

Agenda PC - IDE

Meeting 188

Date: 25-11-2024

Time: 12:45 – 14:00

Place: Z - 109

Minutes secretary: Loes Munsterman

CC:

Guests:

Members	Name	Present/Absent
Staff	Geke Ludden (chair)	Absent
	Jodi Sturge	
	Winnie Dankers	
	Kostas Nizamis (secretary)	
Students	Johan Stekelenburg (vice-chair)	
	Nazli Farid	
	Arthur Lin	
	Martyna Mariak	Absent

Permanent guests	Name	Present/Absent
Programme Director	Wim de Boer	
BSc. Coordinator	Hiske Schuurman-Hemmer	
MSc. Coordinator	Elora Luijkx	
S.G. Daedalus	Alexandra Tark	
EvaCom	Teodora Citia	Absent

One-time guests	Name	Present/Absent

1. Welcome
Johan is chair today since Geke is not here.
2. Announcements:
 - 2.1. Chairman: -
 - 2.2. Program Director: No point on the agenda about the evaluations. But today we had our first module meeting based on the new questionnaire. This went well. We took action points for every course and for the project and we will find a way to summarize that. And for the next meeting we can update you on how that went.
 - 2.3. SG Daedalus: Martina will be in my position, she will be the next Officer for Educational Affairs. She will be moving on to my position from just a normal PC member. I did not decide yet if I will stay in de PC as a normal member, otherwise we need to look for a new member maybe.
 - 2.4. Others: -
3. Introduction new PC members:
Everyone knows Francesca already. For Winnie this is her last meeting. Her famous last words: "Those were fantastic years" 😊. Everyone claps for that.
4. Approve minutes meeting 187:
No additions, approved.
5. Action Points from previous meetings:
AP 2 – 185: Include the topic of company payments for students' master's thesis in the next agenda.
Done, in this agenda.
6. Company payments for students' master's thesis:
Point raised by Jodie because there is a large difference in company payments for the Thesis internships. Johan did some small research, and he wrote it on a note:

Current situation: At least for my track (MLPD) I get information on the Canvas page of the track. There is a document called "Stageovereenkomst". This is all in Dutch. There is a block called internship payment and it is open for somebody to fill it in with no further comments about an advice or something from the university. The same counts for payment for traveling.

[Johan] Maybe we want to make some advice for companies or have at least a statement from our side. So, I checked it from law. And it is indeed not mandatory in the Netherlands to have payment for internships if they are focused on education. They state learning is the central goal. And this is also the case in our studies. If you would do an internship at a government location, everybody gets 749 euros per month (2024) if you work 40 hours a week.

[Johan] Another thing I found is that in the regulations from the university a copyright of the report is not determined. It can be for the employer, but it can also be for the student, and you need to agree on that. Also, you have 160 hours of holiday, but since the master thesis is 8 months, you can calculate that it is about 120 hours. So, this is the general knowledge that is there.

[Johan] We can discuss what would be a nice suggestion towards employers. I came up with one and then maybe we can use that as a starting point. So, what I was thinking is that we

can advise the company to give the same amount of money as the government does: 749 euros per month. But since the employer pays you for doing some sort of work that is beneficial for them or might be beneficial for them, you can give back that the copyright is then for the employer. As for a normal job. And that you can state otherwise if they refuse to pay an internship payment or lower that you would say we would like to see that the copyright stays with the students. And lastly, we can also state that it is expected at least that the company pays for the travel costs.

Questions and comments:

[Winnie] First I have a question. Did you also analyze why nothing was stated until now for the past years? Maybe there is a rational.

[Johan] I do not know.

[Winnie] I heard rumors about that we do not want to be in between the student and company. And, that we only can guarantee that the student will work for a certain amount of hours, but we cannot guarantee any results. And I heard things from the company side that we are putting a lot of effort into guiding and educating these students and now you want us to pay for it. So, there are many reasons behind it why currently nothing is stated.

[Jodie] But what if new companies come. We do not have a response then. For example, Nedap is very clear on what they pay.

[Winnie] Then as a staff member you just say sorry, that is not something between the university and that is something between the company and the students.

[Jodie] But if the company comes to us and says for instance: I want to hire two students, what is the going rate of what we pay them?

[Winnie] Hiring students is not something we are in between.

[Winnie] That is how it is done now. We do not want to be in the contract. We do not want to be in the negotiation. It is really something between student and company.

[Johan] From a student perspective it is at least nice that in this negotiation you can say this is what university advice and then the company can give whatever they want.

[Winnie] But what should the university advice?

[Johan] For example that you can refer to the website of the government.

[Winnie] But that is up to the student to say in the negotiation what you want to have or that you want more because of this and this.

[Winnie] We can have a guidance document on how to negotiate. Because I still think we should not be in between this. And it is interesting to have some kind of list in where do assignments or the facilities or payments, how do they vary. And then you can also as a student see if it is worthwhile to sit at this interesting company although you do not get paid. You can at least see how it relates to other positions. That could be an idea, but I would not make it a formal advice from our site personally.

[Johan] I think your suggestion of having an internal document for students like guiding this negotiation would be really nice.

[Kostas] Yes, indeed some attention points for you as a student would be nice. Like when you accept an internship far from here, you need to consider that travelling will cost you money. Or do you have a place to work at the company or do you need to sit at home. But formally supporting money negotiations I fully agree that that is something we should not be doing.

[Wim] I see online that since 2022 there is an internship agreement from the Dutch universities. But we do not have a real internship.

[Winnie] Another point is that other than with an internship, with a thesis the university want students to make their own path and if the company pays you, they can say no because we are paying you for this. Also, some points there why we do not want to be in between.

[Winnie] On the other hand, it would also be good to have the rationale why we do not have something as an advice. Because otherwise we have this question repeatedly.

[Francesca] Wondering if you had a chat with Armagan who is taking over the master thesis for the track Human Technology Relations. That was also a conversation we had about if there are some regulations, and she wants to change a little bit the way that we relate with companies. Also preparing a document as such for companies already. So might be handy to bring her in the loop into this conversation just to know what she is planning to do or what is already ongoing in that direction.

[Winnie] It is already confusing that this track is doing a bit different, so try to do the same for all masters.

[Johan] I have not heard everyone, but I think we are going towards the directions of having an internal document for students from the three different master tracks that advises them on how to arrange this instead of saying to the company this is what university advises.

[Wim] We can also bring it to the meeting of the coordination of the master's and take this suggestion and then we can discuss it. Armagan is in that meeting and Dave as well and Elora of course. We put it on the agenda, and I will give it back to you.

7. IDE Mid-Term update + focus proposal:

[Wim] I wanted to inform you that we are in the preparation of the midterm of the programme which is planned for March this year. We do this together with Eindhoven and Delft. We use it in a way so that we can learn about it and preparing ourselves for the actual accreditation. We talked about it in the previous meetings. We will visit Eindhoven; Eindhoven visits Delft and Delft comes to us. Also, a student of us will be part of the panel of Delft. The goal is that everybody is visiting everybody. What we are doing now is that we are setting up a file so that they get a good insight of what we have for the bachelor and master and everything that comes with it. As well as trying to have an agenda for that meeting (13th of March). They are not so much assessing us, but we can bring our points to the table so that we can take advantage of their experiences, ideas etc.

[Wim] We have been setting up our website. This is the way we are preparing for these kinds of things. We just made a copy and use that structure to organize our program. I can share that site with you. We are almost ready for that. We also looked in a previous meeting at the four quality vision points of the education (intended learning outcomes, learning environments, the assessment, the thesis). Those kinds of things are assessed. And from that we tried to identify what could be questions we want to take to the meeting. So, taking that into account, as well as the curriculum renewal of the bachelor, and then starting also the discussing what this could implicate for the masters.

[Wim] We came to 3 main points for the agenda:

- Bachelor renewal: Tell them what we are doing, but we also want to look ahead. We are looking for their ideas, feedback, suggestions etc.

- We do that with a reference framework for IDE (not our curriculum, but even above that, the Dutch IDE curriculum). We want to see whether this framework is still valid for the forthcoming 10 years.
- We have made changes to the bachelor curriculum. And we are trying to approach certain things in a different way. How could we use that as an input for the change or an update for the master curriculum?

[Wim] We still have some time to prepare anything, but I thought it would be good to update you.

Questions and comments:

[Johan]: Do you expect certain input from the PC for this?

[Wim] Yeah, I think so. But next week I have a meeting with the organisation (external company) of this day about how the day is going to look like. So, we have some external guidance. But I think the PC and the examination board should have a role in that.

8. Extra meeting December?

Kostas put this point in. The question is if we think we need that extra meeting.

[Wim] Not much has changed of the language assignment. And there was this extra meeting for, so it is not necessary then. We need more guidance.

[Kostas] I cancel the meeting.

9. Status development Year 2 and 3:

[Wim] Not much to add to the update from last time. We have smaller meetings, and the module teams are working on their modules of course. Furthermore, some changes in coordination. Those things are happening, and we are preparing for a meeting with everyone together at the beginning of December. In module 2 we made an outlook for the whole curriculum based on what the development coaches feed back to us. Hiske made an update of the website, so the curriculum is now there. Since the courses are still in development it leads to a general info about that particular module. Not much to update, next time there is more to tell.

Questions and comments:

[Alexandra] Is there going to be a sort of solid base for the second year before the next open days in spring?

[Wim] What is solid? But we have a better insight in what the courses are, how big they are, who is going to teach them, what the exact content is. But what I said last time is that we have sessions with the steering team, with the development teams for example about the design and visualization line and how that is addressed in each in every module.

[Winnie] Will there also be a presentation moment again where we will present the second year?

[Wim] I didn't think of it as such. But maybe after the midterm this would be a good idea, also for us.

[Alexandra] How involved are the study advisers in the plans for the second year? I have heard from quite a few students that they ask the study advisor to help to plan their second year, but the study advisers don't know what to say, they don't have an answer.

[Hiske] We don't know yet and the study advisers are therefore in a hard position, because there is no plan yet. And that is inconvenient for everybody. But we don't know yet.

[Alexandra] Maybe it is nice that they at least give a suggestion of the overlook because there are some frustrations of students now.

[Hiske] The study adviser can give some advice, but it might change. That is the problem. The only thing that we know is that we will find a solution if things are disappearing in the curriculum.

[Wim] But about the involvement of the study advisers. Every two weeks the program management is together with the study advisers; they are part of the curriculum. And they are always invited in the curriculum meetings. And we also asked their feedback of module 1. It is not like they don't have any idea because they also raise these things in our meetings. And at a certain point, if we know more, we will quickly update them as well.

[Johan] Is it maybe an idea to get the presentation of the concept at that moment for the next meeting internally at the PC? To see what the progress is there. Or is that too soon?

[Hiske] What do you mean exactly? Also, the transitional arrangements?

[Johan] No, just the progress of especially the second year and maybe also the third year what the ideas are there. To see the progress.

[Wim] There are a lot of things happening there and I am also thinking about what the best way is. Last year we asked the coordinators of a module to give an update where they stand and that is maybe also something we could ask from them to just give a 5-minute update.

[Johan] My suggestion would be to have more of an overview of a year for the next formal meeting and then maybe also the study advisers can use the knowledge what is there to at least have some sort of idea of how to advise students. But it is of course risky that you misinform them because things change in the process. What is worse, having no information or having information that might change?

[Alexandra] I would say information that might change. Because students now are completely lost. An option would be better than having nothing.

[Wim] We had some open meetings last year. So maybe we can prepare that again, but then you should give us a bit more time. We can arrange that so that we can tell each other where we are and how we are experiencing the first modules. In this way we can update all people who are interested in that, and last year that was a big group actually. I will discuss it with my steering team. But a good idea.

10. Any other business / Question round:

[Arhtur] It is nice to have a guidance in general what students should expect from the company for their thesis. Because for example, you said a lot of the documents are in Dutch and as an international student I do not necessarily know what keywords to search for, even though there is Google Translate, but I still need the Dutch keyword too. So, it is a really good idea to have some sort of guidance, even though it might be just informal. I forgot to mention.

11. Closure: 13:38