicant for grant has got a positive statement. So no grant position should be filled.

Appendices: 3a-b/02/06/28 (paper)

Proposal: Ph.D. Jouni Smed will be selected for post doc (salary) position for period 1.1.2003 – 31.12.2004. The other applications will be rejected.

Decision: According to proposal.

6. TOT-students (Mickelsson)

6.1 Åke Gustavson, Olli Järvinen and Jeanette Heidenberg

Two of TUCS so called TOT students (“työn ohella tohtoriksi”, working while undertaking Ph.D. studies) – Åke Gustavson and Olli Järvinen - have not handled in their Study Reports.

TOT student Jeanette Heidenberg has returned her study report (appendix 4/02/06/28), but has not done any progress during the past year. Timo Järvi asked Heidenberg to do a research plan if she was to continue her studies. She has let us know via her supervisor von Wright that she is not handing in any plan and can thus be considered as abandoning her TUCS status.

Appendix: 4/02/06/28 (paper)

Proposal: TOT students Gustavson, Heidenberg and Järvinen no longer have TUCS status from the 1st of September 2002.

Decision: Gustavson and Heidenberg no longer have TUCS status from September 1st 2002. Järvinen’s case is postponed to the next Board meeting. He is expected to handle in a Study Report.

6.2 Joonas Lehtinen: TOT-application

TUCS Ph.D. student Joonas Lehtinen has submitted an application concerning his status at TUCS. Lehtinen has had the TUCS status from July 1st 1998. His current work does not allow him to study full-time and therefore he is applying to be considered as a TOT student.

He is currently on a leave of absence until July 1st 2002 and has summer vacation during the month of July.

Appendix: 5/02/06/28 (paper)

Proposal: TUCS grants Lehtinen's application and considers him as a TOT-student from the 1st of August 2002.

Decision: TUCS grants Lehtinen's application and considers him as a part-time Ph.D. student from the 1st of August 2002.

7. TUCS Board's following meetings (Mickelsson)

The dates for the TUCS Board autumn meetings should be set. The following proposals for dates have been done according to the Ph.D. application's dead-line September 30th, which requires a Board meeting as soon as possible after the examination procedure which is estimated to take about three weeks (the applications are examined at the TUCS office, by the Graduate School Committee and are now also sent to the Universities to verify the academic requirements).

Proposal: TUCS Board meetings will be held at 13.00 on the following dates:

2.9

30.9

28.10

2.12

Decision: According to proposal.

8. Summer School application

Ivan Porres, who is in charge of the organization of the TUCS Summer School on Specification, Verification and Refinement (August 19th-30th 2002), has handled in an application concerning grants for five participants from the northwest of Russia (appendix 8a/02/06/28). The applied sum amounts to 4500 euros.

In the past TUCS has covered grants for participation because of a surplus in the former Summer School's budget or in the budget of the Summer School that is being organized. Last year's Summer School had a surplus of 26 743 euros, of

which the total amount is currently being used for the organization of this year's Summer School (appendix 8b/02/06/28).

Appendices: 8a-b/02/06/28 (paper, handed out at the meeting)

Proposal: The application is not granted, since the surplus from last year's Summer School as well as all income from this year's Summer School are currently being used/will be used for the organization of this year's Summer School.

Decision: Porres' application is granted. However, the TUCS guarantee for the Summer School (decision from Board meeting of Nov. 26th 2001) is decreased by the same amount (4500 euros).

9. Discussion item: New premises on the 5th floor

The item was postponed to the next Board meeting.

10. Announcements

10.1 Minutes of the TUCS board meeting of June 3rd 2002

Appendix: 6/02/06/28 (electronic)

10.2 Announcements by the Director

Appendix: 7/02/06/28 (paper, was handed out at the meeting)

10.3 Ministry of Education decision concerning Ph.D. student positions

Appendix: www.minedu.fi/opm/tiede/index/paatos190602.pdf

Turku, July 1st, 2002

Ralph-Johan Back
Chairman of the board

Timo Järvi
Director

Ulrika Gustafsson
Administrative Officer

Pia Mickelsson
Administrative Officer