

Board meeting

Tuesday, September 18, 2007, at 10.00

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

Items of the agenda

1. Validity of the meeting and presence of a quorum
2. Additional item
 - 2.1 Application for TUCS status
3. Discussion item: The Progress of the ICT SHOK planning work
4. Discussion item: GS Student selection and GS Committee
5. Discussion item: The salary level for Ph.D. students
6. Discussion item: The guidelines for the result negotiations
 - 6.1 Turku Innovation Platform (TIP)
 - 6.2 European Institute of Technology (EIT-pilot)
 - 6.3 ICT-SHOK agreement between the universities
 - 6.4 Agreement with Turun Ammattikorkeakoulu
 - 6.5 The Nordic Master Program iICT
 - 6.6 External evaluation of TUCS
7. Discussion item: Printing of dissertations
8. Announcements
 - 8.1 Minutes of TUCS Board meeting of June 11, 2007
 - 8.2 Application round for TUCS status
 - 8.3 A new Graduate School coordinator
 - 8.4 TUCS conference guarantee

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Present:

Jan Westerholm, Prof
Johan Lilius, Prof.
Christer Carlsson, Prof., Chair
Sirpa Simola, Director
Timo Knuutila, Prof., arrived during item 3
Reima Suomi, Prof., Vice-Chair
Olli Mertanen, Vice Rector, left during item 4
Tuomo Saarni, Ph.D. Student
Erik Östman, M.Sc. Student, arrived during item 2.1

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
Satu Jääskeläinen, Graduate School Coordinator, Presenting officer

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 September 13, 2007.

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 2.1 (Application for TUCS status) was added to the agenda.

2.1 Application for TUCS status (Jääskeläinen)

PhD student Olli Luoma from the Department of Information Technology at the University of Turku has applied for TUCS status (Appendix 6/06/07). His supervisor prof. Jukka Teuhola recommends the application.

The Board has decided on 23rd of April 2007 (item 4) that TUCS status will be granted only in the official status application round. However, in this case prof. Hannu Tenhunen, prof. Tapio Salakoski and prof. Johan Lilius recommend that Olli Luoma is granted a TUCS-full time status, as his dissertation will take place in October/November 2007 before the next application round.

Appendix: 6/06/07 The application

Proposal: TUCS Board will grant PhD student Olli Luoma a full-time status starting 18th of September 2007 until graduation.

Decision: According to proposal.

3. Discussion item: The Progress of the ICT SHOK planning work

Members of TUCS community have been active in preparing the national SHOK plans, especially in the ICT SHOK but also in other SHOKs. The current status of the planning work will be presented at the meeting.

Conclusion: Board members taking part in different SHOK workgroups reported on the work that have been done. TUCS will continue active participation in the work.

4. Discussion item: GS Student selection and GS Committee

TUCS Board will discuss the guidelines for TUCS GS student selection as a part of a later delegation decision to the GS Committee. At the same time, the committee members should be reconsidered. A survey of graduate school student selection criteria has been conducted and a tentative proposal for TUCS prepared.

Appendix: 1/06/07 TUCS GS student selection criteria

Conclusion: The Board discussed the proposal for evaluation of GS students. A schematic evaluation formula based on objective facts was considered appropriate. After further modifications, a final proposal will be presented in the next meeting.

5. Discussion item: The salary level for Ph.D. students

The salaries of TUCS GS students according to the new salary system should be harmonized within TUCS. The appropriation by Ministry of Education falls easily short, especially if a progressive salary is desired. A few possible scenarios have been devised and will be discussed at the meeting.

Appendix: 2/06/07 Scenarios for the PhD salary level

Conclusion: The Board recommended that a recommendation of the minimum salary level will be given to the departments. A progressive salary level slightly exceeding the appropriation of the Ministry of Education is aimed at (alternative 3 in the appendix). This recommendation concerns PhD work only; any additional assignments should be reflected on the salary level accordingly.

6. Discussion item: The guidelines for the result negotiations

The result negotiations will take place October 23rd, 2007. The board will discuss the strategic guidelines and items to be presented at the negotiations. The status of the following items will be updated at the meeting.

6.1 Turku Innovation Platform (TIP)

The aim of Turku Innovation Platform is to enhance regional innovation potential by developing and supporting the research-based innovations between Turku region universities and Turku Science Park.

The Turku region, including Salo region, is an important economical district and a centre of universities, where extensive research work is done, having importance from industry's point of view. Increasing and accelerating the development of those to support the economical growth could be aided more. At the moment, the main obstacles for an individual researcher or a research group are among other things the fragmentation of active innovation environment factors as well as lack of knowledge and support as to entrepreneurship and commercialisation. This is why resources from all involved parties must be consolidated, the functions defined to support each other and thus helping each part to be able to focus on its own core business more effectively, but at the same time provide much improved innovation and entrepreneurship support on a regional basis.

Appendix: 3/06/07 Memorandum of understanding

6.2 European Institutes of Technology (EIT-pilot)

EU Commission has launched a pilot project EIT Pilot to see the feasibility, to identify in what technical domains, and with what governance and operational structures the new flagship European Institute of Technology can be established. The purpose of pilot is to identify the key challenges and to develop the governance models for Knowledge and Innovation Communities consisting of a dedicated research cluster of around 1000 researchers in Europe. Most likely the ICT-SHOK will form the Finnish participation to the EIT KIC in ICT-area.

EIT-pilot proposal Networking Innovations for Europe (NINE) is demonstrating to Commission that a viable KIC could be established in ICT area, mobilise the key players in innovation-research-education triangle including the flag ship industry, key universities and research institutes and innovation actors including project partners and associate partners. EIT NINE is EU wide generalisation of TIP principle enhancing the mobility of research, innovation and venture capital and other instruments.

TUCS is coordinating regional participation with Turku Science Park to NINE and has an active role in defining the agenda and content within NINE.

Appendix: 4/06/07 EIT Pilot Networking Innovations for Europe

6.3 ICT-SHOK agreement between the universities

6.4 Agreement with Turun Ammattikorkeakoulu

An agreement for Turun Ammattikorkeakoulu becoming a member of TUCS is being prepared between the universities and the concern of City of Turku, concerning both

legal and financial aspects. The current status of the preparation will be reported at the result negotiations.

6.5 The Nordic Master Program iICT

Nordic Master Programme in Innovative Information and Communication Technologies (NMP iICT) is one of the pilot projects awarded from the Nordic Council of Ministers designed to lead to the introduction of Nordic Master Programmes. The participating universities in NMP iICT are Åbo Akademi University, University of Turku, Turku Business School, KTH in Stockholm, DTU in Copenhagen, and University of Oslo. TUCS acts as coordinator for this consortium.

NMP iICT is based on joint development of existing Master programs (120 ECTS) at the participating universities. It focuses on combining world leading Nordic ICT related education with basic skills and tools in innovation and entrepreneurship. We provide a study module of 20 ECTS in I & E, which has been built especially for the students participating in NMP iICT. Turku Business School and KTH will in cooperation provide these courses.

When applying to study at one of the partner universities, the applicant expresses her/his interest for NMP iICT. During the first academic year, the students can apply for mobility grant. The student gets her/his degree from the home university. S/he also gets a diploma certificate showing both the NMP status as well as possible joint studies in other partner universities. A double degree will be granted in those cases where it's legally possible and within agreements between the partner universities.

Appendix: 5/06/07 NMP presentation

6.6 External evaluation of TUCS

A working group has been nominated for preparing guidelines for the external evaluation. The group will prepare its first report for the result negotiations.

7. Discussion item: Printing of dissertations

University of Turku no longer requires printing of PhD theses, electronic publication suffices. As a consequence, University of Turku will instead of the current 850 € cover only 350 € of the printing costs of a thesis in TUCS series and therefore, also procedures at TUCs should be revised. Within Åbo Akademi University there will be no changes in the procedures in the near future.

8. Announcements

8.1 Minutes of TUCS Board meeting of June 11, 2007

http://www.tucs.fi/downloads/minutes/board/board_20070611.pdf

8.2 Application round for TUCS status

An additional application round for TUCS status will take place in October 2007.

8.3 Graduate School coordinator

Satu Jääskeläinen acts as the new Graduate School coordinator during Ulrika Gustafssons maternity leave.

8.4 TUCS conference guarantee

The 1st New Exploratory Technologies energy (NEXTe) seminar has been granted a conference guarantee of 5.000 €. The seminar takes place in Salo 24th – 25th of September 2007. The participants are estimated to be around 140 and the total budget is 29.600 €.

Turku, September 18, 2007

Christer Carlsson
Chair of the Board

Hannu Tenhunen
Director

Tapio Salakoski
Vice Director

Satu Jääskeläinen
Graduate School Coordinator

Christel Donner
Secretary of the meeting