

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 24, 2019, at the latest (put in the date for 8 days of deadline for objections).

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 4, 2019, at 14:00 – 17:00

Present:

From the Board: Maria Rørbye Rønn, Lars Mathiesen, David Basin, Lars Frelle-Petersen, Irina Shklovski, Karina Garnier Christensen, Emma Arfelt Kock and Liam Phan Asmussen.

From the Executive Management: Martin Zachariasen, Jens Chr. Godskesen and Georg Dam Steffensen.

Regrets: Kristine Stenhuus

The minutes taker:
Gitte Gramstrup

Public items:

The Chairman of the Board gave a welcome to the first board meeting of the year and informed of received regrets from Kristine Stenhuus, who had sent her written comments to the board meeting material, and regrets from Carsten Gomard, Chairman of the Executive-level Employers' Panel (item 6). She congratulated Emma Arfelt Kock on her re-election as internal board member.

1. Approval of the Minutes From the Previous Meeting (decision)

No comments to the minutes from the meeting on November 22, 2018, had been received.

Recommendation:

The Executive Management recommended that the minutes were approved.

Conclusion:

The minutes were formally approved.

2. ITU Annual Report 2018 (decision)

The Chairman of the Board welcomed Peter Gath and Morten W. Larsen, Ernst & Young, and gave the word to Georg Dam Steffensen.

Georg Dam Steffensen referred to enclosure 1a/1b and gave a brief presentation of the main results and highlights of the report. Activities in 2018 were characterized by:

- Increase in the number of admitted full-time students and a decrease in the number of graduated full-time students
- Full-time students earned more equivalents than budgeted
- Part-time students earned more equivalents than budgeted
- Increase in the consumption of external funding

Also, 2018 was characterized by higher income than budgeted, less costs than budgeted 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 agreed on the good cooperation between the parties and thanked the IT University of Copenhagen for a very positive dialogue and open atmosphere. He went briefly through the Long-form audit report and highlighted a few things. A risk assessment was made as part of the audit. He highlighted section 8.2 (Uncorrected misstatements) and 8.3 (Fraud risk) and informed that the auditors had not identified any material weaknesses or made any significant comments and found the economic balance of the university to be very healthy. Nor had the auditors registered any serious issues or kind of fraud and on inquiry from Peter Gath, the board stated not to have any knowledge of fraud either.

Executive Management answered a few clarifying questions from the board members regarding the Annual Report 2018. Regarding Table 2, page 18, and the number of admitted PhD students (13 in 2018), Executive Management agreed that it is important that the number increases. In the prognosis for 2019 is expected an increase in both number of PhD students and permanent scientific staff.

The Chairman of the Board rounded the item by stating that the board will get back to this item at the board's strategy seminar. She found it extremely important for the board that the balance sheet is clean and that the auditors are satisfied. On inquiry from the Chairman of the Board regarding GDPR and IT control, the auditors informed that these were part of the audit and that there were no remarks.

Recommendation:

The Executive Management recommended that the Board approved and signed the ITU Annual Report 2018.

Conclusion:

The ITU Annual Report 2018 was unanimously approved and subsequently signed by the board members and the auditors (Ernst & Young).

3. ITU Strategic Framework Contract 2018 – 2021 – Statusredegørelse 2018 (decision)

The Chairman of the Board stated that this is the first of its kind. She reminded that the university progressing on the strategic targets is what is important to the ministry, and not necessarily reaching the targets. She gave the word to Martin Zachariassen, who went through the six strategic targets in the status statement (enclosure 3):

Strategic target 1 (Increasing the capacity of research-based education of technical IT professionals): Important goal and in progress. On inquiry from David Basin and Lars Frelle-Petersen, Executive Management informed that there is no clear picture regarding known reasons for dropout rates, but this is being looked into. Regarding the number of PhD students, Executive Management wants to increase the number, but this is an internal target and not part of the status statement.

Strategic target 2 (Increasing the number of female technical IT professionals): In progress, though not entirely reached. Martin Zachariassen informed of the excellent

work done by the Communication Department in this field. On inquiry from Karina Garnier Christensen regarding attracting more female faculty, Martin Zachariasen stated that this is not part of the target, but something that the IT University is working on with positive tendencies seen already. Emma Arfelt Kock commented that – in a student perspective – competences, and not gender, are most important. Lars Frelle-Petersen was impressed by the highly positive result compared to others. The Chairman of the Board rounded the discussion by stating that working with the gender issue is extremely important, rather than having an actual target.

Strategic target 3 (Achieving a high learning outcome for all students): In progress. Martin Zachariasen answered clarifying questions from board members. On inquiry from Lars Frelle-Petersen, he stated that – for several reasons – it is difficult to compare/ do benchmarking in this field.

Strategic target 4 (All graduates should achieve good career opportunities): No progress, which the Chairman of the Board found hard to understand. Martin Zachariasen agreed with Emma Arfelt Kock that one reason could be the effect of redesigning some of the study programmes is not showing yet (due to the fact, that this is not measured until 4-7 quarters after graduation).

Strategic target 5 (Strengthening IT research within areas that reflect societal needs): In progress, which Martin Zachariasen found very satisfactory.

Strategic target 6 (Strengthening the IT subjects in primary schools and high schools by cooperation and exchange of knowledge): Target reached. Martin Zachariasen stated that he would like more people involved in this together with IT-Vest.

The Chairman of the Board found this to be a very satisfying status statement. She was of the opinion to await the feedback at the next meeting with the ministry before any changes or new targets should be discussed.

Recommendation:

The Executive Management recommended that the Board approved the status statement.

Conclusion:

The board unanimously approved the status statement.

4. Fulfilment of Targets and Accounting Figures for 2018 (discussion)

Martin Zachariasen referred to the enclosures 4 and 5 and the comments on the agenda and highlighted a few things.

Regarding enclosure 4, T13 (Establishing a competence center for public IT projects with the Danish Agency for Digitisation, and in 2018 establishing at least 2 new PhD projects in connection with the center), Martin Zachariasen informed that now things

are back on track and in progress. He stated this as being an important, and strongly needed research area, and would like it to be part of a bigger strategic initiative.

Regarding enclosure 5, T25 (During 2018, the ITU will recruit at least one PhD student and at least two scientific staff at the level of postdoc or higher in the field of Blockchain), Jens Chr. Godskesen informed of the difficulties in getting the right applications and to have the right people on board this quite new area. Martin Zachariasen briefly informed of a recent evaluation report of our PhD School, which is being looked into.

Lars Frelle-Petersen found it important to work on T25, and regarding T13 he encouraged getting more funding – including private – in the future. Martin Zachariasen confirmed this to be an opportunity to broaden the center.

The Chairman of the Board rounded the item by highlighting enclosure 5, T17 (During 2018, at least six members of faculty whose Performance Points (PP) concerning external funding for 2016 and 2017 added, was at most two PP have obtained external research funding, which will bring each of them to at least 10 PP in external funding in 2019). She was delighted to find this green for the first time.

5. Follow-up on Language of Study Programmes (briefing)

The Chairman of the Board reminded that the board decision in this area is based on a governmental decision – in short - to solve a financial problem (SU/study grants) with a language tool. She referred to the comments on the agenda and was happy that the ministry has listened to our special problem. Internally, all possible steps are being taken to solve the problems that arise from this, but we should also work at the political level to make the minister and the public aware of the consequences, if possible.

There was a discussion on possibilities and a general agreement that this is not easy and has had immediate implications. Other universities have the same problems with this, and speaking with a joint voice is important to put pressure and document the effects. Emma Arfelt Kock and Irina Shklovski informed that it was not clear to neither the students nor the faculty that the board decision is based on a governmental decision. It was agreed, that Executive Management must secure that this is communicated clearly to everybody.

6. Presentation of Executive-level Employers' Panel Report (briefing)

The Chairman of the Board informed that Carsten Gomard, Chairman of the Executive-level Employers' panel, regrettably was not able to attend the meeting to give a brief presentation of the report. She gave the word to Martin Zachariasen, who went through the report. In overall, the report is very positive. Unemployment numbers in Games and DDIT are not satisfactory, which is voiced in the report. Revisions of the study programmes cannot be seen yet (the effects are measured 4-7 quarters after graduation). It is being discussed with the panel if we could have other/earlier indicators for unemployment, but this is not easy. Irina Shklovski stated the importance of the great job by faculty on the study programme revision and encouraged to express a clear

trust in the work being done. Regarding Games, Martin Zachariasen is working on a possible kind of “partnership model” with companies. Emma Arfelt Kock raised a flag not putting such a model into the beginning of the study programme. The Chairman of the Board stated that she appreciates the panel report a lot, and did not read the Executive-level Employers’ panel report like the panel is pushing on this, but that the panel is aware of this being not trivial and taking time. Lars Mathiesen agreed and found it fully satisfying to have the methods approaching this.

Confidential items:

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Public items:

14. Protection of Research Data at Universities (briefing)

The Chairman of the Board sketched the background for this item and gave the word to Jens Chr. Godskesen, who elaborated on enclosure 13 (which was written before receiving enclosure 12 from the ministry). Of course this is being taken extremely seriously, and the IT University has an IT Security Board where different issues are discussed. He informed of an up-coming meeting between the minister and the university CIOs.

Lars Mathiesen stated that in his opinion, the board needs to dig deeper into this, and the IT University needs to have a policy on cyber security. It is a new world, and as an IT University, we need to be in the front of this. He mentioned specific items, e.g. cloud solutions. David Basin agreed and added that also cooperations/projects require different approaches. Irina Shklovski raised a concern regarding research and cyber security demands. Lars Frelle-Petersen agreed with Lars Mathiesen and David Basin in the need of increasing the level of this quite rapidly. He also understands that we need to listen to the concerns of the researchers. He found a closer cooperation between the universities in this area to be necessary.

The Chairman of the Board rounded the discussion by resolving that we need to dig deeper and raise the level of security. She asked the Executive Management to give the

Board a status at the board meeting in September. Martin Zachariassen agreed that this needs to be handled – and with the necessary flexibility. The Chairman of the Board concluded that this is not an easy task, but the message from the Board is that it is important.

15. Questions Regarding Mail-delivered Briefings (briefing)

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

16. Any Other Business

The Chairman of the Board will call for an extra-ordinary board meeting, should that be necessary before the board meeting in September.

Respectfully submitted,

Gitte Gramstrup
Assistant to the Executive Management