

File 20100226.0011: Weekly activity report 0125:

weekly activity report 125 (loughry)

Joe Loughry

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Attachments:

Weekly activity report no. 20100225.1547 (GMT-7) sequence no. 0125, week 6 HT

I am working on the abstract of a new paper with the working title 'Unsteady ground: certification to unstable criteria' for the VALID 2010 conference in Nice, France in August. The deadline for submissions is 20th March. Last week when Dr Martin and I examined the list of suggested topics in the call for papers, it was not clear whether my topic fits in the conference. Dr Martin suggested I send an abstract to the conference chair to ask beforehand. I should have the abstract finished tonight or by tomorrow morning. It incorporates some ideas suggested by the audience during the seminar talk I gave in Oxford.

No supervisor meeting this week because of travel. I will set up a meeting with Dr Martin to look over the outline of the VALID 2010 paper (or possibly the first draft by then) mid-next week. Reading Group was also postponed yesterday because other people were unavailable.

On Monday I attempted to see Julie Sheppard about retroactively suspending last Michaelmas term, but she wasn't in the office. I needed to leave for the airport so I wrote a detailed email letter, stating right up front what I wanted to do, followed by more paragraphs of reasons, justification for the variance, and an offer to provide documentation if desired. For DGS to make a decision to approve the plan, I can show her my weekly progress reports, GSS reports, and also weekly status reports from Lockheed showing the problem in Michaelmas term from their perspective. I phrased the request, as advised, in terms of risk reduction. I might not need the extra time this summer, but if I did, I would have it available. I pointed out that it ought not to change my expected completion date, just removes the immediate danger of missing the deadline for Confirmation of Status. I am not slowing down progress. I just want to have enough results to show during the confirmation viva. Nothing heard in response yet. I reviewed the Comlab research student's handbook and the MPLS graduate handbook. I have the GSO.17 form if DGS indicates a willingness to do it.

Tasking priority now shifts to the VALID 2010 paper submission first, followed by completion of writing my methodology chapter before 31st March, followed by submission of the Crosstalk journal paper immediately afterwards. My intent is to have two papers accepted for publication, the methodology chapter finished, the Introduction chapter re-written, and the rest of the dissertation outline finalised in time for the original Confirmation of Status deadline in Trinity term, should that be necessary. Since I do not have an answer yet on retroactively suspending progress for last Michaelmas term, I need to plan (for the time being) as if I won't get it. Even if I do get a relaxation of the absolute deadline, I am going to try to stick to that schedule.

GSS reports are due in one week. The procedure for renewing my student visa needs to wait until June, except for ATAS certification which I can apply for now.

Current list of tasks in order of priority, highest priority first:

0. Waiting to hear from DGS on retroactive suspension. 1. Write abstract and send to VALID 2010 editor. 2. Methodology chapter and VALID 2010 paper first draft. 3. Crosstalk journal paper (based on last week's seminar). 4. Dissertation outline. 5. Start writing progress report for Confirmation of Status. 6. CT&E practitioner survey (write questions as in methodology) 7. Update schedule for Dr Martin 8. Apply for confirmation of status during Trinity Term if necessary (application is due in week 8)

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End of WAR 0125.

References