

External Advisory Board (EAB)

27th November 2024, 8:00 – 10:00 AM Paris time,
Mode: Virtual (via Zoom)

Inaugural Meeting Summary

Attendees

- **EAB members:**
 - Arnan Mitchell, RMIT (Australia)
 - Joseph Leibenguth, Valmido (France)
 - David Bruneel, LASEA (Belgium)
 - Benjamin Gallinet, CSEM (Switzerland)
 - Tuomo Kauranne, Arbonaut (Finland)
 - Jyrki Saarinen, UEF (Finland)
- **AMB Members:**
 - Nathalie Destouches (UJM), Amine Naït-Ali (UPEC), Matthieu Roussey (UEF), Aurore Simonnet (UJM)
- **Staff:**
 - Rajon Bhuiyan

Meeting Updates

1. **Welcome and Introductions:**
 - a. Rajon Bhuiyan, iPSRS Project Coordinator, welcomed all attendees and outlined the agenda for the meeting.
 - b. Each member introduced themselves, sharing their professional background and expertise.
2. **Program Overview:**
 - a. Prof. Nathalie Destouches provided a detailed overview of the EMJM iPSRS program, highlighting:
 - i. The structure of the iPSRS Master's program.
 - ii. Objectives and outcomes (until Nov 2024).
 - iii. Mobility pathways for students across the 4 Full Partner Universities.
 - iv. Scholarship opportunities and support (from the EU).

Key Discussion Points

1. Collaborations with EAB members:

- a. EAB members expressed their willingness to contribute through guest lectures and participation as speakers in upcoming workshops.
- b. Prof. Arnan Mitchell mentioned the possibility of delivering in-person lectures during his bi-annual visits to Europe (from Australia). The iPSRS team plans to coordinate a lecture or workshop during these visits.

2. Workshop on Intellectual Property (IP) and Patents:

- a. The EAB unanimously recommended organizing a workshop focused on IP and patents, emphasizing the importance of these topics for students' professional development. Joseph Leibenguth proposed to make the link with IP professionals who could participate in the workshop.

3. Industry Funding for Sustainability:

- a. The Project Coordinator presented the critical need for additional funding to support program sustainability, particularly through industrial grants and scholarships.
- b. The EAB emphasized that industries need clear information on the benefits of supporting the iPSRS program, including potential returns on their investment (ROI).
- c. One suggestion was to offer industries the opportunity to fund a student in exchange for an internship placement in their company during the 4th semester, with input on student selection in collaboration with the iPSRS selection board.

4. Curriculum Contributions:

- a. EAB members expressed their willingness to provide feedback and contribute to curriculum updates as needed to ensure alignment with industry trends and requirements.

Action Items and Next Steps

- 1. Industrial Engagement:**
 - a. Jyrki Saarinen suggested emailing existing iPSRS industrial partners to request updates on upcoming summer internships and master thesis opportunities.
- 2. Resource Sharing:**
 - a. The presentation slides from the meeting will be shared with EAB members via email.
- 3. Meeting Summary Documentation:**
 - a. This summary report will be shared with EAB members and uploaded to the iPSRS website for reference. [\[Link\]](#)
- 4. Planning for Next Meeting:**
 - a. The next EAB meeting is planned to take place in six months. Coordination for the exact date and agenda will commence closer to the proposed timeframe. It will be organised by the Project Coordinator.