



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Department of Computer
Science and Technology

**The Directors of Studies in Computer Science Forum held on Wednesday 3 July 2019
at 14:30 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

Dr Tim Jones, Dr Anil Madhavapeddy, Dr Richard Mortier, Prof Peter Robinson, Dr Thomas Sauerwald and Dr Helen Yannakoudakis

2. Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes were agreed

3. Matters arising

Amanda Prorok and Hatice Gunes were welcomed onto the Director of Studies team and will be representing Pembroke college and Trinity Hall respectively.

Item 5 II IA OOP remains under discussion, ACR to advise once arrangements have been formalised.

A strong mechanism is required for students choosing P II units to ensure they do not replicate the units chosen for P III as the ones already taken for P II.

4. Tripos matters

i. A request was made by the Graduate office for the applications for P III to be brought in line with the ACS student date which is the middle of March. The deadline at present is 21 May (the division of term.) A second suggestion was to set the deadline for the first Monday after the Easter vacation. One thought was; all P II students that gain a first are automatically accepted onto P III. The primary concern was selecting a supervisor to assist the Graduate office with their academic allocation of teaching staff available.

It was suggested if a student had a narrow miss but had submitted an exemplary dissertation they may be considered, providing some discretional criteria was applied.

CSAT – which colleges will be using the test?

ii. The colleges to use CSAT are Caius, Queens', Robinson, Trinity and Wolfson. Colleges as yet undecided; Girton, John's and Peterhouse.

One college, Selwyn disclosed it would not be using CSAT but may provide its own test, to be decided as yet.

To summarise, candidates will have one or two interviews with the possibility of a written test. The CTMUA will go ahead and full details of the system is on the TMUA website.

5. Chair of Examiner's report

TGG explained the exercise "norm referencing", in that students have their marked tests compared with the same cohort of previous years'.

ARB reported that the exams ran smoothly. There were three candidates from P IB that had failed. Their respective colleges are exploring options of what to do next. The first year of the Part II units went well.

In respect of Part II units and marking and classing of documents, a clear expression of fairness is required between the Paper 7 exam and the Part II units. It was agreed that next year a stronger instruction is required to be sent to unit markers and moderators advising to be mindful of Paper 7 and Part II units.

Ten students received vivas to further clarify their dissertations.

Turnitin, flagged several cases of potential plagiarism. Two were considered more serious than a third piece which once inspected, was cited to be through poor scholarship than to deceive.

In February 2020, ARB will prepare a talk explaining Turnitin, aided by DP who is to provide text to clarify the workings of Turnitin.

Action ARB and DP

6. Any other business

Thanks were to be passed onto Richard Mortier for covering the chairmanship of the DoS committee and the managing of various events throughout the sabbatical of Robert Harle.

Advice is required for the website on scholarly matters. It was suggested it is useful to have prior knowledge of programming and some form of coding; python and Raspberry Pi. It was also endorsed that no formal qualification is required either

in computer science or programming. Further discussion to be taken to the TMC and who is to update the Lab's website.

Winter Pool

John Fawcett advised the dates of the winter pool to be Mon-Wed 6,7 and 8 January 2020.

Action TMC

7. Date of next meeting

Friday 18 October 2019