

Minutes of Department Council Meeting 2019-02

Time: Wednesday May 15, 2019
Place: SLV300 room 0.2.15
Members of IR
Students: Rune Møberg Jacobsen (RMJ), Anders Høgh Hansen (AHH)
TAP: Helle Schroll (HeS), Mette Kaufmann Andersen (MKA), Lone Vriberg (LV),
VIP: Peter Dolog (PD), Hua Lu (HL), Giovanni Bacci (GB), John Stouby Persson (JSP), Jiri Srba (JSr), Tim Meritt (TM)
Chairman: Head of Department Jesper Kjeldskov (JK)
Absent:
Minutes taker Diana P. Frank

Agenda:

1. Approval of the agenda
2. News from the Head of Department
3. Renovation at Cassiopeia
4. Establishing CS research labs
5. Establishing CS in Copenhagen
6. Status on new positions
7. Preliminary budget
8. AOB

Minutes:

- 1) Approval of the agenda
The Department Council approved the agenda.
- 2) News from the Head of Department
Since the last meeting we have worked on how we organize the running of our educations. A meeting was held earlier today about this. Uffe Kjærulff (UK), who was former Head of the School of ICT has been appointed as Deputy Head of Department for education. This means that JK has delegated the tasks of the education area to UK. A study management group consisting of JK, UK, LLT, HW, DPF meets regularly to handle educational matters. The role of our education groups has been revised and education coordinators will be appointed. Each education will now have a coordinator and seven education groups have been appointed. The names of the specific coordinators will be available on the intranet later.
Jiri got a prestigious grant.
- 3) Renovation at Cassiopeia
Campus service is still negotiating with the renovators. Plan is we are staying. The question is how we would organize this building.
In connection with the study environment day arranged by Campus Service, some Interaction design students has made a proposal for how to organize shared room for students in cluster 5. This was presented by AHH. When do we start with this type of renovation. According to JK we will make all renovations at once and not do ad hoc renovations.
JK presented the preliminary sketches of renovation of Cassiopeia. Some highlights from the presentation: Students to be placed in ground floor + labs and maybe rooms for our master students. Plan is ITS is moving out in 2020. Rooms in clusters on the ground floor can be divided by glass walls to create more light.

General idea is to remove staircases that will provide more space. Staff area: offices will be smaller and shared by more. Our current kitchens take up a lot of space and the idea is to place them in hallways. Meetings rooms: copy rooms can be made into meeting rooms. Generally, these are just ideas. A working group will be set up to work with the details of the renovation.

JSr commented that we need more meeting rooms for staff related meetings and what about the auditorium? This could be divided in two rooms and the square will be removed in order to give more space.

JK hopes the renovation process will start up in August. LV commented that we need to be aware of the re-exams in August in terms of noise.

Could we have more Ph.d. students per square metre? Not good to put more than three in an office. Sliding doors were mentioned as a solution for larger offices. Room for equipment: many students borrow stuff from ITS – similar to “Komponenten”. A “gatekeeper” between ITS and the department could be nice - both in terms of staff and students.

4) Establishing CS research labs

JK informed about an initiative for a TECH lab facility that goes across departments. The idea is that shared projects between departments can be hosted in these labs instead of in each department. Increasing numbers of shared activities are happening and nice to have a place where we can host this. JK would like each group to clarify the need for these labs (both CS and shared lab). Representatives should go back to their groups and ask for input.

In DEIS they already have discussed this and the conclusion was: First priority is a lab for technical support (person) and secondly a lab for showing projects/storage/building stuff. He expects that DEIS would prefer the main lab activity here – but some demos could be in a shared lab.

In DPW: People are the first priority.

HCC: we definitely use these labs but we are not entirely settled in terms of needs.

Students: Most importantly: the labs must be included in terms of teaching activities (e.g. demos of drones) both in terms of courses and maybe projects. Right now it seems mainly for researchers. So basically - bring research closer to education. Make new technology available to students. JK commented that we can learn a lot from Electronic Systems where research and student projects can be combined.

The initiative for research labs will be part of the renovation of Cassiopeia.

5) Establishing CS in Copenhagen

We have been asked to start up software study programmes in Copenhagen. Working group is established with the following members: Hua Lu, René Rydhof, Peter Axel Nielsen, Kurt Nørmark, Uffe Kjærulff and Jesper Kjeldskov. We are currently negotiating terms with ES. Education application to be handed in with deadline in the beginning of August. Major focus from Rector on succeeding getting the application approved at the ministry. As part of the application. Epinion is making a report for us to validate the need for SW study programmes in Copenhagen. The manning is started to get planned. A satellite of this department is expected to be in Copenhagen who also should do research. It is not likely that we make a copy of our current units but to have a fourth group with connection to our research groups here. JK asked if there are any thoughts in terms of the manning of the administration. HES commented that HW expect that we might use resources from CREATE. As for economy tasks - it might be taken care of from here initially.

JK informed that at new deputy head of department starts August 1 at CREATE in Copenhagen. He is already a close friend of this department, so he expects some cooperation here.

JSr commented that as for the strategy in terms of research groups it requires an estimate for the manning. JK however expects that we start with one group and then we wait and see if we should develop research areas. He also would like to create a furnished room for the use of remote teaching (video conferencing).

6) Status on new positions

The big challenge is that we are short of hands. We have 13 new positions in pipeline including assistant and associate professors. Status is now that we will soon be able to select the candidates. In general, there have been many applicants especially for the tenure tracks positions. It was mentioned by PD that the process of reviewing these applicants are too resourceful.

7) Preliminary budget

HES presented the preliminary budget numbers. Our estimated income for 2020 is approx. 77.000 million in income compared to 60.000 in 2019. There is economic room to hire more than 13 positions as we have the money in 2020 – seen in relation to the expected surplus (e.g. lab technicians as discussed earlier).

The department council can give input to the budget 2020. A suggestion was to offer assistant professors some money to attract them. Another suggestion was to make an official partnership with “Komponenten”. The heating in rooms in the winter must be improved. However, the cost for this is to be paid by CAS and not the department.

8) AOB

No other business.

9) Meeting plan

Next meetings: October 9, November 20 2019.