# University of Cambridge Computer Laboratory
## Teaching Committee

Chairman:  Dr Neil Dodgson          Secretary:  Mrs Fiona Billingsley

Minutes of the meeting of the Teaching Committee held on Tuesday 20 March 2007 in FW09 in the William Gates Building

Present:     Dr Neil Dodgson, Dr Sean Holden, Dr Frank King,  Christine Northeast, Prof Andy Pitts, Dr Ian Wassell, Mrs Fiona Billingsley
Also in attendance was Dr Alan Blackwell from 2:45 -3:30pm for discussion of Item 5.

## 1. Apologies for Absence
An apology was received from Ann Copestake.

## 2. Sabbatical Leave and Substitute Teaching
Dr Gibbens will be taking Sabbatical Leave during Michaelmas Term 2007 for which there are no implications for teaching.

Prof Robinson will be taking Sabbatical Leave during 2008. To accommodate this, the VLSI Design course has been moved to Michaelmas Term 2007. Dr Mullins has agreed to be the assessor for the related examination questions.

## 3. Review of Course Feedback
Not applicable for this meeting

## 4. Review of Staff-Student Consultative Committee Minutes
It was noted that the Minutes of the meeting of 31 January 2007 are now available online at
http://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/teaching/SSCOM/Minutes_2007-01-31.htm
There are no issues that the Teaching Committee need consider.

The committee met again last week.  Dr Holden reported that he'd received a request from a student representative that students be asked to arrive on time for lectures and to use the entrance at the back of the lecture theatre if they arrive late. It was agreed that Dr Dodgson will send an email to students at the start of Easter Term.

A timetabling request was received from the Part IA student representative, that the Discrete Mathematics mini-seminars to be moved to a week later. Dr King reported that next year the mini-seminars have been timetabled to run a term later.

The Diploma student representative asked whether members of teaching staff would be willing to respond to requests made by students via an anonymous bulletin board. It was agreed to ask whether the proprietors of the anonymous bulletin board would be willing to give members of staff logins to the bulletin board. If so, interested members of staff will be able to respond anonymously, where appropriate.

## 5. Revision of the Tripos
The committee discussed at length Dr Blackwell's revised draft syllabus for the Design & Innovation option (TC07/06).  Dr Blackwell joined the meeting at 2:45pm to discuss the proposal and answer questions.   The Committee decided that that it cannot recommend the proposed

syllabus to the Faculty Board. The course will not go ahead in this form and as such, a trial of the course will not be run in 2007-08. It was thought that the material and style of presentation would be more suitable for a Masters-level course and that it could be moulded into a number of modules for the new Masters course in Advanced Computer Science. It was agreed that Dr Dodgson will investigate whether there are other models for an alternative first year option that could be considered by the committee, including borrowing material from the Natural Sciences Tripos, borrowing material from elsewhere, and using some of Dr Blackwell's proposed material.

## 6. Development of the new MPhil in Computer Science
Nothing to report

## 7. Liaison with the MPhil in CSTIT
Nothing to report

## 8. Proposals for new courses, significant changes to courses, and removal of courses
Nothing to report

## 9. Timetable for 2007-08
Dr King presented an updated version of the timetable (TC07/07). It was noted that Dr Dodgson will ask Dr Robert Mullins, in consultation with Prof Robinson and Dr Moore, whether he would consider lecturing Comparative Architectures next year while Dr Greaves in on Sabbatical Leave.

## 10. Approval of Minutes of the previous meeting
The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed.

## 11. Any matters arising not already dealt with
None

## 12. Date of next meeting
The next meeting will be on 24th April 2007 in FC22.