Foreword to the 1st newsletter

With this newsletter we launch an information board that delivers recent information about the structure and organization concerning, e.g., program structure and organization, some regulations and also problems to be aware of. It is intended to deliver at least one issue of the newsletter per semester, preferentially at the end. This will allow us to sum up the developments during the most recent teaching period and also look forward to the next semester and some details the teaching staff and organizers need to consider. Sometimes, there will be additional issues coming up which deserve instant communication. We will then distribute other issues interspersed between the regular ones.

We hope that this information allows to keep everybody updated, especially those who are associated to the Cognitive Systems program. The letter is also made available via the official website such that the students also have access to the updated information.

Organization of Projects worth 16 ECTS

In the module organization of different Applied as well as Interdisciplinary Subjects several projects are offered which account for 16 ECTS after successful completion. Such offers could be organized along different structures:

- Model 2×8 ECTS (= 16 ECTS): Here, two different modules are defined (with individual module handbook descriptions). The successful completion of the first separate module can then be defined as formal requirement for entering the second separate module. In this case, the two modules must be offered in two consecutive semesters. Pro argument is that students acquire already 8 credits after successful completion of the first part. Con argument is that there exists no mechanism to prevent that a student does not continue to conduct the second module. In case, that students could jump on only conducting the second module alone, then the formal requirement must be omitted.

- Model 16 ECTS: Here, the module must be successfully completed to acquire the full amount of credits. Pro argument is that students fully comply with the project. Con argument is that some students might run short in their accumulated total number of credits per semester. Such a module must be completed within one year. This allows to

  - organize the module and run it over two consecutive semesters, or

- organize the module and run it within one semester (doubling the effort to be spent; which must be expressed in the entry to the module handbook describing the work effort to be devoted to the successful completion of the module as described).

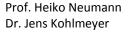## Reviewer appointment in Cognitive Systems for MSc theses

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 last meeting of the study commission (Feb. 1, 2017). The regulation is as follows:
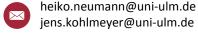
Supervisors of a Masters thesis in the Cognitive Systems study program can be lecturers who are members of the Faculty of Engineering, Computer Science, and Psychology. In order to serve as supervisor, lecturers need to be actively involved in regular teaching by offering courses in the Cognitive Systems 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 March 2017) is enclosed to this document as a separate file.

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