

**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 27 January 2009 in GC22 in the William Gates Building

Present: Prof Alan Mycroft Dr Alastair Beresford Dr Simon Moore
 Prof Andy Pitts Dr Frank Stajano Dr Simone Teufel
 Dr Ian Wassell Miss Christine Northeast
 Mrs Jennifer Underhill

1. Apologies for absence

An apology was received from Prof Larry Paulson and Ms Lise Gough.

STANDING ITEMS

2. Sabbatical leave and substitute teaching

It was noted that Ross Anderson may take sabbatical leave during the academic year 2010/11.

Further to item 5b. *plan0910.pdf* it was noted that JGD would take on Probability. It was agreed that the Chairman would approach RKH in regards to taking on Algorithms I lectures.

ACTION: AM

It was noted that with MGK going on leave Unix Tools, being practical and non-examinable, could be taken on by NAD or RKH.

It was suggested by the Teaching Committee that Compiler Construction lectures could be taken on by DJG. With MGK and FMS away on leave it was suggested that Introduction to Security could be subcontracted to a late PhD student or Research Assistant. In regards to Digital Signal Processing MGK could take this course if it runs in Michaelmas, it was suggested that he could set questions and request that someone else marks them. It was agreed that the Chairman would talk to SMH, TGG and CM about Advanced Systems Topics and lecturer allocation.

ACTION: AM

It was agreed that the Chairman would discuss with RG who could take on the lectures for Computer Systems Modelling, it was suggested that there may be a Research Assistant who could take this on.

ACTION: AM

The committee questioned who would take on Optimising Compilers and there was no immediate solution found.

3. Review of course feedback

Nothing to report.

4. Review of staff-student consultative committee minutes

Nothing to report.

5. Revision of the Tripos.

5a. Part 1b systems course re-design:

CompDesign.txt

ConcDistr.txt

The Teaching Committee agreed that any practical work should be included in the syllabus of the course the work is associated with. It was agreed that exam questions should examine both theoretical and practical aspects of the courses, with paper structure changed to reflect time spent on practical work as well as lecture hours.

A majority felt that the Chairman should send out a request for IA and IB syllabi in May

5b. Provisional teaching allocated and draft 1b exam structure for 2009/10.
exam1b0910.pdf

It was agreed that the Chairman would look at merging Compiler Construction and Concepts in Programming Languages into one course.

ACTION: AM

It was noted that CHN would discuss changing systems/permissions with MGK with the aim that more than one lecturer could be allocated to a course on the current system.

ACTION: CHN

plan0910.pdf

It was noted that the Teaching Committee agreed on Plan 09/10.

It was suggested that the total hours for each course should be indicated on this document.

5c. Issues concerning current 1a courses

RobHarle.txt

It was noted that the idea of number representation and addition is now being taught three times to Computer Science Tripos students in Digital Electronics, Operating Systems and Java. It was felt that no action should be made because the Teaching Committee feel that teaching this does not take up much time and it cannot be dropped because Digital Electronics and Operating Systems are not given to Paper-1-only candidates.

SoftwDes.txt

It was noted that the Chairman would clarify the situation with Arthur Norman. It was also agreed that the Chairman would investigate into whether if, in the future, Java could be examined under Software Design.

ACTION: AM

6. Liaison with the MPhil in Advanced 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. Review of wording on Computer Science admissions FAQ web page

9a. Website FAQ

It was noted that one of the FAQ answers regarding choice of College might disadvantage smaller Colleges taking fewer Computer Science students, it was agreed that the answer should be removed by CHN.

ACTION: CHN

9b. Update of information

It was noted that one of the FAQ answers regarding the psychology option was out of date; it was agreed that CHN would change the sentence, removing the out of date content.

ACTION: CHN

10. Part II supervisions

It was noted that there had been issues recruiting enough supervisors to sign up for Advanced Systems Topics supervisions.

EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS

11. Plagiarism

ARB reported that there are no problems with the plagiarism statement.

12. Feedback

It was noted that ARB will look into the Part II project which is working on the electronic analysis of paper feedback and report back to the Teaching Committee.

ACTION: ARB

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

13. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes were agreed and signed.

14. Any matters arising not already dealt with

No matters arising.

15. Dates of future meetings

Tue 17 February at 2:15pm in GC22

Tue 17 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