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Developing a MOOC at Chalmers:

Motivation and first experiences from a teacher's perspective

Matty Janssen and
Christian Stöhr

January 15th, KUL 2015, Gothenburg

MOOC

Will computers replace schoolteachers?

By **Gregory Ferenstein**, Special to CNN
June 9, 2011 -- Updated 1751 GMT (0151 HKT)

How California's Online Education Pilot Will End College As We Know It

Posted Jan 15, 2013 by Gregory Ferenstein (@ferenstein)

Free online MIT courses are an education revolution

› 15 July 2013 by Alison George

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Is Coursera the Beginning of the End for Traditional Higher Education?

The year of the MOOC

These 'massive' online courses have been around for a while, but this year, more elite universities want in

MOOC

Will computers replace schoolteachers?

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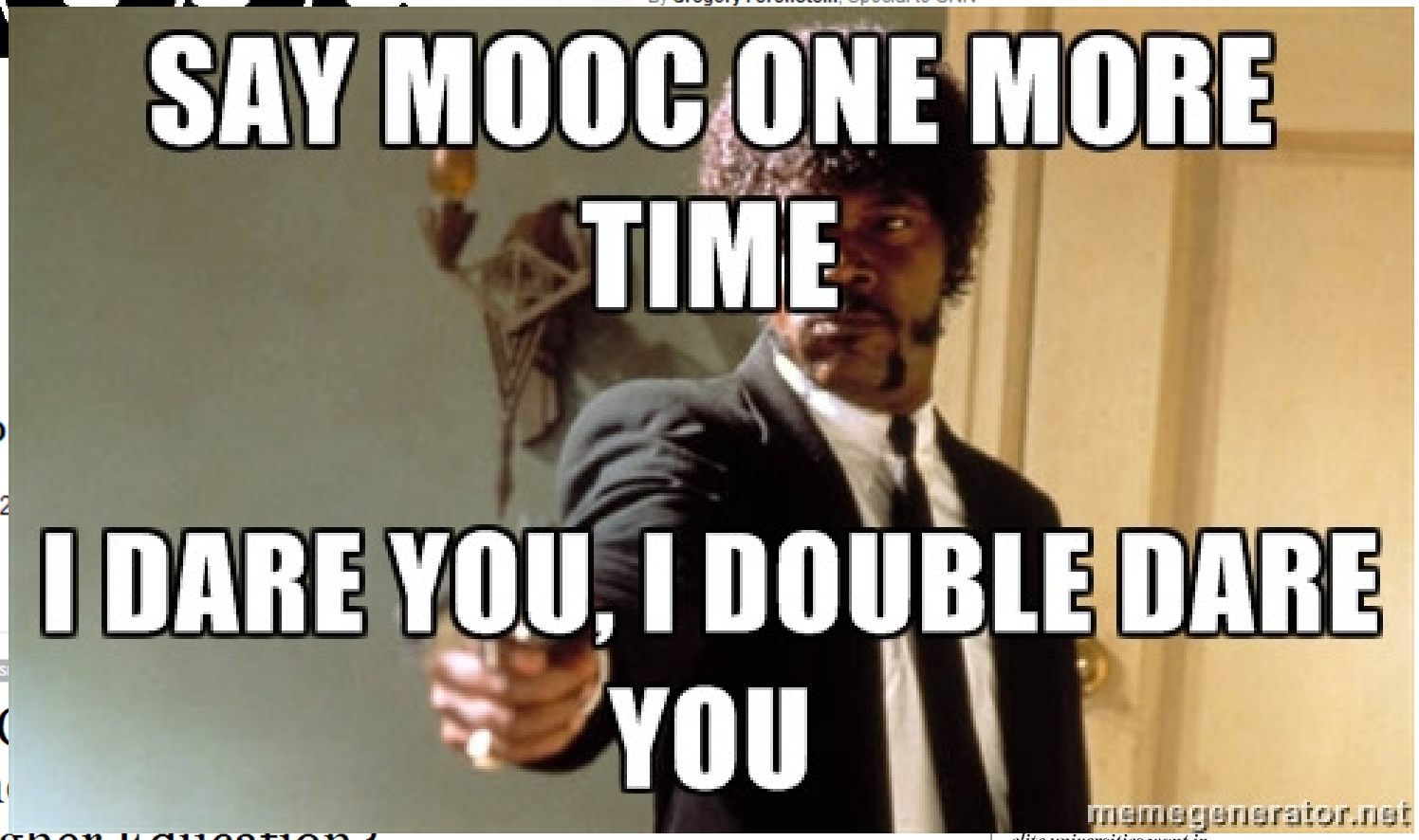

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elite universities want in

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A teachers perspective on MOOCs:

- Chalmers and MOOCs
- Motivation and expectations
- Pedagogic idea
- First experiences

Why MOOCs at Chalmers?

- Branding of global significance
  - Areas of Advance
  - Sustainability

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- Branding of global significance
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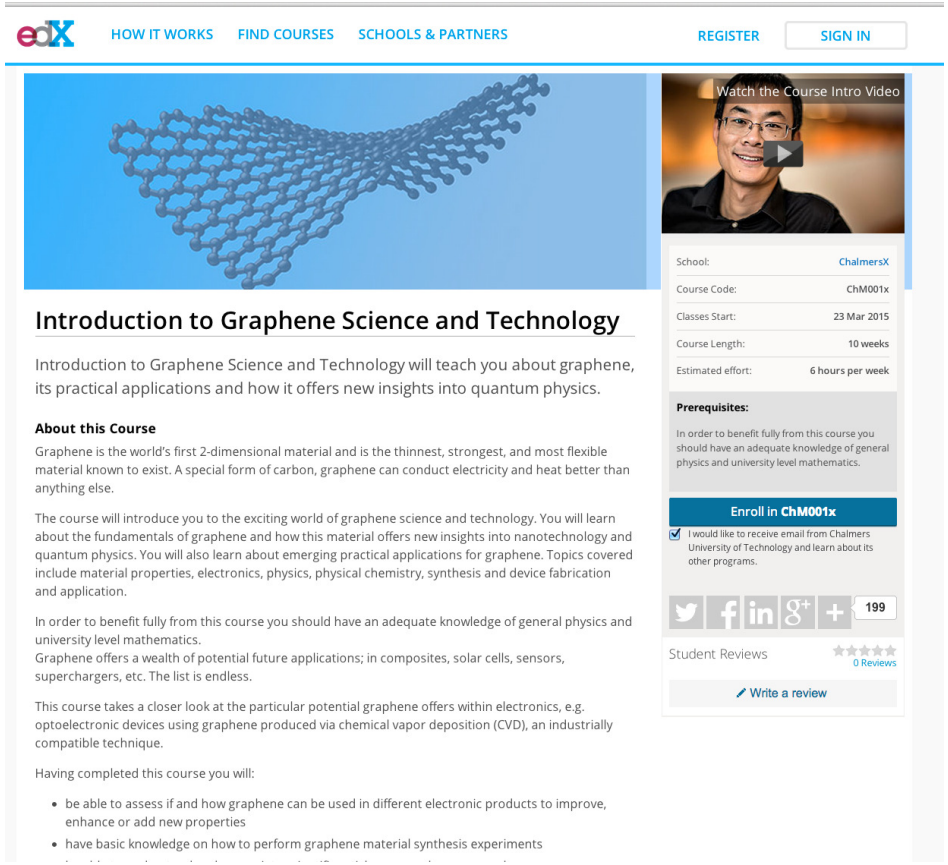
- Open up education for a global audience (3rd mission)
- Build up further experience at Chalmers in developing, implementing and evaluating MOOCs

The development has started…



- Introduction to Graphene Science and Technology (March 23rd 2015)
- **Sustainability in Everyday Life** (June 2015)
- two more

There is support…

course design and pedagogic support

technical production support

Edx platform support

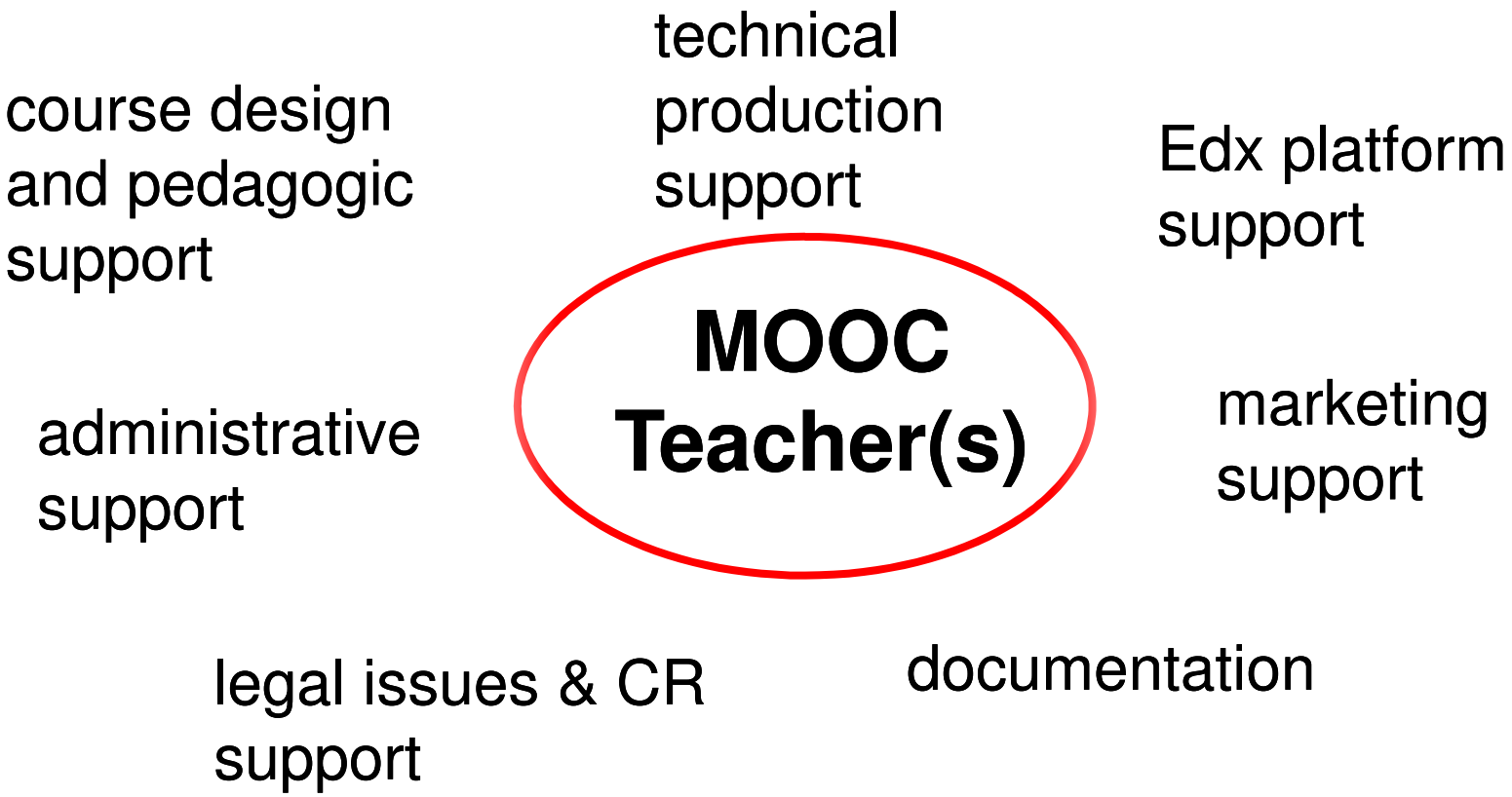
administrative support

marketing support

legal issues & CR support

documentation

There is support…

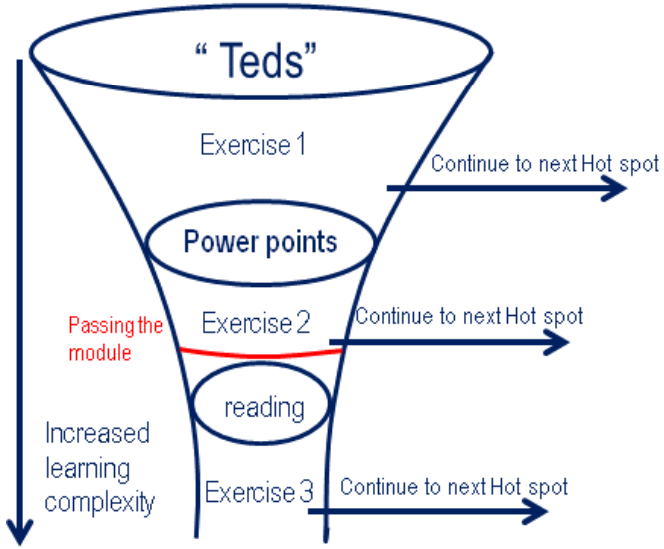


The very early days

- How did we learn about the MOOC initiative?
  - Open call
  - Information seminar
- Why did we decide to apply?
  - An interesting opportunity
  - Sounded like fun
  - Teach “the man in the street”

The proposal: "Sustainability in everyday life"

- Targeted audience → The informed citizen
- We have defined so-called hotspots



- Climate change
- Energy in society
- Chemicals in society
- Food
- Globalization

- Overall learning outcomes → Systems thinking, citizen stewardship

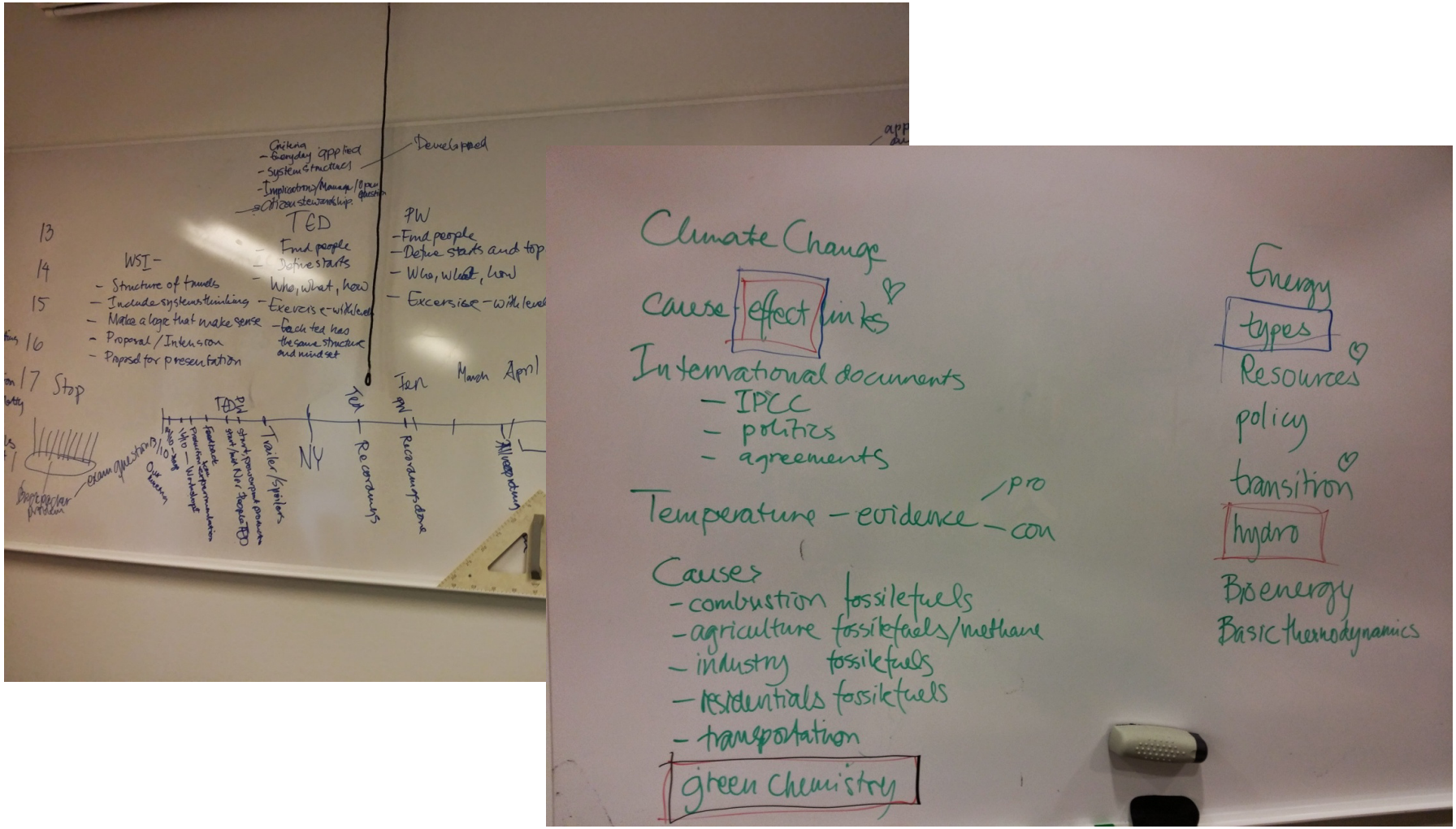
Motivations for the proposal

- ”Man in the street” → ”Informed citizen”
- Topics → Survey of news sources
- The funnel
  - Modular design
  - MOOCies can choose how deep to go into the course material
  - But, requirements need to be met to pass the course
- Systems thinking → Everything is connected

Expectations beforehand

- To try something new, and be creative
- To not design yet another MOOC
- To explore and learn about the possibilities offered by MOOCs
  - On-line
  - On-campus

What have we done to date?



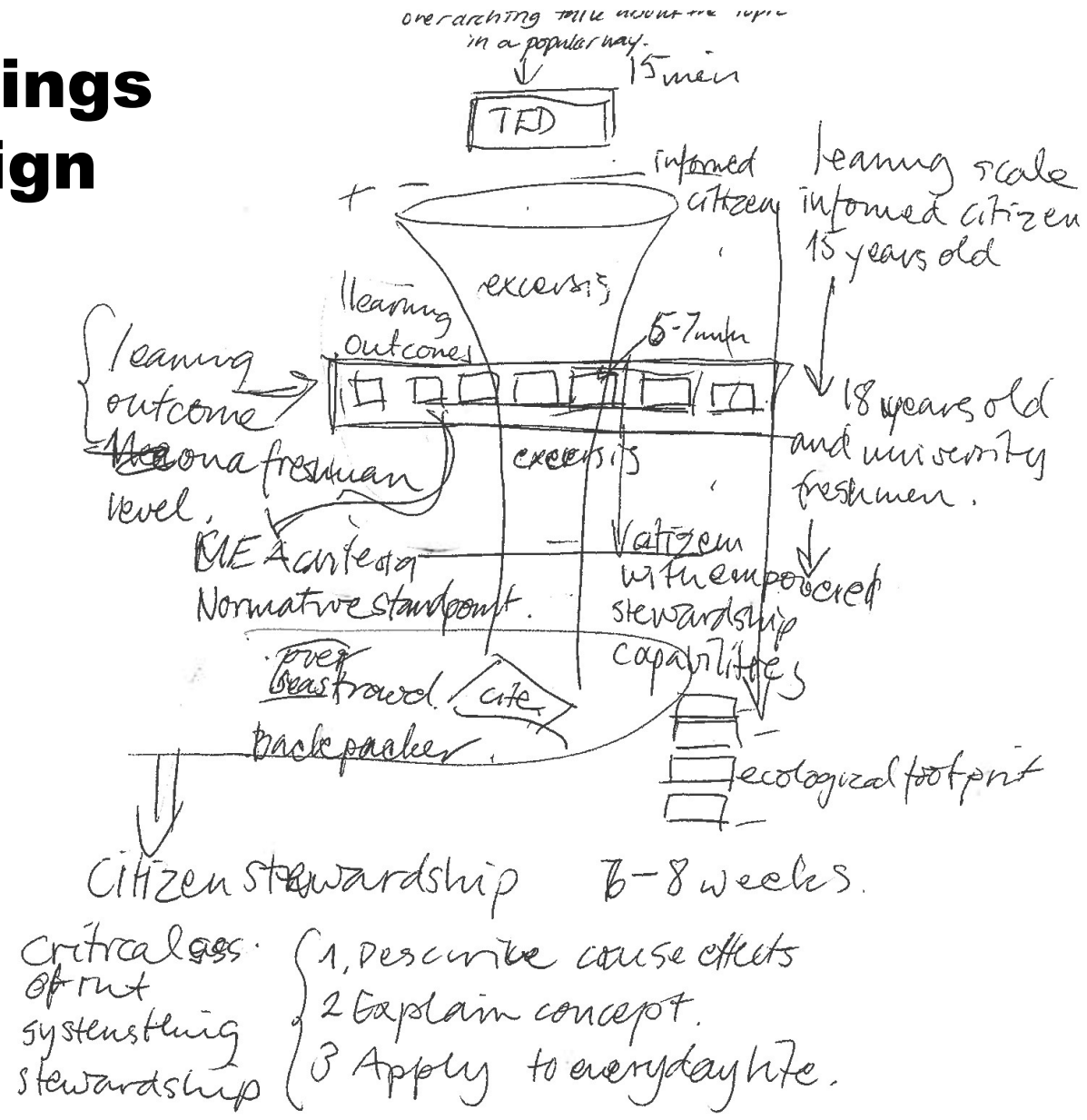
Expectations met so far

- We are actually doing something different
- It is a very creative process
- Steep learning curve

But...

- The real implementation still has to start
- Challenges during more detailed design
  - Mini-lectures
  - Assessment

Latest scribblings on MOOC design

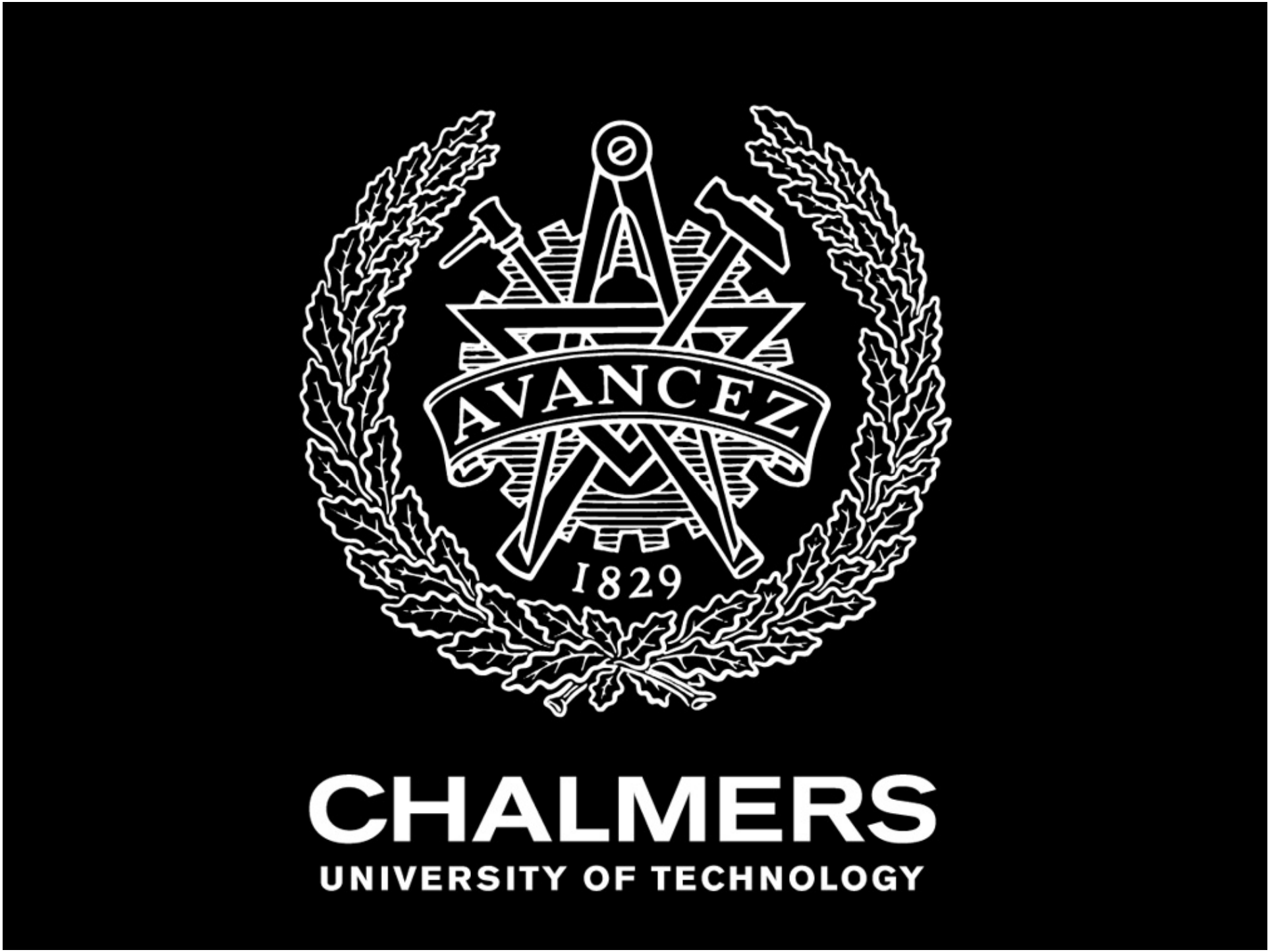


Challenges during more detailed design

- Mini-lectures
  - Different formats
  - Length of lectures
  - Ethos, logos, pathos
- Assessment
  - Different formats
  - Peer assessment (or not)
  - Design of the final exam

Bartok, A. (Photographer). 2010. Good thing cows are curious. (Photograph). January 14, 2015. from https://www.flickr.com/

Thank you!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