

Executive Management
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For the Members of the IT University Board

Comments on the minutes are kindly asked to be given in writing to the Journal (journalen@itu.dk) on April 26, 2018, at the latest.

If no objections have been received within the deadline, the minutes will be regarded as approved. Subsequently, decisions and initiatives will be effectuated and the Publicly Available Information made public. The minutes are formally approved as the first item on the next Board meeting.

If objections of essential character are received within the deadline, the revised minutes will be sent out to the Members of the Board with a **further 8 days of deadline for objections**. If no further objections have been received within this deadline, the minutes will be made public. **In the case further objections are received within this deadline, the minutes will await approval at the next Board meeting before they are made public.**

Confidential Items are marked in grey and are only for the Board's own use. This applies to enclosures marked in grey as well.

The rest of the document and enclosures are Available Public Information.

MINUTES

Board meeting,

April 12, 2018, at 15:00 – 18:00

Present:

From the Board: Maria Rørbye Rønn, Jørgen Lindegaard, Annette Stausholm, Lars Mathiesen, David Basin, Irina Shklovski, Susan Skriver Gandrup, Emma Arfelt Kock and Liam Phan Asmussen.

From the Executive Management: Mads Tofte, Jens Chr. Godskesen and Georg Dam Steffensen.

Others: Peter Gath and Morten W. Larsen, Ernst & Young (during item 1-3).

The minutes taker:
Gitte Gramstrup

Public items:

1. Welcome to Two New Elected Members of the Board (briefing)

The Chairman of the Board thanked the board members for their understanding regarding the postponing of the meeting and gave a special welcome to the new elected board members Susan Skriver Gandrup, representing the technical and administrative staff, and Liam Phan Asmussen, student representative, who introduced themselves.

2. Approval of Minutes (decision)

No comments to the minutes from the meeting on November 23rd, 2017, had been received.

Recommendation:

Executive Management recommended that the minutes be approved.

Conclusion:

The minutes were formally approved.

3. ITU Annual Report 2017 (decision)

The Chairman of the Board welcomed Peter Gath and Morten W. Larsen, Ernst & Young, and gave the word to Mads Tofte, who gave a summary of the Development Contract 2015 -2017. He went through the eight goals:

1. Improved quality in education
2. More relevance and increased transparency
3. Improved coherence and cooperation
4. Strengthened internationalization
5. Strengthened regional knowledge cooperation
6. More externally funded research
7. More PhD students
8. More scientific publications

Six of the goals have essentially been fulfilled (1-5 and 8); among these the five goals chosen by the ministry (1-5).

The Chairman of the Board gave the word to Georg Dam Steffensen.

Georg Dam Steffensen referred to enclosure 1a/1b and gave a brief presentation of some of the main results and highlights of the report. Activities in 2017 were characterized by:

- increased number of admitted full-time students;
- more earned full-time student equivalents than budgeted
- more admitted master's students than budgeted
- more earned full-time student equivalents by part-time students than budgeted
- an increase in the consumption of external research funding

Also, 2017 was characterized by higher income than budgeted; higher costs than budgeted; administration percentage was fully switched to activity-based budgets and accounts (as recommended by the Ministry of Higher Education and Science); and smaller loss and greater equity than budgeted.

Finally, Georg Dam Steffensen thanked the auditors for good cooperation.

The Chairman of the Board gave the word to Peter Gath, Ernst & Young.

Peter Gath thanked the IT University of Copenhagen for a very open and positive dialogue with the executive management. He went briefly through the Long-form audit report and informed that the auditors have not identified any material weaknesses or made any significant comments. Nor have the auditors registered any serious issues or kind of fraud and asked by Peter Gath, the Board stated that it too had no knowledge of fraud.

Peter Gath highlighted section 7 (Performance audit and legal-critical audit) as being more extensive than in previous reports, but only due to new audit demands.

On inquiry from Annette Stausholm regarding section 5.12 (EU General Data Protection Regulation) and the readiness to face the requirements, the Chairman of the Board referred to the briefing at the previous board meeting on November 23, 2017, (item 12) and still felt reassured that things are in progress and handled carefully and seriously by executive management. Jens Chr. Godskesen confirmed that the work is progressing, and Mads Tofte added that the IT University of Copenhagen will not be fully compliant by May 25, 2018, but will have concrete results to show.

The Chairman of the Board rounded the item by stating that she was very happy and confident to hear about the good cooperation between executive management and the auditors, and the level of transparency and trust.

Recommendation:

Executive Management recommended that the Board approve and sign the Annual Report 2017.

Conclusion:

The Annual Report 2017 was unanimously approved, and subsequently signed by the board members and the auditors (Ernst & Young).

4. Fulfilment of Targets and Accounting Figures for 2017 (discussion)

Mads Tofte referred to enclosure 3 and the comments on the agenda. He apologized that the section numbers referred to in the comments do not exist in the final version of the annual report. On inquiry from Annette Stausholm, he elaborated on T15 (ITU as a whole lives up to the performance standards set by the PP model) and stated that recruitment is not trivial, but is a known challenge and a focus area. A good balance between the number of performance points produced as a whole and as a result of research funding expenditure is a target.

5. Externally Funded Research (briefing)

The Chairman of the Board gave the word to Jens Chr. Godskesen who referred to enclosure 4 and the comments on the agenda. He elaborated on things being done, which reflect on the goals in the new strategic framework contract and on the yearly employee development talks.

On inquiry from Emma Arfelt Kock, Jens Chr. Godskesen informed that the SparkIT initiative so far has established some contacts to companies and that more applications are on their way. On inquiry from David Basin, Jens Chr. Godskesen and Mads Tofte elaborated on the work of Research Support and the development of funding applying. Irina Shklovski found that it would be extremely helpful having some kind of a standard research mentoring. She also mentioned how rejections to go forward with a funding application – however good reasons there might be – is quite demotivating to the people involved.

The Chairman of the Board rounded the discussion by concluding that this is important to the board who is satisfied with the things being done, and that Irina's reflections will be part of the considerations of executive management.

Confidential items:

6.

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Public items:

10. Articles of Association of the IT University of Copenhagen – minor revision (decision)

The Chairman of the Board stated that the new rules are not easy to fulfill and that more universities are struggling with this. She gave the word to Gitte Gramstrup, who referred to enclosure 7a/7b and elaborated on the comments on the agenda. The wording of the proposed revision (especially Appendix 1, § 1, sub-section 3 to 5) has been discussed with the Danish Agency for Institutions and Educational Grants and should help solving the unexpected occurred problem by giving some "flexibility" when finding five external members in total, who are willing to accept an appointment as member of the recommendation committee. Mads Tofte added that the idea is to supply with members from the Executive-level Employers' Panel (appointed by the panel itself among its members), if it is not possible to find three members from non-public contributors within the past four-year-long period to the external funding of research of the university (which, unexpectedly, has turned out to be a problem).

The Chairman of the Board informed that she has asked David Basin (as external board member) to be member of the Appointment Committee.

Recommendation:

Executive Management recommended that the draft revision of the Articles of Association of the IT University of Copenhagen be approved for further discussion with the Danish Agency for Institutions and Educational Grants, and subsequently sent to the agency for possibly approval and signing.

Conclusion:

The draft revision was unanimously approved by the Board and subsequently signed by the Chairman of the Board to be sent to the Danish Agency for Institutions and Educational Grants. (Subsequently, The Danish Agency for Institutions and Educational Grants on April 16, 2018, has approved and signed the revised Articles of Association of the IT University of Copenhagen.)

11. Appointment of External and Internal Board Member for the Recommendation Committee (decision)

The Chairman of the Board referred to the comments on the agenda and asked if the elected board members had discussed the matter. Liam Phan Asmussen informed that the elected members agreed that he should be the internal board member of the Recommendation Committee.

The Chairman of the Board informed that she has asked Lars Mathiesen to be the external board member of the Recommendation Committee.

Recommendation:

Executive Management recommended that at the board meeting 1 external and 1 internal board member were appointed for the recommendation committee.

Conclusion:

The Board unanimously agreed that Liam Phan Asmussen and Lars Mathiesen be appointed by the university as external and internal board member, respectively, of the Recommendation Committee.

12. Presentation of Education Portfolio Report and Executive-level Employers´ Panel Report (briefing)

The Chairman of the Board welcomed Carsten Gomard, Chairman of the Executive-level Employers´ Panel, to present enclosure 8 and give a brief presentation of the report.

Carsten Gomard stated that all panels – Executive-level panel as well as programme-specific panels – are quite impressed both by the IT-University of Copenhagen´s ability and willingness to respond and act on the recommendations from the panels. He went through the points in the report. The Executive-level Employers´ Panel does not have any concerns relating to the quality of the portfolio. The absolute main concern of the panel is whether the financial situation of the IT University of Copenhagen will allow the highly desirable and much needed further growth of student admission and graduate throughput. A sub concern is the 9.8 grade point average among students admitted on Bachelor in Software Development, since the job market is in dire need for such bachelors and masters, and a grade point of 9.8 is unnecessarily demanding. The IT University of Copenhagen is doing absolutely well and an excellent job in increasing the interest towards heavy IT study programmes.

The Chairman of the Board thanked Carsten Gomard for his time and the feedback given; it is important for the Board to know that the IT University of Copenhagen delivers what is needed and in demand from society. In addition, she was extremely happy to hear of the panel´s main concern and found it important that this is brought to the ministry´s and the minister´s attention. On suggestion from Jørgen Lindegaard, she agreed that the minister should have a copy of the report. Carsten Gomard fully approved and offered his willingness to be at disposal for any questions or discussions.

Irina Shklovski found it very positive to have this report. Mads Tofte agreed and added that he attends most panel meetings and sees a very positive development throughout.

13. Questions Regarding Mail-delivered Briefings (briefing)

The Chairman of the Board concluded that there were no questions to the mail-delivered briefings.

14. Any Other Business

The Chairman of the Board informed that the Strategic Framework Contract 2018 – 2021 after a long time finally seems to be presented to the minister for signing (he has informed that he intends to sign).

The Chairman of the Board rounded the meeting by looking forward to seeing the members again at the Board´s strategy seminar on June 7, 2018 (9:00 – 21:00).

Respectfully submitted,

Gitte Gramstrup
Assistant to the Executive Management