

Minutes for the Staff Student Liaison Committee Meeting

1:30 pm, 8 May 2001

Present: Tony Simons, Michael Mendler, Tony Chilton, George Wilson, Julian Briggs, Ed Smith (2nd Year Computer Science), Kasper Hunt (2nd Year Software Engineering), Simon Martin (MSc Software System Technology), Stuart McNulty (1st Year Computer Science), David Gibson (4th Year Software Engineering), Alex Collins (3rd Year Computer Science).

Minutes: Monika Kus, Linda Perna

1. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved with comments made under matters arising from minutes.

2. Matters arising from minutes

Assignment hand-ins - time taken to complete assignments

Steve Maddock suggested (in an email) that the time spent on assignments could be broken into 3 sections: time to do general reading for the module, time to do practical work for the module and time to complete the assignment. This would clarify the wording and give more accurate data. The reps accepted this as a good (reasonable) idea.

AJHS

Attendance at lectures

The issue of students who attend lectures being targeted for those who do not has been raised at the Departmental Board meeting. The introduction of attendance lists suggested by AJHS raised no objection from students. It has been pointed out by AJHS that according to the University regulations nothing can be done to prevent a student from taking his exam. Departments can penalize non-attendance at lectures by deducting grades. This has to be approved by the Faculty Board.

COM1100

Stuart has spoken to GL regarding the workload and it seems that GL wants to introduce Cambridge Lab situation ie to hand in x amount of work in order to be able to sit exams. This is against University regulations. GL has already reduced the number of questions from 3 to 2 in assignments 5 to 8.

Stuart suggested running GL's course like Discrete Maths based 100% on exam with bits of work that needs to be handed in. Another solution would be deducting marks for non-attendance.

3. Chairman's Statement

No statement - chairman absent.

4. Report from Computer Science Society - Ed Smith

Industrial Liaison Board on 9 May will hopefully generate summer placements and sponsorships. Plans for next year include taking part in IBM.com competition, ACM programming contest.

Computer Science Society will offer support to Erasmus students.

5. Unrestricted module choices for the Mcomp Degree Programme - Ed Smith

This option has been withdrawn and students have not been informed. AJHS apologized and explained that QAA decided that MComp and MEng courses had to be more difficult and to keep Chartered Engineer status. Kasper requested that students are informed.

AJHS

6. Update on COM 321 Network Architecture exam marks - Alex Collins

This matter is still being negotiated. It has not been decided if all or just some exam papers will be re-marked. It appears that in few cases some extra points could be given. This will be decided by the summer exam board.

7. Are there any issues that we think need to be raised at the Faculty of Engineering SSLCOM?

Faculty of Engineering Board on 11 May 2001 will be looking into the issues raised.

8. Any Other Business

Students complained about COM1040 Crossover Project as sub-standard work is being passed onto groups who have to re-write them in order to make them work. Passing poor quality work is unfair on the next group and should be failed. GAM is proposing electronic Crossover Projects with template solutions. The whole module needs investigating (Ed).

David Gibson is graduating and leaving as the student rep for the SSL and Undergraduate Rep for the Departmental Board. Tony Simons thanked him for his hard work.

9. Date of next meeting

To be advised at the start of next academic year.