Minutes of Department Council Meeting 2017

Time: Wednesday October 4, 2017 at 14.00-16.00

Place: SLV300 room 0.2.15

Members of IR

Students: Emil Jørgensen Njor (EJN), Rune Møberg Jacobsen (RMJ), Morten Meyer Rasmussen (MMR)

TAP: Helle Schroll (HeS), Mette Kaufmann Andersen (MKA)

VIP: Peter Dolog (PD), Jiri Srba (JSr), Hua Lu (HL), Giovanni Bacci (GB), Johannes Lindhart

                Borresen (JLB), John Stouby Persson (JSP)

Chairman: Head of Department Kristian G. Olesen (KGO)

Absent: Johannes Lindhart Borresen (JLB), Morten Meyer Rasmussen (MMR)

Agenda:
1) Approval of the agenda
2) Messages and short news
3) New statutes
4) Economy Status
5) Budget 2018
6) The physical environment and future location
7) Other business

Minutes:

1) Approval of the agenda
   The agenda was approved.

2) Messages and short news
   School has moved to the Faculty.

   Strategic investments; all the issues on the wish list for the strategic fund have been met. SICT also granted an amount to the interaction design studio.
   Tim Merrit's has obtained an advanced cutting machine for long term loan. It is to be placed in SIRL-lab but first there are some work environmental and security issues to look into.

   Institutional accreditation. Computer Science was not elected for the accreditation. However the SICT are to follow the audit trails, primary with focus aimed at AAU Copenhagen Campus. The

accreditation panel will visit AAU ending this month. And a decision is to be ready before summer 2018. Topics included are the physical study environment, the research XXXX and the self-evaluation processes.

3) New statutes

A hearing process is taking place regarding new issues proposed to the statute.

Several authorities have been involved in the hearing process eg. the Academic Council, The Department Council and Study Boards. The recapitulation of the CS Department's comments was sent to the faculty who forwards all the comments of the departments to the Central Joint Liaisons Committee.

The comments (headlines) from CS Department were:

Distribution of responsibility between rector and board eg. establishment and closing of departments has been suggested to be rectors responsibility alone. This is not a good and democratic idea.

Distribution of responsibility between hiring committees and board; the comment is that more than one candidate should be nominated.

The director's role is now described in the statute. The current description in the delegation instruction seems to be more flexible.

The director is proposed to act as substitute for the rector. The comment is that it would be more suitable to have one of the deans as a substitute.

Number of members in governing bodies; rector wishes to limit the burden of administrative tasks for the VIP personnel. The comment is that it will work the other way around as we then will need to discuss issues elsewhere.

Secretarial assistance to study boards; is now the study leaders responsibility, but as the SICT moved to the faulty level it is now the departments responsibility to staff the function.

4) Economy Status 2017

Adjustments in consequence of moving the school per July 1, 2017 as the wages is moved as well.

Project loss from last year restored (400 Kkr).

Talent projects funding and grants from the dean will not be fully spent as the year is ending soon.

Projects closed with a surplus. It has been difficult to reoccupy positions in due time.

All of this is disturbing our economy and the estimate for 2017 is now a surplus of app. Kkr 500 (we were expected to process a deficit of app. – 1 Mkr).

We are still calling for future budgeting prognosis tools for better long term planning. And also it should be considered to hire personnel on a more aggressively basis.

5) Budget 2018

New economy models from rector will be valid from 2019. How will the faculty react to this the rector's model? The new dean seems to agree on the transparency idea. A new allocation on the funding of laboratories is maybe also up coming. Argue laboratories of value ex. UPPAAL, TrafficData labs.

Income not yet known which basically means that we are to budget on last year's figures (2017 basis). This is not satisfying, as the economy personnel already have allocated their working hours these weeks to process the budget. Expenses continue with minor adjustments. In the economic latitude,

availability is for new positions. It may be the time for reestablishing the assistant professorship level, eg. more aggressively in hiring process especially assistant professors. We would like to keep employing good associate professors based on announcements contrary to automatically following an assistant professorship (based on evaluation). The dean's signal is that he prefers to employ ordinary professors to professors with special responsibilities (our vacant CS position is in evaluation at the moment).

An idea came up to attract candidates for our vacant positions with a startup benefit for new associate professors/professors.

During spring 2018 we will hire people on short term and an hourly basis to cover the teaching.

The tax percentage is rising to 18,8 probably to cover cross disciplinary disciplines

The budget for 2018 will be circulated when ready. We are waiting for the information of our income for 2018 from the Faculty.

The finishing bonus for Phd'student graduating will be cancelled in the new model. Will it then be more lucrative to hire post docs only? It is very important that we keep employing PhD.-students, as this is the future raw material for the Computer Science Department in all and the research environment to pursue an academic career.

6) The physical environment and future location
Relocation of the departments employees and the students has been discussed again. For FrB7A some improvements have been made (refrigerator, beanbags aso.). For the next spring semester, F18 it seems that we will have rooms in the NOVI9-building so in this way all our students will be gathered in Selma and NOVI9. The Campus Service (CAS) is working on making this happen.
E18 will maybe bring relocation to all of us to FrB7CDE (minus labs.).

A new cleaning company (Alliance+) has taken over the cleaning of our building. Please direct your complaints to Ulla Øland, ulla@cs.aau.dk who will collect the complaints and forward to the CAS.

A new building officer (facility supporter) is now present at Cassiopeia. The building officers are located in room 0.1.91 (between the entrance doors).

7) Other business
Meeting calendar is soon to be announced.