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DeCAIR Steering Committee

Meeting 6

July 16, 2021 (10:00 – 11:30)

Zoom Meeting

Developing Curricula for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (DeCAIR)
618535-EPP-1-2020-1-JO-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Attendance

- Gheith Abandah
 - Wafa Batayneh
 - Murad Alaqtash
 - Clovis Francis
 - ~~Soubhi Abou-Chahine~~
 - Lucia Pallottino
 - Stefano Rovetta for ~~Francesco Masulli~~
 - ~~Jorge Casillas~~
 - Peter Eberhard
 - Dimos Papakonstantinou
- Also: Sofia, Mario, Iyad, Musa, Ramzi, Mohammad, Ahmad, Issam

Agenda

- Adopting DeCAIR Syllabus Template – Presented by **Gheith**
- Status review and planning for the following work packages:
 1. WP2: Development of new MSc and BSc programs in AIR
 - Presented by **Stefano**
 2. WP5: Improving curricula of current MSc programs in JO and LB
 - Presented by **Peter** and **Mario**
 3. WP6: Improving curricula of current BSc programs in JO and LB
 - Presented by **Jorge**
 4. WP7: Building capacity in AIR in universities of Partner Countries
 - Presented by **Lucia**
 5. WP8: Establishing and developing AIR labs
 - Presented by **Sobhi** and **Gheith**
 6. WP10: Quality Assurance (Subcontracting the External Expert)
 - Presented by **Sofia**
- Scheduling the next SC meeting

Minutes of the Meeting

Adopting DeCAIR Syllabus Template

- Gheith presented the proposed syllabus template that was previously circulated through email.
- After discussion and some suggested modifications, the committee decided to adopt the two attached versions of this template:
 1. The general syllabus template
 2. The template for LU courses

1. WP2: Development of new MSc and BSc programs in AIR

- Stefano reviewed the progress on WP2; the progress that was done by UJ and TTU was also reviewed. TTU has a problem uploading material to the DeCAIR repository and **lyad** will help rectify this problem.
- The next step is **TTU** and **UJ upload suggested syllabi** for all related new programs' courses.
- Stefano also presented classification of courses to AI and Robotics, suggestions to merge some similar courses, and designation of out-of-scope courses.

2. WP5: Improving curricula of current MSc programs in JO and LB

- Mario presented listing per university of courses that will be added or upgraded.
- He confirmed that some feedback was received on the document that was previously circulated.
- **Mario** will soon send to **UJ**, **JUST**, **LU**, and **BAU** messages asking them to **prepare draft syllabus** for each course to develop.
- **Gheith** and **Murad** are tasked to **check similar courses** in WP2, WP5, and WP6 to suggest merging them and avoid repeated work.

3. WP6: Improving curricula of current BSc programs in JO and LB

- Jorge was not able to join this meeting.
- The review of progress and planing of this work package will be done off-line.

4. WP7: Building capacity in AIR in universities of Partner Countries

- Lucia presented some details about the planned Python course. This is a basic course that many later AI courses will build on it.
- This course will be between 26/7/2021 and 4/8/2021 (14:00-17:00 CET) and is a 40-hour course. It consists of 15 hours of contact and 25 hours of self work.

5. WP8: Establishing and developing AIR labs

- Gheith briefed about the progress in purchasing the equipment.
- The lists of needed equipment were resent to the Agency for approval. The Agency suggested further modifications and asked for further clarification. Reply was sent and we are waiting for the approval.
- UJ, in parallel, has started the tender offering process to buy the needed equipment for UJ, JUST, and TTU.
- Also, LU and BAU have started the processes to draw tenders for their respective needed equipment.

6. WP10: Quality Assurance

- Sofia informed the committee that three applications were received for the subcontracted role of external auditor.
 1. Mr. Vasileios Krestos
 2. Mr. Panagiotis Lympereas
 3. Dr. Nikitas Nikitakos
- As per the attached evaluation document, Mr. Vasileios Krestos does not satisfy the required criteria.
- On the selection criteria, Mr. Panagiotis Lympereas scores 20% and Dr. Nikitas Nikitakos scores 100%.
- It was decided to invite Dr. Nikitas Nikitakos to present himself in the next SC meeting.

Next Meeting

- No meeting in August due to Summer vacations.
- The next meeting is on Friday 17/9/2021 (10:00 am – 11:30 am, Amman time)
 - (9:00 am – 10:30 am, CEST – Central European Summer Time)
- The committee will study holding a next meeting face-to-face.

Thank you