

June 8, 2021

Dear Council members,

In our report, to ensure quality control of the courses and programmes, we, as a review committee, asked for a better description of the learning outcomes and a better alignment of (i) the teaching and assessment methods with respect to the learning outcomes, and (ii) the learning outcomes of each course with respect to the learning outcomes of the overall program.

The faculty clearly has taken up these recommendations by implementing the following procedures:

- Regarding the formulation of learning outcomes:
 - 'The Department has decided that specific mention of particular skills will be added in learning objectives and learning outcomes for each course, as these are described in the syllabus, under responsibility of the corresponding staff member. The Undergraduate Studies Committee will circulate examples, and individual staff members will be expected to introduce these changes when their syllabus is next updated, and promptly forward it to the Undergraduate Studies Committee.'
- Regarding the alignment of teaching and assessment methods:
 - 'Teaching content and assessment format, as described in the course syllabus, to be formally checked for compliance with learning outcomes by the Undergraduate Studies Committee.'
 - 'Each new academic will be required to coordinate closely with the Undergraduate Studies Committee and senior members of their sector, to ensure that each newly proposed course is compliant with the learning outcomes.'
 - 'Student representatives will be encouraged to discuss with the involved members of staff any cases of assessments where they feel the content has deviated from learning objectives, in an effort to reach consensus, with possible participation of the Undergraduate Studies Committee.'
- Regarding the alignment of learning outcomes of courses with respect to the overall program:
 - '... , it will be expected of the new colleague to coordinate closely with the Undergraduate Studies Committee and senior members of their respective sector, in order to determine an acceptable course content, that better serves the programme's learning objectives.'
 - 'It is the belief of the Department that currently there is generally good alignment between learning outcomes for individual courses and those of the overall Programme. The Department has decided to ask all individual staff members to make this connection more explicit in the next version of their course syllabus and every time the syllabus is updated.'

These proposed actions are crucial to ensure a constructive use of the intended learning outcomes, a balanced program and an overall improvement of the BSc program. We therefore stress that these should be used in future quality control.

We as a committee fully support the proposed actions.

Prof. Moniek Tromp
Prof. Jesper Bendix
Prof. Tom Walton