

Meeting date: 18.02.2026

Meeting place: 1520-615 (Glasrummet)

Subject: Education Committee

Participants: Hans Fynbo, Aurelien Dantan, Sergio Ioppolo, Sarah Benthin Smith, Asger Petersen, Marie Vinther Kristensen, Simon Mosgaard Jørgensen, Victor Kvist Loft Pedersen, Asta Blaabjerg Thøgersen (ref)

Agenda

- 1) Approval of the minutes from the previous meeting
- 2) Update on ongoing work
- 3) Course revision – review of course changes and new courses
- 4) Any other business

Ad 1 Approval of the minutes from the previous meeting

The minutes are approved by the Education Committee.

Ad 2 Update on ongoing work

The committee discussed that a few courses experience a very high workload, particularly in relation to the examination. The student representatives noted that both the overall volume of the syllabus and the current exam format can be challenging, and they asked for a follow-up on this.

The committee agreed that the responsible teacher(s) should reconsider both the total scope of the syllabus and whether the exam format remains appropriate. The committee appointed one of its members to convey this message to the responsible course staff and to follow up on the matter in connection with the upcoming course evaluation.

Ad 3 Course revision – review of course changes and new courses

Bachelor courses:

Course change – Stars and Planets

The committee was informed that the examination in the course *Stars and Planets* has been changed from a written exam to an oral exam. The course team has also adjusted

the learning objectives and updated the course content to ensure a better alignment with the new exam format.

The committee approved the changes.

Examination format - the Bachelor project

The committee discussed the forthcoming changes to the examination format for the Bachelor project. The project will continue to include a written report, but the students will in addition attend an oral examination with their supervisor and the external examiner. The decision has been made to meet the requirements of the guidelines for good academic practice.

The committee agreed that the written report must have a total length of approximately thirty pages. The committee approved the changes.

New course – Advanced Projects in Physics

The committee discussed the new course *Advanced Projects in Physics*, which is planned to be offered in the autumn of 2026. The intention behind the course is to create an alternative to the current student curriculum model by offering a structured project-based course with a clear framework.

The committee discussed how to develop a strong and coherent catalogue of potential projects for the course. Several members noted the importance of ensuring a certain level of uniformity so that the quality of the projects does not vary too widely. The course must include clear requirements, both to guide supervisors and to ensure that students work with projects of an appropriate scope. The committee also emphasised that the pedagogical intentions behind the course must be well thought through, including how the course responsible will help shape and formulate the project descriptions.

The committee noted that the course may lead to a significant workload for supervisors. The members highlighted that the course responsible should not be assigned too many groups, as this may compromise the quality of supervision. New ideas were raised, including the use of trained artificial-intelligence-based tutors to support students, as well as increased use of peer-to-peer feedback. Student representatives underlined that students often struggle to get sufficient support, and that improved or extended tutor systems may help address this.

The committee also noted that the English version of the course description must use English literature rather than Danish literature. In addition, the examination format listed as "oral + oral" needs to be corrected in the course description.

The committee took note of the points raised and asked the course team to incorporate them as part of the continued development of the course. Approval of the course is pending the submission of a revised course description.

Course development – Subatomic Physics and Astrophysics

The committee discussed the early development of the course *Subatomic Physics and Astrophysics*. At this stage, the course team has primarily prepared the formal elements, including the learning objectives and the overall framework. The committee noted that further work is needed before the content is ready for approval.

The course team plans to identify new and appropriate literature for the course. The committee also agreed that the course is a mix of Danish and English, and that the course description should be adjusted accordingly.

The committee took note of the status. Approval of the course will follow once a complete course description has been submitted.

Examination format and alignment – Electrodynamics

The student representatives raised concerns about the examination in *Electrodynamics*, as the exam did not align with what was described in the course catalogue. The course catalogue states that the course uses a portfolio exam, where students present their portfolio as part of the assessment. However, the actual examination consisted of preparation questions followed by additional questions that covered a wide range of topics.

The students also noted that they had uploaded their portfolio to Brightspace as instructed, but during the examination they were asked to close their computers, even though the portfolio format requires students to present their work digitally. This created uncertainty about what the exam expected of them. The overall student experience was that they had prepared for one examination format based on the course catalogue but encountered a different format on the day.

The committee agreed that the course must be revisited before it is offered again in the autumn of 2026. The members emphasised that the examination format needs to be clarified and aligned with the description in the course catalogue, and that the portfolio format must be supported by an examination setting where students can access and present their work.

The committee requested that the course responsible follow up on the issue as soon as possible and ensure a revised and consistent course description and exam format.

Master courses:

Course updates – Astrophysics

The committee noted a set of planned changes to *Astrophysics*. The course team and the committee are aligned on the adjustments, and there were no further questions or comments from the members.

The committee approved the changes.

Minor practical course adjustments

The committee briefly reviewed a number of smaller practical adjustments to several courses. The members had no comments, and the committee took note of the updates.

Industry Collaboration Project – course description and coordination

The committee discussed the course *Industry Collaboration Project*. The course contains a high level of detail regarding the report requirements, which reflects student requests for clearer guidance. The committee agreed that it would be helpful to add information about what students must prepare before the course begins. In particular, the course catalogue does not currently state when the collaboration contract should be in place, and the committee recommended adding this information.

The committee also discussed strengthening coordination across related courses. Members emphasised the importance of aligning *Astrophysics* and *Nuclear Physics* to ensure meaningful progression for students. The discussion highlighted that there may be opportunities to streamline parts of the programme, including combining courses that overlap significantly in content.

The committee took note of the suggestions and encouraged further coordination across the course teams.

Ad 4 Any other business

1. Educational IT project and the use of artificial intelligence in teaching

The committee discussed the recent educational IT project and the broader question of how artificial intelligence can and should be used in teaching and learning activities. The project compared a traditional approach to learning with a more innovative approach, and the committee noted that many of the problems found in traditional textbooks can now be solved with artificial intelligence. This development creates a need to move away from static learning materials and towards more dynamic learning activities.

The committee emphasised that it is important to develop clear ways of working with artificial intelligence in teaching. There are several concrete competences that students must still be able to demonstrate without relying on artificial intelligence, and the committee agreed that this must be reflected in course design and examination formats.

The committee discussed whether numerical skills could be integrated more broadly into the programme. The committee agreed that this would be positive, but that it should not be implemented across all courses. The committee emphasised the need for balance, and several members highlighted that project-based teaching may be a good starting point for developing new ways of working with artificial intelligence.

The committee also discussed the potential risks associated with artificial intelligence. The student representatives noted that it can undermine learning if it is not used thoughtfully, and the committee agreed that the primary question is how artificial intelligence may weaken a programme and how it can be used in a way that strengthens

student learning. The committee agreed that artificial intelligence will become a natural part of future teaching, and that the programme must therefore learn how to work with it in a responsible and constructive way.

The committee agreed to look into making a pilot initiative. The committee also requested that the responsible of this suggestion sends examples from the project to inform the next steps.

Examination formats in the new Bachelor programme

The committee discussed the examination formats in the new Bachelor of Science programme. The committee noted that the programme does not include an oral examination where students draw a question and present it during the exam. The student representatives pointed out that this may create challenges when students reach the Master programme, where this examination format is still used.

The committee also noted that the Bachelor programme currently only includes written examinations and portfolio examinations, and no examinations with preparation time. The committee agreed that it will be important to consider whether the programme should include at least one oral examination with preparation time.

The committee decided that this issue must be considered in the work leading up to round 1 in the spring of 2027.

Climate Physics – expected start date

The committee discussed the expected start date for the course *Climate Physics*. The committee noted that it is still possible (but not guaranteed) that the course may begin in the spring of 2027, and that any updates will be incorporated into the planning for round 1.

Meeting ended 12.00