

Agenda

March, 2020

Subject Education Committee

Date and time March 9th, 2020

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Location Nobel

Invited Associate Professor Massimiliano Errico, Program Coordinator, Chair
Associate Professor Knud V. Christensen, Program Coordinator
Associate Professor Birgitte Lilholt Sørensen, Program Coordinator
Associate Professor Shuang Ma Andersen
Professor MSO Henrik Karring
Associate Professor Martin A.B. Hedegaard
Professor MSO Morten Birkved
Associate Professor Morten Østergaard Andersen
Program Administrator Mette Smølz Skau
Student representative Mikkel Kristensen
Student representative Sebastian Krog
Student representative Lasse Frank Nissen
Student representative Thomas Marschall Thostrup

Cancellation from

Martin A.B. Hedegaard

1. Welcome to new members

Morten Birkved, Morten Østergaard Andersen, and Lasse Frank Nissen were welcomed to the board, and the rules of confidentiality were discussed.

2. Theory of Science

It is required that the BSc and BEng have a course description that clearly shows that the programmes have 3 ECTS worth of Theory of Science.

This year, it has been implemented in Chemical Product Design and Chemical Process Design. It was decided to keep it in these two courses for one more year, where it will be taught as a common lecture, but as the two courses will be separated another solution will be needed on a long-term basis.

It was suggested that the ethics part could be taught on the 1st semester as part of the Environmental Chemistry course, and that the other part could be implemented in the 4th semester Analytical Chemistry course, where the topic is already touched upon.

3. Electives on the BEng

It is required that a BEng programme has at least 15 ECTS worth of electives. There is currently only space for 10 ECTS electives.

It was discussed if Business Economics and Management or KE528 should be removed as a mandatory course to make room for the additional required elective.

It was decided to take out KE528 on the BEng and the BSc, since the most important content from this course has already been covered in the 1st semester project. The course was supposed to be different from KE521 but according to NAT, who are offering it, the two courses are identical. Further, the student representatives reported that they found it very basic and overlapping with the semester project.

To avoid a lack of inorganic chemistry in the programme, it was suggested that General Chemistry could be renamed to General inorganic and organic chemistry. Thermodynamics and kinetics could be moved to the 1st semester project to make room for the added inorganic chemistry.

It was suggested to ask the advisory board for their inputs concerning the changes of inorganics chemistry.

4. Status meeting report (Uddannelsesberetningen)

- Study intensity, was discussed
- Selection and discussion of at least one of the official [elements of the quality policy](#) nr. 1 or 8 was suggested but in the end nr. 4 was elected as it is relevant with the new online teaching format.
- [SDG](#)
It was discussed which SDGs were most relevant and how the programme should incorporate them. There is already a progress in the semester themes. During the first semester, the focus is on building awareness and discussing the SDGs. During the second semester, the students will identify the relevant SDGs and work with them in depth.
- Make a SWOT

This item was postponed to a separate meeting discussing the preparation of the status meeting.

5. Unemployment rates

BEng:

There were 8 graduates in the 2016 cohort. The unemployment rate was 11,7% on the 4-7 quarter.

Masters:

There are 20 graduates from the 2016 cohort. The unemployment rate on the 4-7 quarter was 15,6%.

Birgitte reported, that the unemployment numbers are provided by the ministry and it covers students who stay in the country after graduation. The data received in

December suggested that the youth unemployment rate is going up in the entire country and especially in Funen and Northern Jutland.

It was argued, that the programme is accepting too many students who are not qualified for the programme and will struggle to get jobs after graduation.

There will be implemented an admission requirement of a grade of 7 to help sort out the less fit students.

It was suggested to try to get more students to do their projects with companies in Copenhagen or other places, where the unemployment rate is lower. It was argued that the local industry will hire our graduates from anyway, so it is not the local companies that need to be focused on.

It was decided to discuss this point further at the advisory board meeting to get the advisory board's input and suggestions for helpful initiatives.

6. Teaching evaluations and semester evaluations

All the teaching evaluations and the semester evaluations are rated "green" on satisfaction level. The ratings are especially high for:

Heterogeneous Catalysis (4.0)

One comment only: Great teacher.

Industrial Membrane Technology (3.97)

Comments: Good teacher, very good slides, good tempo of the teaching

Design of Ideal Chemical Reactors (3.91)

Comments: Inspires, cares, teaches us how to think as an engineer, good at explaining, good structure and good PowerPoints, dedicated, friendly and funny, does everything in steps so the exercises are easy to approach

The ratings were lower for:

IGF3 (2.92)

Comments: 4 hours are too much, they were not used properly and could have taken just two hours. There has been some lack of explanations.

It was suggested, that the issue is that the course isn't coupled to any chemistry, and that it might be helpful if the teacher provided chemistry related examples.

Massimiliano will talk to the teacher to get his inputs on the course.

7. Study start evaluations (attached)

It is an issue that many students do not finish the first semester.

Many of the 1st semesters students do not show up for the first exam. There are many inactive students and we cannot remove them from the program until Registration & Legislation discharge them.

The study start test is supposed to help solve this problem but there still appear to be a large number of inactive students.

8. Master's introduction evaluation

The answer percent was too low for an evaluation.

9. Evaluation of the entire programme (BEng)

Overall satisfaction with the programme but the students feel the information needs a lift. This includes information about the internship and the possibility of a semester abroad. There also seem to be a general dissatisfaction with EiT.

There is information about the semester abroad on the website, on blackboard and there is a meeting on it twice a year.

If more students go abroad, it might also help the unemployment rate. Further, the programme will get punished financially, if the numbers of students going abroad is low. It was pointed out that it is difficult to go abroad on the masters, since there are few electives on the 3rd semester.

It was suggested to write a recommendation to go abroad in the curriculum for the new masters. However, there is already the same recommendation as in the current curriculum.

It was suggested to contact Henrik Vindt and ask him to talk to the third semester students. However, he is already doing information meetings twice a year, the last time in February, so the students do get the information.

10. Inputs for the advisory board panel meeting on April 6th

Topics for discussion:

- Where should Inorganic Chemistry be placed on the BSc and BEng (see item 2)
- What can be done to improve our employment rate (see item 5)

11. Title for the master's programme

It has been decided to apply for a name change to Chemistry and biotechnology. This will provide consistency with the BSc programme.

12. Lack of electives (Presented by Lasse)

Many students are doing ISAs since there are few preapproved electives to choose from, as they think it is too big a task to look for courses from other faculties themselves and then apply the study board to get them approved. Thus, they would like more preapproved electives from other faculties.

It was commented that it isn't a negative thing that students are doing ISAs as it shows engagement and motivation.

The program will preapprove more electives to accommodate the students.

13. The changes of the master's programme from a student perspective (Pre-sented by Lasse)

Lasse argued that more information would have been nice and that the students don't know how the changes in the programme will affect them. Lasse suggested that Jens sends out an email every year about current changes.

Massimiliano replied that an information meeting was held in December. He also argued that it can create unnecessary confusion to give out information about details before they are finalized.

Massimiliano questioned why no one has confronted has reach out to him and asked him about the programme if they had doubts or were frustrated.

Massimiliano invited students to approach him sooner and ask to questions along the way and come with suggestions about how to make improvements.

The students seem to have the experience that the changes of the programme are much greater than the teachers think. There are no profiles anymore, but students do not lose the competencies, as they can specialize through electives.

The 6th semesters students will be invited to a meeting about the philosophy behind the new master's programme.

14. [NIA20](#)

The UUV members were reminded of the mandatory Blackboard course on quality assurance for education that they need to take.

15. Planning of Future Education Committee meetings

Another meeting will be held regarding the changes in the BSc and the BEng and regarding item 4.

16. Any other business

Corona announcement: students are currently not required to have doctors notes to stay at home if they are sick. They just need to send an email. If any teachers receive such an email, it should be forwarded to the study coordinator.

More information will follow as the guidelines are under constant adjustment.