

Employers Panel Meeting for GBI/DIM

September 29, 2021

Participants: Kirsten Nielsen, Tanja Danner, Nina Husfeldt, Nicolai Meelbye, Lene Pries-Heje, Oliver Krancher, Baki Cakici, Anna Elizabeth Thomsen,

Student participants for the workshop: Anne Havmøller Fellows-Jensen, Isabelle Engelke, Casper Blum Frohn, Emma Marie Udsen, Jonas Brock-Hanash, Cecilie Marie Orry

Minutes

1. Follow up on the Panel's report/ Baki Cakici and Oliver Krancher, Heads of Programmes
2. Employment Ticket – new concept + revised ticket for GBI/ Oliver Krancher and Baki Cakici
3. Workshop: Ideas for strengthening the relevance of GBI

1. Follow up on the Panel's report and from the programmes

Chair of the panel, Kirsten Nielsen, welcomed everybody.

Head of Digital Innovation and Management (DIM), Baki Cakici, and Head of Global Business Informatics (GBI), Oliver Krancher then followed up on the panel's annual report.

Baki updated the panel that since the last meeting DIM had also received a report concluding a programme review by an external panel.

The review report was generally favourable and found that graduates from DIM are employable and that topics taught in the programme are relevant. The review recommended that the programme work on articulating the different perspectives that are in the programme, a known challenge of interdisciplinarity.

Baki explained that DIM will continue following up on the review, including checking up on specialisations and their fit.

Since receiving the panel's report it has become clear that the issue of admitting international students is a political issue. Baki explained that DIM has thought of other ways of introducing internationalization, but not found a good solution yet.

He also updated the panel that revisions of Computational Literacies and the teaching of programming in DIM was now implemented and that teachers used the panel's feedback in their revisions (bringing in what code does in an organization, the role of maintenance and repair, legacy coding).

As for the panel's suggestion to include topics on AI and Quantum computing, Baki invited the panel to discuss further how this should be taught, as there is no specific place where these topics could latch on to DIM right now.

Oliver told the panel that all the students in GBI are happy to be back and it is a great pleasure to teach them. Since the report, GBI has implemented a stronger focus on value creation – for instance as part of focusing on business cases in the course Enterprise Systems and Information Management (value creation and the impact that IT creates). New technologies (Clouds, SaaS etc.) are among other things incorporated in the new Digital Platform elective as is integration issues. GBI considers including cyber security and compliance in the IT Governance course.

2. New Concept for Employment tickets (Employability Profiles)

Oliver presented the new concept to the panel through the current draft for an employability profile for GBI.

The Dean of Education has developed a concept for structuring important skills that students gain in programmes and made them more readable in relation to the labour market.

The panel liked the new concept and commented that it made the profile more understandable. They commented that it simultaneously works as a visual communication tool and felt it gave both insight and an understanding of what to expect from GBI graduates.

The panel would like to see more examples of employability profiles before giving their final support for the concept, which was scheduled for the January meeting.

3. Workshop: Ideas for strengthening the relevance of GBI

Oliver presented the student participants for the workshop, who were recent graduates and third year students and all strongly engaged in improving the GBI, while simultaneously representing different interests in the programme.

The idea for the workshop grew from two sides: the panel's call for a stronger focus on contemporary issues in the annual report and students' feedback that it is difficult to see the relevance of some of GBI's content (feedback stems from Uddannelseszoom as well as a follow-up survey conducted by GBI focused on areas or content that could be strengthened).

For the workshop, the panel and the students divided into four groups discussing either how to strengthen the relevance of the existing courses or what a revised GBI programme could look like.

All groups gave feedback suggesting either adjustment to current foci in some courses (fx. introducing a stronger focus on research designs in in the Philosophy of Science and Technology course, introducing a stronger focus on digital technologies in first semester courses, stronger SQL skills focus in Databas Design and Use) or a restructuring of some the semesters to make room for new courses (fx courses with a business-economics focus, more technical courses such as a Python 2.0 course).

Oliver thanked for the valuable feedback.