

Date: 30.01.2026, kl. 10.00 – 11.30

Location: 5342-332 ADA

Forum: Education Committee meeting, Department of Computer Science

Participants:

Jaco van de Pol, Marianne Graves Petersen, Jesper Buus Nielsen, Peyman Afshani, Anders Bjerrum Jensen, Lasse Kjeldsen, Luccas Ruben J Constantin-Sukul, Stine Havgaard Hansen, Mie Grøftehave Nielsen (obs.), Felix Falck Jacobsen (obs.), Louise Brønderup Frederiksen (obs.), Joakim Tambjerg Iversen (obs.), Marc Tao Stender (obs.), Olav W. Bertelsen (obs.), Andreas Birch Olsen (obs.), Louise Bødker Wøbbe (obs.), Magnus Madsen (guest), Silje Stenild (ref.)

Agenda

1. Approval of agenda and minutes from last meeting
2. News from the students
3. News on education
4. Introduction to Programming – experiences from last semester
5. GAI
6. Course changes and new courses
7. Course evaluation E25
8. AOB

Ad 1. Approval of agenda and minutes from last meeting

The committee approved both the agenda and the minutes from the previous meeting without changes.

Ad 2. News from the students

The student representatives raised concerns about written examinations. Several students experience that the exams have become more difficult and that the level differs from the previously published mock exams. They asked whether this development is a deliberate decision or whether individual instructors are making changes independently.

The head of programme for Computer Science explained that the changes mainly come from individual instructors who are adjusting exam formats to ensure academic integrity in light of generative artificial intelligence. In some cases, the discrepancy stems from changes in exam formats compared to earlier years.

A student suggested that teaching assistants review exam sets before they are finalised. The committee discussed the idea and considered that a review of se-

lected exam sets might be useful. The students also noted that there is limited **feedback after exams have taken place. The education advisor suggested discussing exam alignment at the semester coordination meetings.**

The students emphasised that a difficult exam is not necessarily a good exam, and that exams should assess what has been taught. They also stressed the need for coordination across a semester so that several courses do not increase difficulty at the same time.

Ad 3. News on education

Non-EU master's programme applicants

The education advisor informed the committee that fewer non-EU applicants have applied to the Master of Science programmes this year. The numbers follow the general trend at Aarhus University.

ITP revision (orientation)

The working group has revised the structure of the Bachelor of Science programme for IT Product Development based on the committee's comments from the previous meeting and have proposed a new structure.

During the discussion, several students questioned why the first semester course Calculus Alpha was chosen instead of a course that would allow students to take later Computer Science courses. Some students feel that Calculus Alpha overlaps significantly with their upper secondary mathematics. **The education advisor explained that Calculus Alpha serves as a broad introduction to mathematics but will take the feedback back to the working group.**

Admission requirements for the master's degree programmes have been adjusted from 2027. They will mostly apply to international students.

Admission requirements for Master of Science programmes

The education advisor informed the committee that admission requirements will be adjusted from 2027. The changes will primarily affect international applicants.

Ad 4. Introduction to programming (EN) – experiences from last semester

The course coordinator presented his experiences from the first year of the English language Bachelor of Science programme, focusing on Introduction to Programming. The course now uses a take-home assignment (all aids allowed except generative artificial intelligence) and a closed book written exam. Approximately 80 percent of the students passed.

The course faces a large variation in students' programming experience. Some students found the course very easy, while others struggled. This creates challenges for planning and has contributed to low attendance (around 20 percent) in teaching assistant sessions.

The committee discussed various possible solutions, including more differentiated teaching or a week with no classes which struggling students can use to catch up and practice, while the experienced students take a break instead. The course coordinator noted that the skill gap ranges from complete beginners to students with professional programming experience, which makes differentiation difficult. **During the discussion it was noted that the Programming Café will not be offered from next year.**

Finally, the course coordinator also highlighted that the long exam period at Aarhus University can be challenging for international students who wish to travel home over the holiday.

Ad 5. GAI

Postponed due to time constraints.

Ad 6. Course changes and new courses

Succinct Proof Systems – new course

The committee discussed the permitted aids for the oral exam. There were also comments about shorthand expressions in the course description that need clarification. The committee approved the course.

Deep Learning for Visual Recognition

The committee approved a change from an oral exam to a combination of a take-home assignment and a three-hour written exam. The new format is inspired by the model used in Introduction to Programming (EN). The committee approved the course.

Theoretical Foundations of Machine Learning – substantial update

The course coordinator has updated the content to put stronger emphasis on the mathematical aspect of the course. The prerequisites for exam participation have been removed. Decision: The committee approved the course.

The students suggested that for new courses, the course coordinator could be invited to present the course to the committee. The committee will consider this for future meetings.

Ad 7. Course evaluation E25

The education advisor presented the course evaluations from the autumn semester 2025. Meetings are planned with course coordinators for new courses and for courses

that received the lowest student evaluations. The education advisor noted the committee's comments on specific courses.

During the discussion, the committee noted that it may be relevant to add specific additional questions to future questionnaires. The committee can request such additions.

Ad 8. AOB

Teaching assistants

The committee discussed differences in the teaching assistants' experience and motivation. A recommendation is now in place for all teaching assistants to complete a course in university teaching. The committee encouraged students to contact the course coordinator quickly if they experience issues with a teaching assistant.

A student suggested that lecturers receive a standard slide informing students who to contact regarding issues with teaching assistants. Another student proposed prioritising teaching assistants who have previously taken the course for Bachelor of Science courses, while using PhD students more on Master of Science courses.

The committee briefly discussed students' ability to give direct feedback to teaching assistants. It was noted that this is not always possible depending on the nature of the issue.

Finally, the committee noted that the model where teaching assistants encourage students to apply for assistant positions works well.

The meeting ended at 12:00