

## **Board meeting**

Monday, March 30, 2009, at 13.00

ICT building, Joukahaisenkatu 3-5 B, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, TUCS conferens room

### **Items of the agenda**

1. Validity of the meeting and presence of a quorum
2. Additional items
3. Closing of TUCS accounts 2008 (Donner)
4. The secretary position of TUCS (Salakoski)
5. Guidelines for the Graduate School Committee for the next application round (Salakoski)
6. Discussion item: Feedback on the Graduate School application 2010 – 2013
7. Discussion item: Action Plan for TUCS Budget 2009
8. Announcements
  - 8.1 Minutes of TUCS Board meeting of February 2, 2009
  - 8.2 TUCS conference guarantee for SPICE 2009
  - 8.3 TUCS Short Courses and Seminars
  - 8.4 New project applications
  - 8.5 Changes in the members of TUCS Board
  - 8.6 Applications to the International Master's Degree Programs
  - 8.7 Symposium Information Processing – Modern Perspectives

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### **Present:**

Jan Westerholm, Prof.

Johan Lilius, Prof.

Christer Carlsson, Prof., Chair

Sirpa Simola, Director

Juhani Karhumäki, Prof.

Reima Suomi, Prof., Vice-Chair, left during item 6

Tuomo Saarni, Ph.D. Student

Tuukka Simonen, M.Sc. Student

### **TUCS staff:**

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 March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

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: One additional TUCS short course was added to announcement 8.3 and items 8.6 and 8.7 were added to the agenda.

## **3. Closing of TUCS accounts 2008 (Donner)**

TUCS had a good year in 2008. The accounts show that the income was more than budgeted and the expenses less than budgeted. Especially, several project accounts were established in December and therefore, the total surplus of 595.900 EUR was larger than expected. Most of this, however, is tied to projects.

Appendix:      [01/02/09](#)                      [TUCS Budget Summary 1.1-31.12.2008](#)  
                         [02/02/09](#)                      [Account Balances 31.12.2008](#)

Proposal:        The Board approves the closing of TUCS accounts for year 2008.

Decision:        According to proposal.

#### **4. The secretary position of TUCS (Salakoski)**

TUCS Office Secretary, Irmeli Laine, has been employed since April 2005 on several short term contracts, first as a substitute and recently as the primary secretary at TUCS Office. In addition, TUCS had a permanent Information Secretary until the end of 2008 when she resigned. The need of at least one secretary is indisputable, and there is no justification for any more short-term contracts. The plan is to combine these posts into one Department Secretary position and make the contract permanent.

Proposal:        The current TUCS secretary Irmeli Laine will be permanently employed with the title Department Secretary beginning on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

Decision:        According to proposal.

#### **5. Guidelines for the Graduate School Committee for the next application round (Salakoski)**

The 2009 application round is open until March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009 and the new criteria approved by the Board in February 2009 will be used for the student evaluation.

The budget frame for the intake autumn 2009 is at maximum 12 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.

According to the feedback from the Academy of Finland, we should have more completed degrees and a shorter study time. Therefore, we should carefully select only the very best applicants, so that the number of degrees completed in due time is maximized.

Appendix:      [03/02/09](#)                      [Available salary months 2009](#)

Proposal:        TUCS GS will aim at selecting 8-12 new students with 24 months of funding each.

Decision:        According to proposal.

#### **6. Discussion item: Feedback on the Graduate School application 2010 – 2013**

In the graduate school application round for the years 2010 – 2013 TUCS GS applied for 25 new positions and operating grants to the amount of 600.000 EUR. According to the decision TUCS GS was granted 14 positions and 312.000 EUR of operating grants.

Appendix:      [04/02/09](#)                      [The evaluation report](#)

The overall feedback was positive, and our plans were given the highest marks possible. TUCS GS was considered as a well-organized professional graduate school with a clear

international focus. According to the criticism we received, our productivity is not good enough. The following items in the evaluation report should be discussed:

- Increasing the number of degrees completed
- Shortening the study time

Statistics about TUCS GS students drop-outs and study duration was discussed in November 2008, but no decision has been made to improve the situation. An updated statistics will be provided to the Board for the discussion at the meeting.

## **7. Discussion item: Action Plan for TUCS Budget 2009**

The Board approved TUCS Budget for 2009 at the meeting February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009. At the time of the meeting some agreements were not signed and discussions were still going on, and hence the Board requested an updated action plan for the budget, where the expenses are described in a more representative manner.

Appendix:        [05/02/09 Updated TUCS Budget 2009](#)

The Board will discuss the action plan for TUCS Budget 2009.

Conclusion:     The Board discussed the plans and is looking forward to reports and further plans concerning the use of the basic funding from TuAMK.

## **8. Announcements**

### **8.1 Minutes of TUCS Board meeting of February 2, 2009**

[http://www.tucs.fi/downloads/minutes/board/board\\_20090202.pdf](http://www.tucs.fi/downloads/minutes/board/board_20090202.pdf)

### **8.2 TUCS conference guarantee for SPICE 2009**

The 9<sup>th</sup> International Software Process Improvement and Capability Determination conference - SPICE 2009 has been granted a conference guarantee of 5.000 €. The conference will take place in Turku 2.-4.6.2009. The participants are estimated to be around 100 and the local organizing chair is Ivan Porres, ÅAU.

### **8.3 TUCS Short Courses and Seminars**

The short course *Towards the Future Internet - trends, issues and technologies* has been granted financing from TUCS. The course is arranged by the Department of Information Technology, UTU and will take place March 10<sup>th</sup> – May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009, a total of 28 hours. The invited lecturer is Petri Sainio, Teleste Corporation.

The short course *Analysis and Modelling of Information Systems* was granted financing from TUCS. The course was arranged by the Institute of Information Systems Sciences/TSE and took place March 9<sup>th</sup> – March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The invited lecturer was Prof. Maria A. Wimmer, University of Koblenz, Germany.

The short course *Multicriteria Decision Modelling in problem Solving* has been granted financing from TUCS. The course is arranged by the Department of Information Technologies/ÅAU and will take place April 15<sup>th</sup> – May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The invited lecturer is Prof. Mario Fedrizzi, University of Trento, Italy.

The seminar *Reconfigurable Video: Standards and Implementations* has been granted 1.000 EUR to partially cover the travel costs for two of the invited

speakers. The seminar is arranged by the Department of Information Technologies, ÅAU and will take place April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009. The invited speakers are, Director Marco Mattavelli, LSM-GRAM (Multimedia Architecture Research Group) of EPLF, Switzerland and Research Engineer Mickael Raulet, Institute of Electronics and Telecommunications of Rennes, France.

#### **8.4 New project applications**

TUCS has participated in several new project applications: Nordplus continuation application and two Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window applications (Eureca continuation application with a few changed Asian partner universities and EM ECW China application). Erasmus Mundus II application will be prepared and sent in April.

#### **8.5 Changes in the members of TUCS Board**

The Board of Åbo Akademi University has in its meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009 nominated Prof. Jan Westerholm as an ordinary member of TUCS Board and Prof. Hannu Toivonen as his deputy.

The Board of ÅAU also nominated Staffan Enberg to act as the deputy student member of ÅAU.

#### **8.6 Applications to the International Master's Degree Programs**

The TUCS community received in spring 2009 a good number of applications for the international Master's Degree Programmes.

#### **8.7 Symposium Information Processing – Modern Perspectives**

A Symposium INFORMATION PROCESSING – MODERN PERSPECTIVES will be arranged in honour of the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday of Academician Arto Salomaa. The symposium will be arranged May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in Turku.

Turku, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Christer Carlsson  
Chair of the Board

Tapio Salakoski  
Vice Director

Christel Donner  
Secretary of the meeting