

Minutes

Subject	Education Committee
Date and time	December 14, 11:00-12:30
Location	Nobel
Invited	Associate Professor Ciprian Cimpan, Head of Program, Chair Professor MSO Morten Birkved Associate professor Birgitte Lilholt Sørensen Professor Henrik Wenzel Study Coordinator Mette Smølz Skau Student representative Thomas Kristian Molbech Student Karoline Sofie Kahr Petersen

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Cancellation from Karoline Sofie Kahr Petersen and Thomas Kristian Molbech

1. Welcome

The new UUV members were welcomed. Birgitte and Henrik have both been in the UUV earlier. Karoline is new but was not able to attend this meeting.

2. Teaching evaluations

Henrik commented on the perception that the way students formulate themselves is in a harsher and more rude manner than they used to. The evaluations are anonymous, and the students are not held responsible for their comments. It is good to be critical, but the students should also keep the tone constructive.

Some teachers have tried to address this with the students in class, it was suggested that this may be a good approach and that it may help them find a more professional approach (behave more professional) and make sure the feedback is constructive. Unconstructive criticism does not lead to course improvement.

- **Energy Systems Analysis**

The feedback was overall good. Hossein is characterized as a good teacher. He did not have enough support as a new teacher but did well anyway. Henrik did support him, and he will try to provide even more support for him next semester when they are doing 2 courses together.

- **Eco-Efficient Engineering**

Both teachers got high rankings and positive feedback. The two parts of the course are not completely well-connected, but Massimiliano and Ciprian are aware of this and will work together on this or separate it into 2 separate courses.

- **Urban Water Management**

The course was well-evaluated, and the students mention that they appreciate that it does not end up in a big report and is less end-heavy than the rest of the courses in the 3rd semester.

- **Techno-Economic Assessment**

There is a lot of constructive criticism regarding both the structure and the content of the course. There is some disconnect between the lectures and the project. It might help to broaden the course and teach the students to apply it on more things.

The students have received different explanations from the two teachers on how the exam will be running.

The teachers are censoring each other, and it would be good to have a more experienced teacher present at least for the first few examinations. Not to censor but to help guide them on how to ask questions and negotiate the grades. Henrik volunteered to do this as he used to be the examiner.

The course belongs to the Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology programme but is mandatory in both programmes.

Ciprian and Henrik will talk to the teachers and guide them not deviate too much from the course description going forward.

- **Sustainable Development**

The course feels like a filler course and doesn't have enough engineering content. The Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology students have already had the content during the bachelor, but it is new for the environmental engineering students.

The Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology programme might make it an elective going forward.

It is a broad course, and it can be offered as an elective to a broader target and not just for engineering students.

- **LCA**

Several students wrote that the teachers criticized each other which is a problem. The workload is also very heavy for a 10 ECTS course. This might need to be adjusted.

Also, the MCQ is not a good exam form for the course, but an oral exam is extremely hard for the teachers for such a large number of students.

The collaboration between the teachers was not ideal. They used different methodology, and they did not agree with each other's approach. Unfortunately, the teachers did not have the necessary meeting to discuss how to handle that they represent two different schools. The students need to know both schools and how to use them both. The use of only one approach does not reflect reality. However, this creates confusion between the students, and the teachers need to know what each other says beforehand.

Benyamin had too much of the course (80%) it was too much, and he did not get the necessary support.

Morten and Henrik will have a planning meeting with Benyamin in the beginning of February and restructure and adjust the course appropriately.

Further discussion: The report writing is sometimes difficult to evaluate since some students don't participate and contribute to their assigned groups. The first lecture of courses with project work should start with a guide of assessing groupwork and how to contact the teacher if the group is not working.

Ciprian will make a look at the examinations forms in the spring to make sure, that the exam forms are aligned, and the rules are being followed.

The importance of supporting new teachers was also pointed out which will be a focus going forward.

3. Graduate survey

It has previously been discussed if the high unemployment number is due to international students who do not learn the Danish language or if it is caused by the Danish students being unwilling to move for employment. We have now received the numbers, that support, that the high unemployment number is mainly caused by unemployed international graduates.

The students we don't have any data on, are labelled unemployed, which is problematic.

Mette will contact Casper to get an explanation of the discrepancy and ask if her student assistant can investigate how many of the graduates with "no data", are actually employed.

4. Planning (draft schedule) advisory board meeting January 13 at *Miljøstyrelsen*

- Intro
- Examples of recent successful master projects with companies
- Lunch and tour
- Experience from a few former students

- Competence needs and future strategies (from the stakeholders)
- Discussion and future work

Ciprian has contacted some of our international students to share their experiences.

There will also be a presentation from some master projects that has been successfully done in collaboration with companies.

The board members have been asked to prepare of list of the competencies

5. News from the student representatives

N/A

6. Online Course on SDU's quality system

All members of the UUV are obligated to take the online course available at

[Online course on SDU's quality system](#)

7. AOB

8. Planning of the next meeting

Early or Mid-February