MINUTES OF MEETING NOVEMBER 24th, 2016


The meeting begins at 12h15 in Room ME.B1.10.

1) Agenda and approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 27.10.2016
A point has been added to the agenda: “GT’s feedback on educational assistance”. It is presented by S. Deparis. No corrections were made to the minutes of the meeting held on 27.10.2016; it has been unanimously approved.

2) General information
There is no particular information to be given.

3) Debriefing on the CDS-CCE meeting of 23.11.2016
The CDS minutes already summed up the meeting as well as the themes discussed. As a reminder, the CDS and the CCE will meet once per semester and will work together on common themes.

A number of themes identified by the CCE were brought up for discussion, which has resulted in the creation of a workgroup responsible for the BA curriculum (3 years) reform. The workgroup will aim to gather together the themes common to different sections with regard to the academic curriculum. The draft of the propedeutical year reform, which should enter in force in 2018, already has a similar aim but should include the themes common to all sections in order to obtain a better curriculum harmonization. Thus, a number of questions should be considered, such as: what math level should first year students have? What level should they reach by the end of their third year? Will the first year upgrade affect the second and third years, and if so, how? Should more topics be studied in order to widen student’s horizons or should the curriculum favour in-depth analysis of fewer topics?

O. Lévêque has discussed this project with the two I&C section Directors and both of them appear to lack enthusiasm in the matter, even though they were present at the CDS-CCE meeting and did not express any scepticism on that occasion. Still, A. Billard thinks that moving forward with the creation of the workgroup is important. A. Billard will set an appointment with the section Directors and a member of the CCE representing the section involved. O. Martin will offer support to A. Billard in this task and considers it necessary to have a scientific approach to the matter.
P. Soubeyrand expressed great concern for the MAN (mise à niveau) project, given that Architecture students do not possess the same math skills as their counterparts in other faculties. O. Lévêque reminds that the 1st year reform does not encompass EPFL architecture students. The statistics concerning the number of succeeding and failing students will be ready by February 2017, which is when assessments will be made and conclusions will be drawn.

4) **EPFL website redesign project (S. Soubeyrand)**

For further information please consult: [http://dms.epfl.ch/collab/refonteweb MEDIACOM](http://dms.epfl.ch/collab/refonteweb) and the VPSI have chosen SQLI/WAX firm to work on the first EPFL website redesign subproject, which will allow to identify the global scope and direction that the redesign project will have and to redefine the information organization and EFLP web structure. The document outlining the current situation, the problems found and the plan of action can be consulted here: [https://dms.epfl.ch/COLLAB/RefonteWeb/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/COLLAB/RefonteWeb/Documents/Direction-Refonte_web-3oct16.pdf&action=default](https://dms.epfl.ch/COLLAB/RefonteWeb/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/COLLAB/RefonteWeb/Documents/Direction-Refonte_web-3oct16.pdf&action=default)

SQLI/WAX encourages the active participation of the EPFL population in this project and has set up a webpage allowing to become a tester for the new website: [https://inform.epfl.ch/login.php?page=ldaplogin](https://inform.epfl.ch/login.php?page=ldaplogin)

The CCE insists that access to the implementation and the contents of the research facilities webpages should not be restricted. Even if some other software besides Jahia were to be used, the task of reprogramming/rewriting of these webpages should not be too big a workload. It is also important that the student’s point of view should be taken into account in this project.

To provide further information on the matter, A. Billard will invite E. Bugnon (VPSI) and M. van Holzen (MEDIACOM) to the next CCE meeting.

5a) **Feedback on the special needs of the students with disabilities (S. Deparis)**

S. Deparis announces that a math teacher will from now on take part in the SAC meetings and decision making process concerning the tools made available to students with disabilities. As a reminder, the best way to know the special needs of students is to ask him directly; however, no students are currently involved in the decision making process concerning the arrangements to be made for their special needs.

A. Billard will remind D. Chuard to take action, because it seems that students, though reluctant to express themselves, are quite unsatisfied with the arrangements made so far. Perhaps an anonymous satisfaction survey should be conducted in order to receive a more comprehensive student feedback on the matter.
5b) **Workgroup on the equipment available in classrooms (S. Deparis)**

The GT’s report concerns a number of different projects:

1) Implementation of the proposal of standard equipment in classrooms (which can be divided in two subprojects, one involving basic equipment of the classrooms and the other complementary equipment and BYOD);

2) Creation of a teacher’s desk;

3) Creation of a list of the classrooms with their equipment;

4) Publishing of information concerning the process of classroom attribution;

5) Implementation of a teacher’s forum. Some guidance should now be established and detailed description of these projects should be made in order to promote their initiation to the IT 4 Education Committee on the 7th December 2016.

Should the CCE wish to contribute to either of these projects, S. Deparis should be informed before that date.

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6) **Consultation of the decree on the rules in matters of scientific probity at EPFL**

The project is available online, on the website of the EPFL AE: 

http://ae.epfl.ch/2016OrdonnanceProbiteScientifique

as well as the version of the document, which includes the suggested changes to be made: 


G. Fantner is very concerned by the new version of the decree. He finds the decree punitive and the sanctions harsh. He is shocked by the fact that teachers and researchers are not be better protected and that they are deprived of the right to defend themselves. The communication with both teachers and PhD students on how published materials should be used is unclear, and the information provided by the Doctoral School appears to be incomplete, which is probably why both teachers and PhD students seem to lack insight on plagiarism. In order to fill these gaps, A. Billard suggests that M. Patrick Jermann and Mme Denise Flury Poffet should be invited to the next CCE meeting.

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7) **Varia**

D. Dujic seeks his CCE colleague’s council on how to organize the examination of a high-level athlete. He wonders how to reconcile the date and time of the examination with the athlete’s agenda. He is offered several solutions.

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The meeting ends at 14h.

Minutes/ S. Muller