

Executive Management  
Direct phone: +45 7218 5072  
E-mail: [gigr@itu.dk](mailto:gigr@itu.dk)  
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May 3, 2021

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](mailto:journalen@itu.dk)) on April 30, 2021, 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 15, 2021, at 14:00 – 17:00
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### Present:

From the Board: Carsten Gomard, David Basin, Kristine Stenhuus (from item 7, via Teams), Christina Hvid, Mircea Lungu (via Teams), Anaya Mourad Jensen, Sebastian Mateos Nicolajsen and Mikala Sofie Skoglund Thomsen.

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

From ITU: Jannik Møller Søndergaard (item 1-3).

From Ernst & Young: Peter Gath and Morten Weinreich Larsen (item 1-3).

Regrets/absent: Lars Mathiesen.

The minutes taker:  
Gitte Gramstrup.

## **Public items:**

### **1. Welcome to New Appointed and Elected Board Members (briefing)**

The Chairman of the Board welcomed to the meeting and gave a special welcome to the new appointed board member Christina Hvid, and to the new elected board members Anaya Mourad Jensen (staff) and Mikala Sofie Skoglund Thomsen (students). He also welcomed the auditors Peter Gath and Morten Weinreich Larsen, Ernst & Young, who participated to present the Long-form Audit Report 2020 (enclosure 2a/2b). There was a short presentation round.

### **2. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting (decision)**

No comments to the minutes from the meeting on November 19, 2020, had been received.

#### ***Recommendation:***

*The Executive Management recommended that the minutes were approved.*

#### ***Conclusion:***

*The minutes were formally approved.*

### **3. ITU Annual Report 2020 (decision)**

The Chairman of the Board gave the word to Georg Dam Steffensen, who referred to enclosure 1a/1b and gave a brief presentation of the main results and highlights of the report, including:

- Activities in 2020 were characterized by COVID-19 with online teaching and exams
- ITU received external funding for a total of DKK 88.8 million – the largest in the history of the university
- Income increased from 2019 to 2020 by DKK 18.5 million, of which DKK 16.3 million is deducted due to a technical change in the government rental scheme.

Equity is DKK 72.7 million and the equity/income percentage above the target of 18%.

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 for a very open and honest dialogue and discussion. Especially to the new board members, he informed that this document – according to Danish rules – is a kind of legal document and the way for the auditors to report to the board. He went through the document and highlighted a few things. In general, things at the IT University are working very satisfactorily. The report shows no serious problems or issues. Regarding section 8.2 (Uncorrected misstatements) and 8.3 (Fraud risk), he stated that the auditors have seen or identified no signs of irregularities. If the board signed the report, the auditors would see this as an agreement on no registrations of fraud or other serious issues.

Besides a couple of clarifying questions, there were no further comments from the board members to the audit report.

Executive Management and Jannik Møller Søndergaard answered a few clarifying questions from the board members regarding the Annual Report 2020. There were no further comments to the annual report.

The Chairman of the Board rounded the discussion by concluding that things look very satisfactorily. He appreciated the good results and the quality of the control and audit done. He thanked the auditors and Jannik Møller Søndergaard, who left the meeting after this item, for participating.

***Recommendation:***

*The Executive Management recommended that the Board approved and signed the ITU Annual Report 2020.*

***Conclusion:***

*The Board unanimously approved and signed the ITU Annual Report 2020 and the Long-form Audit Report. Mircea Lungu, who participated via Teams, declared that he will sign the reports as soon as he is back in Denmark around the beginning of May. Subsequently, Kristine Stenhuus – who joined the meeting later via Teams – declared by e-mail that she as well will sign the reports as soon as possible.*

#### **4. ITU Strategic Framework Contract 2018-2021 – Statusredegørelse 2020 (decision)**

The Chairman of the Board gave the word to Martin Tvede Zachariassen, who referred to enclosure 3 and briefly highlighted a few details in the six targets in the status statement.

The Chairman of the Board rounded the item by concluding, that the Board approved the status statement.

***Recommendation:***

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

***Conclusion:***

*The status statement (Statusredegørelse 2020) was unanimously approved by the Board.*

#### **5. Fulfillment of Strategic Contract Targets for 2020 (discussion)**

The Chairman of the Board gave the word to Martin Tvede Zachariassen, who referred to enclosure 4 and briefly elaborated on the comments on the agenda. Due to the COVID-19 situation, it has been decided by Executive Management to postpone a few of the targets until 2021.

The Board took note of the briefing without any further notice.

**Confidential items:**

**6.**

**7.**

**8.**

**Public items:**

#### **9. News from ITU (briefing)**

The Chairman of the Board noted that this item is a new one on the agenda, as desired by the board, and gave the word to the executive management.

- Status on the COVID-19 activities:

Georg Dam Steffensen informed that a small fraction of students (not staff) is allowed to return to campus from April 14, 2021 (with specific restrictions). A local test facility

(required by the ministry) will be established on campus. Teaching and exam activities continue online throughout the semester.

- Adjustment of SWU and BDS Intake, spring 2021:

Martin Tvede Zachariasen informed of an adjustment of 20 students from BSc Data Science to BSc Software Development.

- MSc Data Science Intake, Autumn 2021, and Reduction of Existing MSc Programmes: Martin Tvede Zachariasen informed that the intake of 30 students on MSc Data Science comes from a reduction of 15 students on MSc Digital Design & Interactive Technology and MSc Computer Science, respectively.

- ITU Campus Status:

Georg Dam Steffensen stated that an internal relocation at Rued Langgaards Vej is completed, and an internal adjustment on the administrative floor at Emil Holms Kanal is planned. There is progress in the subletting activities at Rued Langgaards Vej.

- Research News:

Jens Chr. Godskesen gave a briefing on the new ITU cofounded AI Pioneer Centre to bolster Danish artificial intelligence research. It is established by the IT University and four other universities: KU, DTU, AU, and AAU and has received DKK 352.4 million in funding to conduct artificial intelligence research focused on social issues, design, and ethics.

- APV Report/Workplace Assessment 2020:

Martin Tvede Zachariasen informed that the survey was conducted in November – December 2020, and the result released to staff in February 2021. Overall – and seen in the light of the COVID-19 situation and the relocation – there is satisfaction with the results. Local discussions have followed, and actions are currently planned. On inquiry from Kristine Stenhuus on any surprises, Martin Tvede Zachariasen mentioned the harassment level is a bit high. Also, there are challenges with the work-life balance. Regarding the latter, Mircea Lungu and David Basin found it important to figure out and understand the further reasons for the result (if it is more than COVID-19 related). On inquiry from David Basin, Executive Management will take into consideration if some insight from the assessment might be useful to present to the Board. Martin Tvede Zachariasen and Jens Chr. Godskesen informed that each department now is supposed to work with the issues within the department and plan how to handle these.

- Status on the ITU Framework Contract 2022-2015:

Martin Tvede Zachariasen stated that the Minister now has asked the universities to address the following themes: 1. Green transition. 2. Strengthened into the future, including lifelong learning and meeting societal needs for competences. 3. Learning and well-being. 4. Education and knowledge to all parts of Denmark. The negotiation meetings between the IT University and the ministry will be in May and September, respectively. At the board meeting on June 3, 2021, the board will discuss the strategic goals for the IT University.

## **10. Expected Kopernikus Costs (briefing)**

The Chairman of the Board gave the word to Georg Dam Steffensen, who referred to and elaborated on enclosure 8. The system is owned by the ministry, but the bill is sent to the universities. Executive Management will get back to the board with a status as soon they know more. Because the exact number is not known at present, the expenses have not been put into the budget yet.

## **11. Presentation of the Executive-level Employers' Panel Report 2021**

The Chairman of the Board gave the word to Martin Tvede Zachariassen, who referred to enclosure 9, and gave a short briefing of the main issues in the report. Due to the new board members, Martin Tvede Zachariassen explained the nature and purpose of the report. In short, the panel is satisfied with the portfolio and the contents of the different study programmes. Also, the panel has a profound wish for more funding for the IT University to educate more graduates to meet the demand on the Danish labor market.

David Basin asked about well-being among students, and Jens Chr. Godskesen informed of the new Dean of Education, who – as one of her tasks – is looking into this.

## **12. Questions Regarding Mail-delivered Briefings (briefing)**

The Chairman of the Board noted that there were no comments to the sent out information.

## **13. Any Other Business**

There were no further comments.

The Chairman of the Board rounded the meeting and thanked the participants for their participation.

Respectfully submitted,

Gitte Gramstrup  
Assistant to the Executive Management