Minutes of the 280th meeting of the Academic Senate Standing Committee held at 9:30am on Wednesday, 4 April 2007 in Meeting Room 304 of the Administration Building.

Present: Prof David Griffiths (Chair), Dr David Christie, A/Prof Damien Considine, Ms Yvonne Kerr, Dr Anthony Macris, Prof John Patterson, A/Prof Ian Porter, Mr Anthony Strik, Prof Gerard Sutton, Dr Elizabeth Thomson, A/Prof Wilma Vialle, Dr Andrew Wells.

In Attendance: Ms Nerida Margrie (Executive Officer), Ms Lisa Simmons (Academic Registrar’s Division), Ms Theresa Hoynes and Ms Tori McLaughlin (Policy & Governance Unit).

PART A PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

A1 Apologies, Leave of Absence and Welcomes
   Apologies were received from Prof Lee Astheimer, Prof Rob Castle and Prof Margaret Sheil.

A2 Arrangement of the Agenda
   (i) The following items were starred (*) for discussion:
      
      B1 Revisions to Policies, Procedures and Rules due to changes in the National Code
      B3 University Internationalisation Committee – Review of Structure
      B5 Proposal to Review the Electoral Procedures for Senate and Faculties
      B6 Faculty of Arts Casual Vacancy on Academic Senate
      C1 Bachelor of Engineering (Dean’s Scholars), Bachelor of Computer Science
         (Dean’s Scholars), Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology
         (Dean’s Scholars), Bachelor of Information Technology (Dean’s Scholars),
         Bachelor of Bioinformatics (Dean’s Scholars), Bachelor of Geoinformatics
         (Dean’s Scholars), Bachelor of Mathematics and Finance (Dean’s Scholars),
         Bachelor of Mathematics and Economics (Dean’s Scholars), Bachelor of
         Internet Science and Technology (Dean’s Scholars) – New Courses
      D2 Appointment of Academic Senate Member to Fill Casual Vacancy on Senate
         Standing Committee
      F2.1 Postgraduate Student Vacancy on Academic Senate for 2007
   
   (ii) A motion was carried to adopt the draft resolutions and recommendations to
        Academic Senate for the unstarred items.

A3 Business from the Last Meeting

A3.1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (14 February 2007)

Resolved (05/07)

That the minutes of the previous meeting of 14 February 2007 be accepted as a true record of that meeting.
A3.2 Business Arising from the Minutes
There was no business arising from the Minutes.

A4 Confidential Items of Business
There were no confidential items of business.

A5 Vice-Chancellor's Business
The Vice-Chancellor reported on the following items:

i) Enrolments
The University has met enrolment targets for domestic students and slightly exceeded targets for international students. This is a credit to everyone at the University.

ii) Voluntary Student Unionism
During the transition to voluntary student unionism, the University received $4.6 million in funding from the Government which, together with $2 million from the University, will be used to fund a new sporting and recreation facility for the University Recreation and Aquatic Centre.

iii) Recruitment for Dean of Law and Dean of Graduate School of Medicine
The recruitment process is underway to fill the Dean of Law and Dean of the Graduate School of Medicine positions.

iv) Update on National Agenda Items
With the Federal Budget coming up shortly, the Australian Vice Chancellor's Committee will be pushing three initiatives:
1. Student support
2. Increasing the amount of funding per student for universities whilst maintaining student numbers
3. Including teaching in the capital infrastructure funding and increasing funding for block grants.

v) Federal Election
In recent meetings with the Vice-Chancellor, the Opposition has spoken of its belief that universities and education are two key drivers for Australia's economic success and productivity.

The University will continue to work with both the Government and Opposition on the three items mentioned in iii) above.

vi) Research Quality Framework
Work continues on meeting the requirements of the proposed framework.

A6 Chair’s Business
The current Academic Senate Standing Orders require updating and the opportunity will be taken, if appropriate, to bring them more closely into alignment with the University Council Standing Orders. The matter will be discussed at the next University Council meeting and new Academic Senate Standing Orders will be developed by the end of 2007.
PART B GENERAL BUSINESS

B1 Revisions to Policies, Procedures and Rules due to changes in the National Code

Dr David Christie briefed the Committee on the introduction of the National Code and the policy amendments to be implemented by the University to meet legislative requirements which become effective on 1 July 2007. Further policies will be submitted for approval over the coming months.

A short briefing paper on the National Code requirements will be circulated by the Executive Officer to all Committee members.

B1.1 Amendments to General Course Rules (2007 National Code Compliance – Stage 1)

A member noted possible implications for cross-faculty teaching in the new National Code requirements regarding leave of absence requests from students.

A brief discussion was held on the requirement for UOW to develop intervention strategies for international students who need to reduce their study loads.

(See recommendation to Academic Senate)

B1.2 Revised Appeals against Higher Degree Research Thesis Examination Outcomes Policy

(See recommendation to Academic Senate)

B2 Revised University Learning and Teaching Policy

(See recommendation to Academic Senate)

B3 University Internationalisation Committee – Review of Structure

In response to a member’s question, Ms Theresa Hoynes advised that the review was initiated following feedback from a survey last year of international students which indicated the student experience could be improved.

(See recommendation to Academic Senate)

B4 Academic Probation Committee and Academic Promotion Committee – Approval of Nominees

A/Prof Wilma Vialle pointed out some errors in the Academic Promotions Committee membership list included in the agenda papers.

The Committee noted that these errors will be rectified prior to submission of this item to Academic Senate.

(See recommendation to Academic Senate)

B5 Proposal to Review the Electoral Procedures for Senate and Faculties

The current Electoral Procedures for Senate and Faculties provide a less than ideal framework for the proper conduct of elections, offering little guidance to faculties regarding electoral process or timing.
The Committee endorsed the proposal for the Chair to consult with Deans and the Policy & Governance Unit, to review and revise the Electoral Procedures for presentation to Academic Senate.

(See recommendation to Academic Senate)

B6 Faculty of Arts Casual Vacancy on Academic Senate

It was noted that this casual vacancy is in the Faculty of Arts, not the Faculty of Commerce as noted in the agenda papers.

Resolved (06/07)

that Senate Standing Committee appoint A/Prof Di Kelly to fill the Faculty of Arts casual vacancy on Academic Senate for the remainder of the term to 30 June 2007.

PART C COURSE PROPOSALS FOR APPROVAL

C1 Bachelor of Engineering (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Computer Science (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Information Technology (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Bioinformatics (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Geoinformatics (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Mathematics and Finance (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Mathematics and Economics (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Internet Science and Technology (Dean's Scholars) – New Courses

Subsequent to the preparation and distribution of the agenda papers, the Faculty of Informatics has advised that the Bachelor of Bioinformatics and Bachelor of Geoinformatics degrees will shortly be cancelled.

The Committee noted that these two degrees will be removed from the course proposal documentation prior to submission to Academic Senate.

(See recommendation to Academic Senate)

C2 Master of Science (Logistics) and Graduate Certificate in Logistics – Major Amendment

(See recommendation to Academic Senate)

C3 Bachelor of Engineering (Mechatronic Engineering) – Minor Amendment

Resolved (07/07)

that Senate Standing Committee:

   i) Endorse the proposed minor amendment to the Bachelor of Engineering (Mechatronic Engineering) as outlined in the agenda papers, to be introduced in Autumn 2007;

   ii) Forward the proposal to the Vice-Chancellor for approval.

PART D ITEMS FOR NOTING

D1 Courses Approved by the Vice-Chancellor

(See recommendation to Academic Senate)
D2 Appointment of Academic Senate Member to Fill Casual Vacancy on Senate Standing Committee

Committee members considered the Candidate Statements provided by the three nominees. Following a vote by show of hands, Dr Mary Kaidonis was appointed to fill this casual vacancy.

Resolved (08/07)
that Senate Standing Committee:
   i) Note the receipt of nominations for the casual vacancy on Senate Standing Committee;
   ii) Appoint Dr Mary Kaidonis to fill the casual vacancy for the remainder of the term until 30 June 2007.

PART E COMMITTEE / FACULTY MINUTES

E1 Committee Minutes
   E1.1 University Education Committee
       (See recommendation to Academic Senate)

E2 Faculty Minutes
   E2.1 Faculty of Creative Arts Committee Meeting Extracts
       (See recommendation to Academic Senate)

   E2.2 Faculty of Informatics Committee Meeting Extract
       (See recommendation to Academic Senate)

PART F NEXT MEETINGS AND OTHER BUSINESS

F1 Future Meeting Dates

Senate Standing Committee                                    Academic Senate
   23 May 2007                                               2 May 2007
   11 July 2007                                              13 June 2007
   29 August 2007                                            1 August 2007
   17 October 2007                                           19 September 2007
   7 November 2007                                           7 November 2007

F2 Other Business

   F2.1 Postgraduate Student Vacancy on Academic Senate for 2007

The Committee considered the two Candidate Statements tabled at the meeting. Following a vote by show of hands, Mr Rian Satterwhite was appointed to fill this vacancy.

Resolved (09/07)
That Senate Standing Committee:
   i) Note the nominations for the postgraduate student casual vacancy on Academic Senate for 2007;
   ii) Appoint Mr Rian Satterwhite to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term until 31 December 2007.
B1  Revisions to Policies, Procedures and Rules due to changes in the National Code

B1.1  Amendments to General Course Rules (2007 National Code Compliance – Stage 1)

Recommendation to Academic Senate
that Academic Senate:
   i) endorse the revisions to the General Course Rules as outlined in the agenda papers, to become effective 1 July 2007;
   ii) forward the revised General Course Rules to University Council for approval.

B1.2  Revised Appeals against Higher Degree Research Thesis Examination Outcomes Policy

Recommendation to Academic Senate
that Academic Senate:
   i) endorse the revisions to the Appeals against Higher Degree Research Thesis Examination Outcomes Policy as outlined in the agenda papers, to become effective 1 July 2007;
   ii) forward the revised Policy to University Council for approval.

B2  Revised University Learning and Teaching Policy

Recommendation to Academic Senate
that Academic Senate:
   i) endorse the revised University Learning and Teaching Policy as attached to the agenda papers, for immediate introduction;
   ii) forward the revised Policy to University Council for approval.

B3  University Internationalisation Committee – Review of Structure

Recommendation to Academic Senate
that Academic Senate approve the revised Terms of Reference for the University Internationalisation Committee and its sub-committees as outlined in the agenda papers, for immediate introduction.

B4  Academic Probation Committee and Academic Promotion Committee – Approval of Nominees

Recommendation to Academic Senate
that Academic Senate approve the proposed nominations to the Academic Probation Committee and Academic Promotion Committee, as outlined in the agenda papers.
B5 Proposal to Review the Electoral Procedures for Senate and Faculties

Recommendation to Academic Senate

that Academic Senate request the Chair of Academic Senate to conduct a review of the Electoral Procedures for Senate and Faculties and develop revised Procedures for approval by Academic Senate in the second half of 2007.

C1 Bachelor of Engineering (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Computer Science (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Information Technology (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Bioinformatics (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Geoinformatics (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Mathematics and Finance (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Mathematics and Economics (Dean's Scholars), Bachelor of Internet Science and Technology (Dean's Scholars) – New Courses

Recommendation to Academic Senate

that Academic Senate:

i) Endorse the proposal for the new undergraduate degrees Bachelor of Engineering (Dean’s Scholars), Bachelor of Computer Science (Dean’s Scholars), Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology (Dean’s Scholars), Bachelor of Information Technology (Dean’s Scholars), Bachelor of Bioinformatics (Dean’s Scholars), Bachelor of Geoinformatics (Dean’s Scholars), Bachelor of Mathematics and Finance (Dean’s Scholars), Bachelor of Mathematics and Economics (Dean’s Scholars), Bachelor of Internet Science and Technology (Dean’s Scholars), as outlined in the agenda papers, to be introduced in Autumn 2008;

ii) Request the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International) to waive the requirement for an External Course Advisory Committee;

iii) Advise the Faculty of Informatics to forward the proposal to the Vice-Chancellor for approval.

C2 Master of Science (Logistics) and Graduate Certificate in Logistics – Major Amendment

Recommendation to Academic Senate

that Academic Senate:

i) Endorse the proposal for a major amendment to the Master of Science (Logistics) and Graduate Certificate in Logistics, to be introduced in Intake C/Spring 2007;

ii) Request the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International) waive the requirement for an External Course Advisory Committee;

iii) Advise the Graduate School of Business to forward the proposal to the Vice-Chancellor for approval.
D1 Courses Approved by the Vice-Chancellor

Draft Recommendation to Academic Senate
that Academic Senate note that the following courses and amendments have been approved by the Vice-Chancellor:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Category of Approval</th>
<th>VC Approval Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Communication and Media Studies</td>
<td>Minor Amendment</td>
<td>8/3/2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts (Community, Culture and Environment)</td>
<td>New Name</td>
<td>8/3/2007</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E1 Committee Minutes

E2.1 University Education Committee

Draft Recommendation to Academic Senate
that Academic Senate note the minutes from the University Education Committee meeting held on 8 November 2006.

E2 Faculty Minutes

E2.1 Faculty of Creative Arts Committee Meeting Extracts

Draft Recommendation to Academic Senate
that Academic Senate note the extracts of the minutes from the Faculty of Creative Arts Committee meetings held on 30 June 2006, 18 July 2006 and 17 October 2006.

E2.2 Faculty of Informatics Committee Meeting Extract

Draft Recommendation to Academic Senate
that Academic Senate note the extract of the minutes from the Faculty of Informatics Committee meeting held on 17 October 2006.