Foreword to the 3rd newsletter

This is the 3rd issue of the newsletter in the MSc program Cognitive Systems. The period of reference is the last winter semester 2017/18. Again, it is intended to serve as an information board that delivers recent information about the program structure and organization in the MSc program. Also, recent changes and developments as well as updates will be summarized. Again, at the end, the list of the appointed reviewers for Master theses is included.

New Academic Dean for Cognitive Systems

Prof. Heiko Neumann was formally elected and replaces the former academic dean in the Computer science program Prof. Enrico Rukzio in this master course program.

New members in the study commission

Prof. Birte Glimm was formally elected as a new member of the study commission.

New Study and Examination Regulations (FSPO 2017)

The new Study and Examination Regulations became effective by 25/07/2017 (see https://www.uni-ulm.de/fileadmin/website_uni_ulm/zuv/zuv.dezIII.abt2u3/3-oeffentlich/bekanntmachungen/2017/ fspo_cognitive_systems_2017.pdf). During the last winter semester, the records and grades for individual students who began their course program in the old regulation were mapped into the new FSPO. Individual mappings were stamped and signed such that they serve as official documents that augment the original transcript of records (ToR).

All mappings were successfully completed. This has been reported by a concluding summary during the first Committee meeting 25/04/2018.
Course registration

There is a compulsory registration for all courses in the Applied Subject and in the Special Subject. In the mandatory courses for the Basic Subject and the Interdisciplinary Subject a registration is not necessary. The registration is done by e-mail to the lecturer. The registration in the summer term 2018 must be made by 23/04/2018.

MSc theses – reviewer appointment and thesis supervision

The study commission together with the board of examiners has decided upon a strategy to decide who is eligible to supervise an MSc thesis in the Cognitive Systems program. The regulation has been approved in the meeting of the study commission (01/02/2017). The regulation is as follows:

Supervisors of a Masters thesis in the Cognitive Systems study program can be lecturers who are members of the Faculty of Engineering, Computer Science, and Psychology. In order to serve as supervisor, lecturers need to be actively involved in regular teaching by offering courses in the Cognitive Systems course program.

The list with the names of appointed lecturers is compiled and is valid until retraction. This list will be reassessed each semester.

According to §16c, paragraph 5 of the study regulations, an external researcher (Dr., PhD or Professor) may serve as supervisor of a Masters thesis which topic coheres with the scope of the Cognitive Systems program. In this case, a formal application needs to be sent in to the examinations board in order to get an official invitation. Such an application should include information about the candidate supervisor and the topic of the prospective thesis. The co-supervisor of such externally conducted thesis must be a lecturer from the list mentioned above.

The current list (as of April 2018) is enclosed to this document as a separate file.

Related to the regulations above is the case that a student likes conduct a thesis in an external institution but finds a supervisor as 1st reader who is lecturer in the Cognitive Systems program and therefore in the abovementioned list. The topic of the prospective thesis should cohere with the scope of the Cognitive Systems program. The academic supervisor should check whether such criteria apply before the thesis topic is finally accepted.