

**The Directors of Studies in Computer Science Forum held on Friday 26 April 2019 at  
14:00 in FW11 in the William Gates Building**

**Minutes**

**Members**

Prof J. Bacon (JE)	Dr R. M. Mortier (CHR)
Dr A. R. Beresford (Q)	Dr R. D. Mullins (JN, PET,G)
Prof A. F. Blackwell (DAR)	Prof A Mycroft (ROB)
Dr P. J. Buttery (CAI)	Ms D. Pounds (Teaching Admin Manager)
Prof A. Dawar (ROB)	Prof P. Robinson (CAI)
Dr J. K. Fawcett (CHU,H,HH,LC,N,M,)	Mrs M. Sammons (Teaching Admin Asst)
Dr D. J. Greaves (CC)(Sabbatical leave)	Dr T. M. Sauerwald (EMM)
Dr T. G. Griffin (K)	Dr R. Sharp (ROB)
Dr R. K. Harle (DOW)	Prof F M Stajano (T)
Dr S. B. Holden (T)	Mrs C. Stewart (Dept Sec)
Mr M. Ireland (SID)	Dr S. Taraskin (CTH)
Dr G.C. Jenkinson (ED,F)	Dr G. Titmus (CAI)
Dr T. M. Jones (CAI)	Dr C. P. Town (W)
Dr A.V.S Madhavapeddy (PEM)	Dr R. R. Watts (SE)
Prof C. Mascolo (JE)	Dr H Yannakoudakis (ME)
Prof S. W. Moore (TH)	

**1. Apologies for absence**

Prof Jean Bacon, Dr Rob Harle, Prof Peter Robinson, Dr Thomas Sauerwald and Dr Helen Yannakoukis.

**2. Minutes from previous meeting**

The minutes were agreed

**3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising

**4. Easter term 2019 Course information.**

- I. Directors of Studies were advised that the notes for Numerical Analysis are undergoing revision and advised to ensure all supervisors were made aware of changes this may incur.
- II. Part II dissertation hand-in can only be submitted via Moodle. All Directors of Studies were urged to encourage students to have a practice at submitting a dissertation before the due date. The dissertation, from introduction to the

end of the conclusion should not exceed *either* 12,000 words *nor* 40 sides of A4. Due to the new committee EACM which requires notice of extensions, all extensions for deadlines have to be requested one week before the actual deadline via the student registry website.

- III. It was agreed a reminder or two from the Student Admin office be sent round to prompt submission to the Moodle site.

**Action: DP/MS**

## **5. Course changes for 2019 – 20.**

### **I. Course changes to OCAML**

Anil presented the slides and advised how the new system will work. Coding will be done using Jupyter notebooks.

One of the objects is to mechanise supervisions the students receive.

Three of the exams will be in the same syntax. A message will be sent out to supervisors advising how OCAML works. A request was made for the links to be made available for interested parties to experiment with and try-out the system.

### **II. IA OOP ACR**

It was advised that ACR will change the practicals next year. There will be one practical exercise at the start of Easter term instead of ticks.

- III. Part II Quantum Computing has been extended to 16 lectures and moved to Lent.

### **IV. Part II Units**

Selections will be made this term, a smaller choice will be offered. DoSes are strongly reminded to prompt students into choosing one topic per term.

## **6. Exams 2019**

DP will send round the examination timetable for everyone's information. All DoSes were encouraged to advise their students to write legibly. Illegible writing can lead to considerable delays and inconvenience a number of parties involved in deciphering the text.

## **7. Student Rep request to access to exams scripts in order to discuss their answers with Directors of Studies.**

The committee reported there was no support for this request.

## **8. Admissions.**

- I. Intake for MT 2019. The Department would like DoS to provide an estimate of which options prospective IA students have chosen.

- II. Some senior tutors are still recommending physics A level as an admission requirement.

<https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/courses/computer-science>

it would be helpful to know which colleges ask for this. AM to discuss.

- III. Representatives from Cambridge Assessments are available to discuss CAAT.  
Representatives from Cambridge Admissions were present at the meeting. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided the general support was for the test paper provided by Cambridge Assessments, the Test of Mathematics for University Admission (TMUA) which is a one hour paper and to be used as a de-selection test, in conjunction with the CSAT paper.  
Option 2 was for the TMUA test on its own.  
The problem with the TMUA paper is, it relies on a good knowledge of mathematics which mature candidates may not necessarily remember if there has been a lengthy absence from recent school maths lessons.

## **9. Any other business**

### **Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 3 July 2:30 in FW11