

Annual report Board of Studies MSc TIL 1/9/2016-31/8/2017 Faculty CEG, 3mE, TPM, Delft University of Technology

This annual report of the Board of Studies MSc Transport, Infrastructure and Logistics (TIL) provides an overview of its actions during the academic year 2016-2017. This review serves to inform people and bodies within the TU Delft concerned with the TIL program about the status of recent and ongoing items within the BoS TIL. Also this document gives new BoS TIL members insight into recent and ongoing items, and supports the progress of actions in the coming year.

BoS TIL is an active committee who in a constructive-critical manner works to ensure the highest quality of education in the TIL program. BoS TIL interacts regularly with TIL teachers, students, Board of Examiners, Education & Student Affairs, and the TIL Program Coordinator and TIL Director of Studies. The BoS consists of 6 members, of which 3 staff members and 3 student members. In 2016-2017 the board consisted of:

Dr. A.J. Pel	staff member (CEG)	chair since January 2017
Dr. R.R. Negenborn	staff member (3mE)	chair till January 2017
Dr. M. Kroesen	staff member (TBM)	since September 2015
Dr. X. Jiang	staff member (3mE)	since January 2017
F. Aanhane, BSc	student member	since January 2017
Mw. S. Aelfers, BSc	student member	since September 2016
S.D. de Jong, BSc	student member	till September 2016
Mw. A. Silven, BSc	student member	since November 2016
Mw. K. Silvijs, BSc	student member	till September 2016.

supported by mw. M. Roodenburg (Secretary to the Board) and mw. M. Holtzapffel (administration).

BoS TIL has performed its lawful roles and responsibilities:

- Provide advice on the establishment of the Teaching and Education Regulations (TER)
- Assess the implementation of the TER
- Provide advice – solicited and unsolicited – to the Dean, the Director of Education and the Director of Studies concerning the program and all associated teaching-related affairs

Important Items 2016-2017

Prominent items relate to education quality and the TIL program.

1. Education quality

- 1.1 TIL lecturers meeting: Working with intercultural student groups
- 1.2 Advice on ensuring group size of project groups
- 1.3 Advice on study load interdisciplinary Design project
- 1.4 Advice on study abroad or exchange program for TIL
- 1.5 Advice on group-individual evaluation after group work

2. TIL program

- 2.1 Advice on TIL TER/IR 2017-2018
- 2.2 TIL Teacher Meeting: Specialisations

Elaboration on items

1. Education quality

- 1.1 TIL lecturers meeting: Working with intercultural student groups

In the TIL program teachers work with increasingly diverse groups in terms of culture and nationality. It can be very inspiring to have different perspectives in one group and learning in a group can be very effective. However, it's for teachers as well as students not always easy to cooperate and let the group process go smooth. The BoS TIL organised a workshop in October 2016 together with OC Focus inviting all TIL teachers to learn how to help student groups to make a kick-start and become a team, and to provide insight into what causes challenges in intercultural teams and what a teacher can do to prevent them.

1.2 Advice on ensuring group size of project groups

Several courses part of the TIL Fundamentals or Specialisations include working in project groups of 2 or more students. BoS TIL noticed based on EvaSys and Dispuut Verkeer course evaluations that this in some occasions leads to problems. After systematic analyses of the issue, including solicited feedback from involved teachers and students, BoS TIL formulated 4 specific points of advice.

1.3 Advice on study load interdisciplinary Design project

The interdisciplinary Design project is a 7 erts project conducted by 4-5 students usually undertaken at an external company. In the majority of cases it turns out that students spend much more time to complete this course than the nominal 196 hours (= 7 erts). BoS TIL advised on 2 ways to restore the balance in study load and credits.

1.4 Advice on study abroad or exchange program for TIL

Students can decide to follow part of their MSc program abroad. In case such an exchange program would be supported or recommended, then this should be feasible without necessarily leading to study delay. BoS TIL listed the benefits and concerns for study abroad within the context of the TIL program, and concluded that avoiding study delay may not be feasible given the TIL program and its schedule. BoS TIL advised how students should be made aware of this risk of study delay.

1.5 Advice on group-individual evaluation after group work

The TIL program contains many courses that involve group work, where group sizes range between 2 and 8 students. Final reports not always clearly show the contribution of each individual student. For a teacher it is difficult to assess individual contributions, whilst for students it is difficult to address under-performance by fellow students. BoS TIL formulated advice on how this can be dealt with regarding evaluation tools (such as Scorion), how and at what moment evaluation can be used, and how the evaluation results can be discussed between teacher, student, and student group.

2. TIL program

2.1 Advice on TIL TER/IR 2017-2018

BoS TIL has reviewed the draft TER & IR 2017-2018 and formulated advice regarding items related to the articles on Fundamentals, Specialisations, Thesis, and Annotations and Honours Program.

2.2 TIL Teacher Meeting: Specialisations

BoS TIL in collaboration with the TIL Director of Studies and TIL Program Coordinator organised a TIL Teacher Meeting for each of the TIL specialisations: Policy, Design, Operations, and Engineering. During each meeting, the representatives of the courses of a specific specialisation worked on making explicit: 1) the dominant TIL tools & techniques taught in each course; 2) the relations between the courses within the specialisation; 3) the specific professions for which the TIL tools taught in the specialisation as a whole are valuable for.

Actions for 2017-2018

In 2017-2018 BoS TIL will focus on:

- Communication towards students on program-related items, including Specialisations (i.e. support of specialisation choice).

- Quality of assessment within the TIL program and across the Specialisations.
- Study-ability of the TIL program, as a whole and within each quarter.
- Increasing student feedback on EvaSys course evaluations to ensure its validity.