Bilag 13

Memorandum of understanding

Between

School of Software and Microelectronics, Peking University
And
The IT University of Copenhagen

Concerning

Globally Interactive IT Development

Background

Globalisation is a key driver of change in both China and Denmark. Increasingly, production of goods and services happens in globally interactive processes, where people who are far apart work closely together.

IT plays a central role in globally interactive processes. IT makes it possible to communicate quickly across the globe and IT is essential for managing complex, distributed processes.

IT plays a central role in all of globalisation. It is ever more important to be able to develop IT that is tailored to a particular form of globalisation, for example a particular new business process. Increasingly, IT development itself is taking place in globally interactive processes. A piece of software or new service may be designed and developed by a team of people who are physically spread across, say, Denmark, India and China. Teams will be constructed pulling together competences from across the world in order to improve quality and reduce costs.

Therefore, the ability to develop IT in globally interactive processes is going to become more and more important. Indeed, we predict that countries that master the ability to develop IT in globally interactive processes will be in a particularly good position to benefit from globalisation, not just in the IT sector, but in all sectors.

Clearly, School of Software and Microelectronics, Peking University (PKU SSM) and the IT University of Copenhagen (ITU) have an interest in providing their students with the competences they will need in order to develop IT in globally interactive processes. Today, IT development requires a broad range of competences ranging from the technical insight over organizational to design, teamwork and communication. Working in global teams requires additional competences such as inter-cultural understanding, languages and computer-supported cooperation.

Purpose of the collaboration

With this collaboration, PKU SSM and ITU want to offer to their students the opportunity of gaining practical experience with IT development in globally interactive teams. Students from PKU SSM and students from ITU will team up and develop IT together via the Internet and relevant e-learning tools, supervised by staff from both PKU SSM and ITU. Each partner brings their key competences to the collaboration giving the students additional possibilities for learning by participating in the collaboration.

We emphasize that the PKU SSM – ITU collaboration is different from and more challenging than traditional student exchange programmes. With student exchange, students from one university spend time at another university, participating in the teaching at that university. The PKU SSM – ITU collaboration, however, requires students and staff from two different universities to work closely together and produce results together, thus increasing their abilities to work in globally interactive processes.

Resources

The PKU SSM – ITU collaboration is financed separately. Neither part pays anything to the other. Both parties allocate personnel resources to the management and operation of the collaboration, as follows:

	PKU SSM	ITU
Overall responsibility for collaboration	Frank Tung, Ph.D, Chair, Dept. of Service Science and Engineering	Mads Tofte, Ph.D Vice Chancellor
Organisation of student projects	Yu Lian and Li Weiping	Marie Gottlieb
Teaching and supervision	Relevant research- and teaching staff	Relevant research- and teaching staff

Each student project has at least two supervisors, one at PKU SSM and one at ITU. Each project is documented by a project report, in English, co-authored by the PKU SSM and the ITU students of the group. PKU SSM students are examined in Beijing according to the rules that apply at PKU SSM. ITU students are examined in Copenhagen according to the rules that apply at ITU.

Time schedule

The first student projects are to be defined before Jan 1st, 2008.

Signatures

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Mads Tofte, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor
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