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Status of strategic cooperation with Peking University, Georgia Tech and Singapore Management University within education

Peking University

During the autumn of 2007, the IT University and Peking University signed a memorandum of understanding, which outlined a general willingness to explore possibilities of joint education development. It was intended to explore the possibility of involving students in close collaboration on joint project activity.

The first joint projects were carried out during the spring of 2008 involving 8 students at the IT University and 10 students at Peking University working together in 2 large project groups on 2 distinct software development projects. Both groups finalised their tasks successfully and passed the exams with good results.

During this spring (2009), another batch of projects are running involving 6 students at the IT University and 15 students at Peking University working together in 3 project groups on 3 distinct software development projects. All 3 groups are currently proceeding according to the plan, and the first student and teacher feedback is positive.

In both 2008 and 2009 the projects with Peking University were offered to the students as elective modules, which were not connected to any of the existing backbone or specialisation structures at the IT University.

Work is currently being done to incorporate the student collaboration projects into the revision of the backbone structure of the M.Sc. programme in software development and technology (SDT). Furthermore, one of the planned modules at SDT is designed to be used as part of a specialisation module on globalisation at the MSc. programme in Digital Design and Communication (DDK).

Apart from the cooperation within education, a joint research initiative with Peking University has been established. This is described in a separate document.

Georgia Tech

In April 2008, the IT University and Georgia Tech signed a letter of intent stating the intent of signing a formal agreement of collaboration and bilateral student exchange. Such a document is currently in the making.

The cooperation is based on sharing specialised education modules and resources among the two partner universities. Each partner university has developed a bachelor programme, which can benefit from access to specialised modules/resources from the other institution. Exchange will happen both as student exchange, teacher exchange, as well as online exchange of modules/resources, online collaboration etc.

At Georgia Tech, the study programme is already running. At the IT University, the first intake of students has just started, and the first batch of students will start in September 2009. The goal is to accept 80 student of which it is expected to exchange up to 20 students on their 3rd and/or 4th semester. Already during the autumn of 2009 it is expected to share educational resources on distance using podcasts and other technology.

Singapore Management University

A memorandum of understanding was signed in the spring of 2008. During the autumn of 2008 a limited scope collaboration took place between two teachers at the IT University and Singapore Management University (involving a group of students from Singapore) aiming to explore further possibilities of cooperation.

From this spring (2009) a formal collaboration between two parallel courses at the two universities were established. Currently, approximately 30 students at the bachelor in software development (BSWU) study programme at the IT University are working in groups with 11 students in Singapore. The project period is part of the BSWU backbone structure and it is mandatory.

The project is regarded as a pilot, and the continuation of the collaboration will depend on the evaluation from both sides at the end of the semester. Currently, the students are collaborating according to plan, and the first student and teacher feedback has been positive.