

Certus succeeded in the midway evaluation of SFI-II centre



<http://alturl.com/fvd7n>

Specific comments concerning Certus - I

“In an increasingly software-dependent world research on testing, a software quality assurance method, is **highly relevant and societally important.**”

“The Centre possesses **excellent expertise** and **international recognition** in applying these methodologies.”

“...publications in the **top Software Engineering journals** (such as IEEE TSE or ACM TOSEM),...”

“CERTUS have also a **very strong involvement in top level conferences,**...”

Specific comments concerning Certus - II

“However, it was felt that there **should be a higher emphasis on educating PhD** students rather than employing permanent research staff since the transient nature of their position supports an influx of new potential into the Centre and an outflow of knowledge to industry...”

Specific comments concerning Certus - III

“The centre has engaged and involved UPs. We especially noticed the **good connections and relationships** between the PhD/post-docs and UPs. We also **applaud the centre for its five innovations and their connection to industry.**”

Although the financial rules of SFI permit SFI-centres **without a cash contribution** from partners, the panel were **disappointed** that CERTUS has not secured such contributions.

Conclusions regarding Certus

“The evaluation showed that the **Centre Director was doing an excellent job of delivering the Centre.**”

“The **new science** being generated by the Centre is **excellent** (“more than good”) and is being published and disseminated in ways appropriate to the Centre domain.”

“Discussion with the **PhD students and post-docs** confirmed their **quality** and **commitment** to the field. Importantly it showed that they had **good insight** into the problems of and approaches necessary to work at the **industry research interface.**”

Recommendations for Certus

- 1. “Recruit post-docs from outside CERTUS and particularly invest in more PhDs to improve capacity in new research fields important for the future of an internationally competitive CERTUS. It should develop its research capacity in a wider portfolio of verification and validation techniques pertinent to testing including model-based research. This may require a reconsideration of the business model including securing additional funding from industry partners.”**
- 2. “Connect CERTUS to strategic universities in Norway by including them as partners.”**
- 3. “Start strategic collaborations with key international centres.”**
- 4. “Re-visit the business model for the future of CERTUS and improve its governance by considering a appointing a chair of the CERTUS board and a Scientific Advisory Board that are independent from the host institution.”**