



Politecnico
di Torino

CLUSTER Student Organisation I 2022

22 SEPTEMBER 2022 10:00 - 12:00

Virtual | KU Leuven, Belgium

Minutes of the meeting / Fien Bostijn & Simon Beelen & Klaas Willems

Accompanying documents: [Slides](#)

Present: Cédric Ponsard (UCL), Olaf Duenkel (KIT), Alex PI (UCL), Andreas Wohnig (KIT), Simon Beelen (KUL), Fien Bostijn (KUL), Giulana Paradiso (Polito), Carlos Rosero (Polito)

Meeting materials

Appendix 1: Cluster Student Organization Bylaws

10:00-10:15 Get to know

Everybody introduces themselves

Simon: My name is Simon Beelen. I'm from VTK, the local engineering organization.

Fien: I'm a BESTie. I'm the president of BEST Leuven and the secretary of CSO. I don't have student representative experience. I do not have any previous CLUSTER experience.

Andreas: I'm studying computer science. I don't have any student representative experience as a member of BEST. I wanted to contribute to this project.

Cédric: I'm doing a masters in mechatronics. I've been in BEST for more than 2 years now. I was vivaldi coordinator.

Olaf: I'm studying electrical engineering. EPFL left CLUSTER but none the less I'm still here. Has some student representative experience

Alex: As Cédric I'm from the Louvain school of Engineering. I've been in BEST and I have no student representative experience.

10:15 Approval of agenda

Simon: *Goes over agenda*

10:15 - 10:25 CLUSTER general information

[What is CLUSTER](#)

Simon: It's an abbreviation! It's an operational network of 12 members and associate members. Projects involving research, engineering, ...

Simon: *opens cluster site\$

Simon: KU Leuven will be the new CLUSTER president for the coming two years.

Simon: CLUSTER Student organization (CSO) has a page on the website. Dual degree and doctoral programmes are on the site. Working groups and current projects are also on the site. Currently the steering committee is taking place. These events can be seen on the agenda.

Simon: Vision and mission of the KUL are also on the site.

Simon: Giulana and Carlos enter the meeting.

Giulana: I'm from Torino.

Carlos: My name is Carlos. I did two semesters and Torino and I'm representing KIT together with Giulana and Olaf.

Fien and Simon introduce themselves.

Fien explains the BEST network.

Klaas introduces himself.

Simon: We quickly went over the website of CLUSTER. CLUSTER has a bunch of working groups which we will discuss after. CLUSTER also has GAs or General Assemblies.

Fien: A SC (steering committee) is where a direction of CLUSTER is discussed and approved. A GA (general assembly) is where work of the WGs is approved.

Simon: There are 7 working groups in CLUSTER. More information on slides. EUI is a working group that tries to find a role of CLUSTER besides all the European alliances that exist in Europe.

Fien: CLUSTER is an operational partnership unlike the more political alliances that exist. In the mobility working group work out possibilities around hybrid learning. This essentially means that courses from one university would be opened to students from other CLUSTER universities.

Fien: The goal of associated partners WG is to partner with universities outside of Europe.

Simon: At the KUL it is a priority that students take a big part in decision making.

Fien: As you know in the introduction, CSO has died out. What we're trying to do is revive CSO. It's up to us to revive CSO and create a vision. The idea is to look for WGs in which we can play a role.

10:25 - 10:30 CLUSTER Working Groups

Projects of CLUSTER

Simon: KUL already asked us to be part of the sustainability working group.

Simon: Strategy WGs are operational WGs in which they don't need student representation.

Fien: We've talked about this internally. We think student representation in mobility and sustainability WGs would be interesting.

Olaf: Can explain what the Africa WG does?

Simon: It could be interesting for a student to be part of that WG.

Olaf: I would be interested in that part.

Fien: There is a SC going on in Torino at the moment. The WGs are now starting up. In the SC the WGs will propose their missions at the SC. At the steering committee the president of CLUSTER will also propose to let students into the WGs. Hopefully in the next few weeks we can send you information about when the WGs meeting will take place.

Simon: The new WGs are not yet on the website.

Fien: I think mobility would also be a cool WG.

Cédric: CLUSTER in africa. In our universities they already sent a couple of students to Africa to help out with projects.

10:30 - 10:45 CLUSTER Student Organization

What is the CLUSTER Student Organization

Simon: *Shows the slides above*.

Simon: CSO is an advisory body but we can start up new projects as well. Because we are starting up the organization again, the KUL has asked us (Simon, Fien) to take on positions in the board. Simon will be president and Fien will be secretary.

Giulana leaves the meeting

The Host is someone from the university at which the next GA will take place (Montreal).

Fien: In following meetings the Student Assembly will be the decision making body of CSO. Now we're just starting up.

10:45 - 11:10 Future of CLUSTER

How do we see CLUSTER in the future

Simon: We will now have a quick brainstorm in a [Jam Board](#) on the future of CLUSTER.

Fien: The goal of BEST is to bring European students together. It stands for Board of European Students of Technology. We organize events to develop students. One of our main events is the BEST Course. In the BEST Course, students from all over Europe come together to learn about a technical subject. Additionally there are companies and social activities. One of the things we also do is educational involvement. We have

people that send out surveys and gather information on education and present those results at European conferences.

Giulana joins the meeting

Preferences of WG of the members in the meeting

- Carlos: Entrepreneurship, CLUSTER in Africa
- Olaf: Africa
- Fien: Sustainable Development
- Simon: Entrepreneurship
- Klaas: Mobility
- Giulana: Mobility
- Andreas: TBD
- Alex: Mobility, Sustainable Development
- Cédric: Mobility and sustainable development

11:10 - 11:30 Future of CSO

Where can CSO give input on CLUSTER?

Carlos & Olaf: For this organization to succeed our input must be valued and we must feel like we can contribute to the organization. We must feel that we can make a difference.

Fien: We need some kind of assurance from the WGs that our opinion will be taken into account.

Fien: Jozef vander Sloten is the General Secretary of CLUSTER, we will talk to him to ensure that the opinions of the students are guaranteed to be taken into consideration.

11:30 - 11:45 Continuity

Decide how the continuity of CSO will be ensured

Discussed in the previous section. LBGs are encouraged to discuss CLUSTER in their LBG. Student representation in CLUSTER may be the responsibility of the president, a board member or some coordinator. This way the knowledge about CLUSTER and CSO is ensured.

11:45 - 11:50 Invitation

Simon: We want to organize a CLUSTER weekend here in Leuven. We will plan a weekend of activities so that we can meet each other in person. This will be on the 3rd and 4th of December. More information will follow.

Fien: We will take the comments from you guys to Jozef vander Sloten. We also got a budget from our university to organize this weekend.

Olaf: What do you think a good amount of people will be involved in a WG? How detailed will the WG meetings be? Will it be full of details or big high level stuff?

Fien: We don't know a lot about these WG meetings. We will take this feedback to Jozef vander Sloten.

Carlos: Thanks for organizing this and thinking about the physical meeting. In-person meetings come a long way to form connections.

Fien: Thanks for joining this meeting and hanging on.

Klaas: Hopefully by the physical meeting there will be more students involved also from the other CLUSTER universities..

Fien: To conclude we will see you in December. We will take this feedback to Jozef vander Sloten and that we want assurance that our opinion will be taken into consideration.