

Board meeting

Monday, March 20, 2006, at 13.00
DataCity A, 2nd floor, TY Neuvotteluhuone 3

Items of the agenda

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3. [Closing of TUCS accounts 2005 \(Donner\)](#)
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6. [Establishment of a new TUCS Laboratory \(Salakoski\)](#)
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Present:

Ralph-Johan Back, Prof., Chair
Johan Lilius, Prof.
Pirkko Walden, Prof.
Sirpa Simola, Programme Development Manager
Juhani Karhumäki, Prof.
Reima Suomi, Prof., Vice-Chair
Anne-Mari Virolainen, Programme Manager
Tuomo Saarni, Ph.D. Student
Erik Östman, 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
Tapio Haavisto, Administrative Officer, Presenting Officer

Department heads:

Ari Paasio, Prof. (no right to vote)

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 March 15, 2006.

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: No additional items were presented.

3. Closing of TUCS accounts 2005 (Donner)

For year 2005 TUCS accounts show a surplus of 291.931 EUR. From the total surplus 2,055 EUR is reserved for rent cost and 22.510 EUR for salaries for Ph.D. students. The rest, 267.366 EUR, can be used without any special restrictions.

Appendices: 1/02/06 TUCS Budget Summary 1.1.-31.12.2005
 2/02/06 Account Balances 31.12.2005

Proposal: The Board approves the closing of TUCS accounts for the year 2005.

Decision: According to proposal.

4. The new enlarged Advisory Committee (Salakoski)

In order to gain strategic significance, a joint Advisory Committee for TUCS, ICT Turku Oy, and Turku Polytechnic (Turku University of Applied Sciences) in ICT sector has been discussed and now the plan is in implementation. ICT Turku has already made its decision, and Turku Polytechnic is currently making their decisions, both according to a proposal for new enlarged Advisory Committee (appendix 03/02/06) written 26th of December 2005 by Jaakko Kuosmanen, ICT Turku Oy.

This item was left on the table in the previous meeting. The idea has been discussed further between the directors of ICT Turku and TUCS, and a preliminary consensus has been reached on the cooperation arrangements between ICT Turku and TUCS. In particular, the establishment of a joint steering group consisting of representatives from ICT Turku, TUCS, and Turku University of Applied Sciences, for coordinating the municipal financial support to regional ICT research and development activities, was agreed on. Thus the issue of establishing the joint Advisory Committee can be advanced as previously proposed.

Appendix: 3/02/06 ICT Advisory Committee

Proposal: TUCS nominates its Advisory Committee according to the proposal in the appendix.

Decision: The Board approved the establishment of a joint ICT Advisory Committee for TUCS, ICT Turku Oy and Turku University of Applied Sciences (Turku Polytechnic). The current TUCS Advisory Committee was decided to be split so that the new joint committee would act as the regional advisory committee for TUCS. In addition, a new international Scientific Advisory Committee was decided to be established, starting with the scientific members of the current TUCS Advisory Committee. International members will then be added later. The members to these committees will be nominated in future Board meetings.

The Board also strongly supports the establishment of a steering group with representatives from ICT Turku Oy, TUCS, and Turku Polytechnic, for managing the regional support for the ICT research and development.

5. Educational workgroups (Haavisto)

TUCS educational workgroups were reorganised in the last Board meeting. Renewal process was given to TUCS Administrative Group, which ended up to the following proposal with some open questions: Chair person of GS-committee was given to be decided by Åbo Akademi University. Second member from Åbo Akademi will be nominated later. AG was concerned about the role of student members in the GS-group, because only in some cases a student can participate in decision making.

1) GS-committee

<u>University</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Vice member</u>
ÅAU	Jan Westerholm	Marina Walden
ÅAU	?, chair ?	?
TSEBA	Jonna Järveläinen	Eija Koskivaara
UTU Mathematics	Juhani Karhumäki	Jarkko Kari
UTU IT	Jouni Isoaho	Juha Plosila
UTU IT	Olli Nevalainen	Eija Karsten
Student members	Teijo Lehtonen	Tuomo Saarni

The tasks of the Graduate School Committee are

- Evaluation of Ph.D. applicants using a rigorous peer-review process
- Handling of the study reports and considering individual students' TUCS stata

The GS Committee prepares proposals for filling the funded student positions to the Board and for changing individual students' stata to the Director. The proposals are prepared within the guidelines and constrains given by the Board.

2) Educational workgroup

<u>University</u>	<u>Representatives</u>
ÅAU	Franck Tetard, Ivan Porres, Marina Walden
TSEBA	Timo Leino
UTU Mathematics	Jarkko Kari, (Jyrki Lahtonen)
UTU IT	Eija Karsten, Jukka Teuhola, Seppo Virtanen, (Antti Tuomisto)
Student members	representing each university, to be selected by the group

Turku University of Applied Sciences member(s) to be invited by the group, to discuss co-operation in the new ICT-building

A concrete list of tasks for the Educational workgroup:

- Promote co-operation between the different units providing TUCS courses
- Co-ordinate education within TUCS departments, using appropriate subgroups
- Brainstorming for new Master's Degree Programmes and other educational initiatives, as well as support for current ones

Proposal: The TUCS Graduate School committee and the new Educational workgroup are nominated according to the proposal by the Administrative Workgroup as described above.

Decision: **1)** The following members were elected to the Graduate School committee:

<u>University</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Vice member</u>
ÅAU	Jan Westerholm	Marina Walden
ÅAU	Barbro Back	Shengnan Han
ÅAU	Johan Lilius, Chair	Ivan Porres
TSEBA	Jonna Järveläinen	Eija Koskivaara
UTU Mathematics	Juhani Karhumäki	Jarkko Kari
UTU IT	Jouni Isoaho	Juha Plosila
UTU IT	Olli Nevalainen	Eija Karsten
Student members	Teijo Lehtonen	Tuomo Saarni

Professor Juhani Karhumäki had a dissenting opinion about the election of the chair. He pointed out that after this decision the Department of Mathematics doesn't have any chair positions.

The tasks of the Graduate School Committee are:

- Evaluation of Ph.D. applicants using a rigorous peer-review process
- Handling of the study reports and considering individual students' TUCS stata
- Evaluates the functioning of the Graduate School

The Graduate School Committee only evaluates new applicants and should not make any statements concerning the filling of the funded student positions. The director can make decisions concerning a maximum of three (3) months of financing; all other decisions are made by the Board, based on the director's or the administrative officers' proposal. Maternity, parental and other statutory leaves will be granted by the director.

2) The following members were elected to the Educational workgroup:

<u>University</u>	<u>Representatives</u>
ÅAU	Franck Tetard, Ivan Porres, Marina Walden
TSEBA	Timo Leino
UTU Mathematics	Jarkko Kari, (Jyrki Lahtonen)
UTU IT	Eija Karsten, Jukka Teuhola, Seppo Virtanen, (Antti Tuomisto)
Student members	representing each university, to be selected by the group

Turku University of Applied Sciences member(s) to be invited by the group, to discuss co-operation in the new ICT-building

The tasks of the Educational workgroup are:

- Promote co-operation between the different units providing TUCS courses
- Co-ordinate education within TUCS departments, using appropriate subgroups
- Taking educational initiatives

6. Establishment of a new TUCS Laboratory (Salakoski)

Professors Aulis Tuominen and Markus Mäkelä at the Department of Information Technology, University of Turku in Salo plan to establish a new laboratory called the TUCS Productization Laboratory (Appendix 04/02/06). The laboratory will focus on the value chain of product design and development, logistics and manufacturing, marketing and after-sales, concerning both electronics and software components of the products. The plan is reasonable and good activities are already initiated by the group, thus the establishment of a new laboratory is well justified.

Appendix: 4/02/06 Laboratory description

Proposal: TUCS will establish Productization Laboratory lead by professor Tuominen as described in the appendix.

Decision: According to proposal.

7. Delegation of the decision upon TUCS support for conferences and TUCS short courses (Donner)

The Board accepted the principles for TUCS guarantee and financial support for conferences in its meeting on February 3rd, 2003. According to the current principles the conference guarantee depends on the number of participants: if the number of participants is around 50, then the guarantee is limited to 5.000 €; around 100 participants implies a guarantee of no more than 8.000 €, and around 200 participants no more than 15.000 €. The budget should be in balance without this guarantee, and TUCS urges the organizers to apply for funding from other sources, including private sponsorship by the companies. Direct financial support for conferences is limited to publication of the proceedings in TUCS series. In addition, the TUCS staff can offer limited help with the arrangements, if agreed on beforehand.

TUCS has paid for organizing of short courses, given that the course will attract a large enough audience at TUCS departments and is otherwise considered reasonable.

Previously, the decisions concerning conference support and short courses have been made by the TUCS Board. In its previous meeting, the Board expressed its desire to encourage these activities, and assigned 10 k€ for conference guarantees and 30 k€ for short courses in the budget for 2006. It seems appropriate to delegate the operative decisions to TUCS Director according to the working strategy agreed on in the previous meeting.

Proposal: The Board confirms the general principles for TUCS support for conferences. The director will grant the guarantee upon application and decide on other possible support according to the principles. Similarly, the director will decide on the support for TUCS short courses. The director shall report the usage of those budget funds to the Board.

Decision: According to proposal.

8. Developing the role of TUCS as a research centre (Tenhunen, Salakoski)

According to its new strategy, TUCS will develop a new role as a research centre, with a stronger component of applied and contractual research to support the existing basic research. TUCS has already taken both national and international initiatives towards that direction and currently introduces itself as a semi-independent actor. An active

independent role similar to that of internationally recognized research institutes is vital for global networking. Currently, however, TUCS can not act as a contractor, but one of the three universities is explicitly needed for that.

The current development is also supported by researchers within TUCS, who have requested support for building up new strategic activities. To advance this strategic development further, it would be beneficial that the TUCS Directors be given an explicit mandate by the Board to continue the current activities and develop them further, and to start discussions on how to develop TUCS towards an independent contractor.

Proposal: The Board encourages the Directors to continue with the activities for building the role of TUCS as a research institute, including discussions with the interest groups on enhanced independency of TUCS.

Decision: The Board encourage the directors to continue to investigate the possibility of a stonger financial independency of TUCS.

9. Adjusting the configuration of Administrative Group (Salakoski)

Due to the recent changes in the faculty structure of Åbo Akademi University, the Administrative Group of TUCS consisting of department heads is no longer balanced. Therefore, the configuration of AG should be rethought and additional members from ÅAU appointed to the group. The Board should discuss the situation and decide on who should be nominated. Names will be proposed in the meeting.

Proposal: Additional members from Åbo Akademi University are nominated to the Administrative Group.

Decision: No further decision is needed.

10. Discussion items

10.1 TUCS status, TUCS guarantee, and matching funding (Salakoski)

In the last Board meeting, it was decided that new definitions for TUCS student status, guarantee, and matching funding are needed, and the TUCS Administrative Group was commissioned to make a detailed proposal of these, including the division of responsibility between participating departments and TUCS.

Board recommend that current time limits of status and guarantee are redrawn and matching funding principles are clearly defined by common consent of TUCS departments. TUCS Administrative Group will present in the next Board meeting the detailed structure for the approval of the Board.

The ministry of education demands short four year study periods in postgraduate education. Therefore, the old concept allowing for example one or two years of studies before starting thereafter a four year position in TUCS need to be revised. Additional restrictions for current definitions is rising from the forthcoming changes in financial situation. TUCS directors have written down a draft of, which can be found in appendix 04/01/06.

Summary: the item will be discussed in the next meeting.

11. Announcements

11.1 [Minutes of TUCS board meeting of February 27, 2006](#)

11.2 TUCS project initiatives

Turku, March 23, 2006

Ralph-Johan Back
Chair of the Board

Hannu Tenhunen
Director

Tapio Salakoski
Vice Director

Tapio Haavisto
Administrative Officer

Christel Donner
Administrative Officer, secretary of the meeting