

**University of Cambridge Computer Laboratory
Teaching Committee**

Chairman: Prof Alan Mycroft

Secretary: Mrs Jennifer Underhill

Minutes of the meeting of the Teaching Committee held on Tuesday 17
February 2009 in GC22 in the William Gates Building

Present:	Prof Alan Mycroft	Dr Alastair Beresford	Dr Simon Moore
	Prof Larry Paulson	Prof Andy Pitts	Dr Ian Wassell
	Miss Christine Northeast	Mrs Jennifer Underhill	

1. Apologies for absence

An apology was received from Dr Frank Stajano, Dr Simone Teufel and Ms Lise Gough.

STANDING ITEMS

2. Sabbatical leave and substitute teaching

Nothing to report.

3. Review of staff-student consultative committee minutes

Minutes from December 2008 meeting tabled.

3a. Security lecture notes

It was noted in the SSCOM meeting that there was an issue with the security course notes. It was felt by the Teaching Committee that as the course website now outlines the sections in the book that are relevant to each lecture there is no need for any further action.

3b. O-notation

It was noted in the SSCOM meeting that ML students found O-notation confusing, it was requested that O-notation either be removed or introduced more thoroughly. It was suggested by the Teaching Committee that supervisors could cover this if students were having difficulties.

3c. Turing Machines

Members of the SSCOM reported that Part IB students requested more cover for Turing machines. AMP noted this request and will try to provide coverage.

3d. Operating Systems lecture notes

It was noted in the SSCOM meeting that students felt that the Operating Systems notes did not go into enough detail. The Teaching Committee observed that the lecture notes have been unchanged for the last five years and are surprised that this has only become a problem this year.

3e. Paper feedback

It was noted in the SSCOM meeting that many students did not use the electronic feedback system. LCP reported to the Teaching Committee that after investigating into an automatic paper feedback system he had found a company willing to provide such services for £5000, plus software and training costs. It was felt that at present investing in such a system would be unfeasible due to the cost.

4. Revision of the Tripos.

It was agreed that the Chairman would produce a draft timetable as soon as possible.

ACTION: AM

5. Liaison with the MPhil in Advanced Computer Science

Nothing to report.

6. Liaison with the MPhil in CSTIT

Nothing to report.

7. Proposals for new courses, significant changes to courses, and removal of courses

Nothing to report.

EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS

8. Future of teaching in Cockcroft 4

This had previously been discussed (Minutes of 16th December 2008, item 8a) but the Teaching Committee were invited to revisit it due to the £50,000 per annum cost. AMP (Acting Head of Department) stated that no action will be taken for 2009/10, however, the Teaching Committee would like to be kept informed of any developments.

9. Discussion of CS stream of NST (CST paper 1)

“Thoughts on the NST Paper 1 Stream” tabled.

The Teaching Committee are grateful for RKH's insightful comments, however the current system has not been running for long enough for any revisions to be considered. The Teaching Committee plan to revisit this issue in the September meeting.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

10. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes were agreed and signed.

11. Any matters arising not already dealt with

11a. Negative Marking

The Teaching Committee would like to have a discussion in the DoS committee meeting in regards to whether negative marking is psychologically appropriate.

12 Dates of future meetings

Mon 16 March at 2:15pm in GC22

Mon 20 April at 2:15pm in GC22

Tue 19 May at 2:15pm in GC22

Tue 16 June at 2:15 in GS15