

Minutes

Subject	Education Committee
Date and time	April 8, 11:30-13:00
Location	Tesla
Invited	Associate Professor Ciprian Cimpan, Head of Program, Chair Professor MSO Morten Birkved Professor Gang Liu Programme Coordinator Mette Smølz Skau Student representative Thomas Kristian Molbech

mskau@tek.sdu.dk
T +4565501984

Cancellation from

1. **Key Figures**

The dropout rate has improved and most of the numbers look good. However, the unemployment rate is very high and will be a focus point at the status meeting.

The capacity of the programme has been lowered due to the high unemployment rate.

2. **Unemployment**

The unemployment rate (K4-7) is critical for the cohort of 2019 - and K1-K2 unemployment for cohort of 2020 indicates a raising unemployment rate.

Graduates who have left the country is not included in the numbers.

The cohort of 2020 has a very high unemployment rate. The 2021 cohort looks a bit better.

We do not have a sufficient understanding of what lies behind the numbers. Some of the unemployment might be by choice and some of it might be caused by several graduates who are not able to speak Danish and might have a hard time getting employed in Denmark.

One of the issues might be that the students do not have a common background and are not sufficiently prepped for applying for jobs after graduation. Things such as getting a LinkedIn account might be discussed and encouraged at the information meeting.

- a. The advisory board panel

The high unemployability was discussed at the last advisory board meeting where it was decided to start a LinkedIn group to connect students with companies.

b. Collaboration with companies

There are less master theses made in cooperation with companies than it is the case with other engineering programmes.

The numbers for cooperation with companies are surprisingly low (24%). The UUV decided to set an internal target for 57-100%.

Some students do collaborations with museums and other public departments and do not check the "collaboration with external company" on the master thesis contract. However, these projects should be counted as well since some students find jobs in the public sector after graduation.

c. LinkedIn survey

A new updated LinkedIn survey is in the works and will be ready in a few weeks.

3. **SMU2021**

The SMU is overall positive. The students of the programme are reporting to be satisfied beyond average on almost all the specters.

There is space for improvement on information and communication.

Morten suggested a twitter account that will help students navigate in topics and publications. The LinkedIn account is not quite hitting the target for this. It was suggested that the Twitter account be managed by one of the PhD's. (perhaps Simon)

4. **Teaching evaluations and exam statistics**

All the teaching evaluations are overall positive and none of the exams have a high falling rate. The grade distribution is also satisfactory.

5. **Study intensity**

The average is 42 hours per week which is within the range.

6. **Update SWOT analysis**

The SWOT was updated with the weakness of the high unemployment rate and the risk of programme closure.

7. **Follow up on previous action plan from 2020**

The Quality Department has not made the survey of the uptakes that shows the background, gender, nationality etc. of the students. It will be requested at the Status Meeting

8. **Planning advisory board meeting**

Morten will be invited to the Advisory Board meeting that will take place in late May.

At the meeting last year, the language problem was addressed, and the LinkedIn group was established.

Ciprian is in contact with a few people from The Environmental Protection Agency to recruit someone for the advisory board.

9. **New from the student representative**

The students are happy about meeting some companies and to be seeing the industries during classes, such as in the waste management class. They enjoy the hands-on experience.

The students are exhausted on Thursdays where they have classes 8-12 and then from 14-18.

10. **LinkedIn**

The IGT group and the LCE group on LinkedIn have an overlap.

The IGT group could target the Chemical Engineers, whereas the LCE group is for Environmental Engineering students. Morten suggested to make posters to promote the LinkedIn groups.

It was also suggested to nudge the students further in the direction of collaborating with companies. Thomas suggested that there was made a list of companies that was relevant for the students to collaborate with.