

## ESTONIAN IT COLLEGE – EFFECTIVENESS OF MERGING WITH TALLINN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

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### TALLINN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

To lead Estonia and the world into a sustainable digital future

- Founded in 1918, TalTech is the sole technological university in Estonia. It is also the most international university in Estonia. Of the nearly 10,000 enrolled students, approximately 16% come from 100 different countries across the globe.
- TalTech is a research-based university offering Bachelor's, Master's and Doctorate degrees in technology, applied science, IT, business and maritime studies.
- As a leader in science, technology, and innovation, the school maintains constant interaction with universities around the world, bringing together scientists, students, and entrepreneurs.





📥 Virumaa College

## History of Estonian IT college

#### Established in 2000 as a private non-profit IT institution of applied higher education

- Founders:
  - Estonian Ministry of Education and Research,
  - Tallinn University of Technology and Tartu University, and
  - private sector, represented by Estonian Telecom and Estonian Association of Information Technology and Telecommunication.
- Mission (then): The College`s mission is to offer the best applied IT education in the region, bringing together high-tech know-how and the practical needs of the information society, while being the axis of its development.
- Merged with TalTech School of IT in August 1st 2017
  - # of students during merge 1040
  - 4 applied higher education study programs



## What was lost. What was found

- "Own" students
- IT College student body
- "Own" applied HE study programs
- Robotics Club
- Own quality procedures and practices
- Study Office
- Networks
- Etc.

- More students
- Student body of School of IT
- Bachelor study programs of Shool of IT
- Other clubs
- University procedures
- University support structure
- New networks
- Etc.



## **Timeline of merge**



# **Teaching and learning in IT College**

#### Bachelor programs in School of IT and in IT College

- Informatics
- Hardware Development and Programming
- Business Information Technology
- IT System Development
- IT Systems Administration
- Cyber Security Engineering (in English)

More than 50% of bachelor students in School of IT are studying on IT College related study programs

#### Master programs in School of IT and in IT College

- Analysis and Design of Information Systems
- Digital Transformation in Business (one-year Master study program)
- 9 other Master programs of the School of IT 4 in English: <u>https://taltech.ee/en/programmes</u>

About 25% of master students in School of IT are studying on IT College related study programs



## Research

- Creative Matters IT Didactics research group
  - <u>https://cm.taltech.ee</u>
- Founded in April 2022
- Team:
  - Postdoctoral researcher Janika Leoste
  - Associate professors + visiting professor from Tallinn University
  - 4 PhD students

#### Projects

- University funds: PYNT (Present-Yet-Not-There) telepresence robots
- EuroTeQ course: Enhancing Social Interaction in Education and Business by using Telepresence Robots
- ReSTELA remote robotics lab
- TWINNING (new proposal)



## **IT didactics research focus**

#### Telepresense robots

- User (student, lecturer) experience studies
- Interaction studies
- Various technical enhancements for better user experience
- Expanding usage out of university (hospitals, care homes, etc)
- Training courses for teachers
- Popularization (STEAM)
- Just fun: robot theatre
- Research papers





## **High Performance Computing Centre**

- https://taltech.ee/en/itcollege/hpc-centre
- Compute clusters (80 compute nodes + high-end GPUs)
- 1600 TB data sorage space
- Cloud Infastructure providing Viertual Machines
- Staff: 10 persons (programmers, system administrators, DevOps engineers, researchers etc)
- Cooperation with University Tartu HPC etc.
- Cooperation with pre-exascale supercomputer LUMI, Finland (LUMI concortium)
- Internship options



## Mission of IT College today

IT College main responsibility areas are:

- Bachelor and Master study programs and courses with applied orientation (intensive use of specialists outside of University)
- Cisco Networking Academy

#### IT didactics related R&D

• IT didactics research centre "Creativity Matters" (launched in January 2022, <u>https://cm.taltech.ee</u>)

• IT didactics related teaching staff training and networking

 School of IT study programs marketing and networking targeted to secondary schools and vocational study centers with IT specialization



## IT College birthday event on 17.05.2018

IT College campus college





## TALTECH'S ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR 2023 KRISTEL KRUUSTÜK, FOUNDER OF TESTLIO

- Graduate of Estonian IT College 2011
- Founder of Testlio (SW testing)
- TOP100 women entrepreneurs of the year 2022 of the US business magazine Inc
- Financer.ee TOP10 most influential and entrepreneurial Estonian women in 2021
- Youngest femal millionaire in Estonia



etc

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#### **THANKS!**