

Minutes

Subject Education Committee

Date and time October 10th at 11:00

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Location Tesla

Invited Associate Professor Massimiliano Errico, Program Coordinator, Chair
Associate Professor Knud V. Christensen, Program Coordinator
Associate Professor Shuang Ma Andersen
Professor MSO Henrik Karring
Associate Professor Martin A.B. Hedegaard
Professor MSO Morten Birkved
Program Administrator Mette Smølz Skau
Student representative Christian Ringskær
Student representative Thomas Nordentoft Andersen

Cancellation from Morten Birkved
Shuang Ma Andersen

1. Studieundersøgelsen

The well-being rate has decreased even from 2020 when the university was under lockdown.

One of the reasons might be that the courses the students find most interesting are planned from the 3rd semester.

The students report to have difficulties connecting the things they learn into a bigger context. They find it very complicated and have difficulties learning and remembering.

The constructive feedback score is very low.

The reason for this might be that the teachers give the solutions to the problems afterwards, instead of providing individual feedback, which would be very expensive. The students don't realize that comparing their own work with these solutions is a form of feedback.

It is also possible that the students don't ask each other for feedback when they can't solve the problems. The students don't necessarily ask the teachers for help since they do not want to look stupid in front of the class.

The problem might be wrong expectations. The teachers need to explain in advance how the feedback works.

2. Exam statistic: Why are the failing rate so high and what can we do to change it?

- Grundlæggende biokemi og mikrobiologi
- Energi og materialer
- Ingeniørfagligt Grundlag 2
- Organisk kemi

Approximately 55 % of the students didn't show up for the exams and have since dropped out.

It might be a good idea to have a yearly meeting with all the students on both the BA, BEng, and Master to get feedback and ideas to improve the education. Knud suggested to spend half a day with lunch to meet with the students and hear whatever they have to say.

3. Follow up on study start

The study start for the master programme was well planned, but few students showed up because they thought they didn't need it. The environmental programme did it Thursday afternoon and had a higher attendance. Doing it Friday at noon was a bad idea since the students went to the "fredagsbar" instead. It doesn't look good to have presenters from outside companies come and give a talk and then only have a handful of students show up. It might be a good idea to have the study start a few weeks into the semester within the normal lecture hours.

4. Follow up on the status meeting

The high dropout rate:

One of the new initiatives to keep the students from dropping out is a study café with mentors connected to the project groups. The older students will be role models for the first semester students. This will both help the students and give the UUV an idea of what is going on with the students and what their needs are. If the feedback is good, it will continue to the second semester. The mentors are also asked to find out the reasons why students drop out etc. and report back to the head of programme and the programme coordinator.

5. Other ideas to make the first year more attractive to reduce drop-out?

Not at this point. The item will remain open.

6. Going through the overall description in the curriculum and the first semesters' course descriptions.

- Kemisk production og miljø
- Grundlæggende organisk og uorganisk kemi
- IFG1

The students can't see the connections between the courses. The connection might have become partly lost in all the changes the programme has undergone. The teachers can't just change their courses at will, as they still need to connect to the other courses.

Also, the programme is a bit fragile since the content of the courses relies on the Institute's competencies. If a teacher leave, someone else must be able to teach the course.

7. News from the student representatives

N/A

8. Planning of Future Education Committee meetings

Beginning of December

9. Any other business

The UUV does not represent the sections and there will be a shift in members. Massimiliano will look into its reformulation.