

Minutes Educational Committee

16 November 2015

Present:

Siegfried Nijssen
Amr Ali-Eldin
Michael Lew
Simone Cammel
Tobias de Jong
Jeroen van Oorschot
Elisa Partodikromo
Isaura van den Berg

Absent:

Tobias Kappé
Frédérique de Paus
Erwin Bakker

- 1) Opening: 13.05hrs
- 2) Agenda: OK
- 3) Post: incoming mail was forwarded by Siegfried.
- 4) Membership:

Although there are currently 4 student- and 4 staff members, there is discussion whether or not to include extra student observants for the remaining master specialisations. For MT, Max Roele is named. Another option is to include a representative of Bio-Informatics. However, so far Erwin Bakker had no success finding someone.
- 5) Year reports need to be approved by the EC before being handed in to the faculty. As they are not available yet, the EC meets again on 30th of November to discuss the reports.
- 6) Oral evaluations:

ICTiB & CS have already been discussed.

Media Technology Semester II:

Students found the courses appropriate, although some courses had major problems. The Language & Text course was strongly affected by absence-due-to-illness of the original lecturer while course replacement (Science & Philosophy) was organized at the very last moment and wasn't sufficiently communicated with all students. The evaluation of Science & Humanities was positive.

As many assignments were due on the same time, it is highly recommended to reschedule some of the course work to better accommodate students.

- 7) Written evaluations:

Most of the evaluations of Spring 2014-2015 were filled out. The most significant courses and/or changes will be discussed hereafter:

Media Technology

- Web Technology:

Lecturer took last evaluation very seriously and has improved a lot. Siegfried sends the Web Technology lecturer a congratulation letter.

- New Media and new technologies:
Lecturer has a unique lecture style which for some students really work and for others could be demotivating.

Computer Science:

- Computational Molecular Biology:
Student didn't like the slides and had trouble following the course. In 15-16, a new lecturer will provide the course.

ICTiB:

- Research Methods:
Replacement led to better results. Oral comments have already been communicated with Aske Plaat.
- Finance:
The EC would like to know why the grade for Finance has dropped from 7.7 to 6.7. It is suggested that the group of 2014-2015 perhaps evaluates more critically than the group of students of 2013-2014 as some of the other grades have also dropped.
- Overall:
Last semester, ICTiB experienced that students were not really communicating with each other interculturally, so many groups were formed on basis of nationality. This fall, the year started with an introductory course 'cross cultural management' on how to work together, and since then, collaborations between nationalities have increased significantly.

8) Preparations oral evaluations:

With provided lunch towards the end of the semester, students will be asked their opinion about the courses. Dates for the oral evaluations for the first semester will be planned in the upcoming month.

9) Preparations written evaluations:

Regarding the question whether or not all assistants should be evaluated: for some courses there will be too many assistants to mention, so after consultation with Marcello Bonsangue and Walter Kusters, it has been decided that the individual assistants will not be mentioned on the forms. Instead, there will be a general mark and comment box to evaluate the assistants altogether. Professors, however, will continue to be evaluated individually.

The collecting of written evaluations will be slightly different as several students have expressed their discontent with the existing approach. In the new approach, forms will be collected by assistants and they will pass the forms directly to Abdel, without the direct involvement of the lecturer. The assistant(s) confirm to the lecturer that the forms have been handed over to Abdel. The responsibility remains with the lecturer. Siegfried sends an email about the change in collecting the written evaluation forms.

10) Website: Harry Wijshoff's name should be removed.

11) Year planning:

- Add November 30th as date for an extra meeting to discuss year reports.
- Siegfried will ask about the format and how to discuss the MT evaluations in '15 – '16.

12) Questions before closure of meeting

Simone received multiple complaints about cheating by fellow students and 2nd year students during ICTiB exams. Although not allowed, some students keep their books and notes with them during the exam. Although the lecturer promised to take care of it when this happens, so far no action was taken. A general email about cheating was sent by Judith Havelaar to all students.

13) Closing: 14.05 hrs

Next meeting:

30 November : discussion year reports.