

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
COMBINED DIVISIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEES

Minutes, First Meeting

The first meeting of the Combined Divisional Education Committee was held on Thursday, 24 November 2005 in the Mills Room, Chancelry :

Present: Prof. Gillies (Chair), Ms Gillian Luck, Dr Richard Baker, Dr Ramesh Sankaranarayana, Dr Rosemary Martin, Prof John Norris, Dr David Jones, Prof Ray Withers, Prof Ian Jackson, Dr John Bekkers, Prof Neil Manson, Dr Stephen Dovers, Dr Gordon Carmichael, Dr Bruce Moore, Dr Steven Stern, Dr Aat Vervoorn, Prof Darrell Tryon, Dr Edith Gray, Dr Pauline Kerr, Dr Suiwah Leung, Dr Carolyn Strange, Mr Ed Russell, Ms Pamela Gilbert, Mr Michael Churchman, Ms Therese Douglass

Apologies: Prof Penny Oakes, Ms Janine Walker, Mr Steve Refshauge, Ms Peta Spender, Dr Jerry Schwab, Dr Mahomed Patel, Ms Anna Cirjak, Dr Steven Stern, Prof Terry Hull, Ms Celia Winnett, Dr Veronica Ross

In Attendance: Prof Tim Brown, Dr Adrian Lowe

MINUTES

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

The briefing paper for the tender for the Military Law program.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY OR MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary or material personal interest in the matters on the agenda.

PART 1: GENERAL ITEMS

ITEM 1. Minutes

The unconfirmed minutes of the third meetings of both Committees for August 2005 were confirmed subject to the change below:

Page 7 of the DEC SHE minutes (28/2005), the sentence starting with "Secondly" with:

"Secondly, he noted that developing the HPOs would not increase course numbers due to the "class" option in S21 system that can be used to distinguish separate "classes" in the one course."

ITEM 2. Approvals from and since previous meeting

The DVC(E) has formally approved all proposals recommended by the Committee at its previous meeting.

ITEM 3. Announcements and apologies

The DEC SHE welcomes Ms Janine Walker as the new representative of the Centre for Medical Research (CMHR) on the Committee. We thank outgoing member Dr Ruth Parslow for her contributions.

The DEC SSA welcomes Ms Pamela Gilbert as the new representative of the ANUSA. We thank outgoing member Ms Celia Winnett for her contributions; and Ms Winnett (in absentia) expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to participate in the committee.

The DVC(E) thanked Ms Gillian Luck for her work as the Director of SAS and wishes her well at the University of Melbourne.

ITEM 4. Starred items

The items starred were items 6, 9.1, 9.2, 10.1, 10.2

The Chair requested that item 9.5 was also starred.

ITEM 5. Items of other business

5.1 Faculty of Arts

New Combined Program Arts Honours Courses (supplementary agenda, 929/2005)

The Committee recommended the proposal.

PART 2: EDUCATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS UNDER THE COLLEGES

ITEM 6. Educational Arrangements under the Colleges

The dissolution of the Divisional Educational Committees in 2006 will necessitate changes to the course/program approval process. The combined Divisional Educational Committees discussed the proposal paper on the course and program approval process for 2006 onwards (attachment 926/2005).

The combined Committees had an opportunity to comment on the report (attachment 927/2005) of a working party looking at broader issues of how educational matters may be dealt with under the Colleges from 2006 onwards.

The committee members expressed the following opinions:

- Courses and programs that might be duplicated have to be referred to the UEC. The Deans will normally decide when to send it on to the UEC.
- Establishment of a standard form to fill in for approvals and follow-ups for the courses and programs to be entered in the student system.
- Regarding the administration of scholarships, the main concern is about information management and not the process of paying students itself.
- Scholarship allocations are to be decentralised. A few scholarships in most categories may need to be kept back for cross-College allocation.
- HDR load should be determined within the Colleges by the relevant Dean.
- The establishment of the Colleges could increase the level of bureaucracy, however, a counterpoint was made of an example where this is not the case, and existing structures were collapsed to gain greater efficiency.
- Regarding attachment (927/2005), page 138, the Graduate School will just be responsible for the Research-oriented students. This does not imply the Deans will lose responsibility for Research students. The definition of a coursework/research student will need to be definitively made.
- Emerging disciplines will be allocated to a College on a “best-line fit” basis.
- In cases where the College structure is not able to be implemented satisfactorily, the DVC(E) may keep the approval powers and delegate them to the College later on.

PART 3: UNDERGRADUATE COURSEWORK ITEMS

ITEM 7. NEW OR REVISED UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

7.1 Faculty of Science/Research School of Earth Sciences

Earth Physics Honours Program change of weighting between research project and coursework. Also refers to item 8.1. (attachment 923/2005)

The Committee recommended the proposal.

ITEM 8. NEW OR REVISED UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

8.1 Faculty of Science/Research School of Earth Sciences

Revision to the coursework/research component weighting for Earth Physics Honours Course for 2006. (attachment 923/2005)

The Committee recommended the proposal.

8.2 Faculty of Economics and Commerce

Removal of INFS 2005 Accounting Information Systems from the Accounting major. (attachment 900/2005)

The Committee recommended the proposal.

PART 4: GRADUATE COURSEWORK ITEMS

ITEM 9. NEW OR REVISED GRADUATE PROGRAMS

9.1 National Graduate School of Management

Change of terminology on the testamur for the Master of International Management (Mandarin), change “Mandarin” into “Chinese”.

The Committee also expressed the following view:

That this change to the testamur should be retrospective, at the request of the graduate.

The Committee recommended the proposal.

9.2 Faculty of Law

New series of programs in Military Law:

9.2.1 Graduate Diploma in Military Law

9.2.2 Graduate Diploma in Advanced Military Law

9.2.3 Master of Military Law

(attachment 902/2005)

The Committee recommended the proposal. However the DVC(E) noted that the recommendation for fee level in the briefing paper is not part of this recommendation.

9.3 Faculty of Science/Research School of Earth Sciences

Reactivation of the old specialisation of Earth Physics within the Master of Science degree. Please note this is a specialisation that does not lead to its own “Earth Science” named degree. Also refer to item 10.3. (attachment 923/2005)

The Committee recommended the proposal.

9.4 Faculty of Economics and Commerce

Master of Information Systems Studies: Change of core course from BUSN 8062 Managing Major Projects to BUSN 8024 Project Management Principles. (attachment 901/2005)

The Committee recommended the proposal.

9.5 Joint ANU-NUS PhD in Engineering (supplementary agenda, 930/2005):

The committee expressed the following opinions:

- It is likely the students will be managed along similar lines to current joint-degree PhD students.

- Regarding the affiliation of the ANU and the other 9 universities with jointly badged programs; commonalities and a multilateral approach are to be recommended (as opposed to many bilateral approach).

- The DVC(E) explained the reasoning behind the individual PhD agreements with NUS on a disciplinary basis; namely, because of the differing requirements of both Universities' individual PhD programs

The Committee recommended the proposal.

ITEM 10. NEW OR REVISED GRADUATE COURSES

10.1 Research School of Information Sciences and Engineering

New Graduate Course Award courses:

- 10.1.1 Advanced Modal Logic
- 10.1.2 Introduction to the Calculus of Variations for Engineers and Computer Scientists
- 10.1.3 Digital Communications and Receiver Designs with DSP Implementation
- 10.1.4 Parameter Identification and Adaptive Control
- 10.1.5 Signal Detection and Estimation
- 10.1.6 An Introduction to State Estimation for Discrete-Time Linear Stochastic Systems.

(attachment 922/2005)

The DVC(E) queried whether RSISE has considered creating official ANU courses for these Graduate Course Award courses.

The Committee recommended the proposal.

10.2 Faculty of Law

New courses in Military Law:

- 10.2.1 Advanced Military Administrative Law
- 10.2.2 Advanced Military Discipline Law
- 10.2.3 Advanced Military Operations Law
- 10.2.4 Military Administrative Law
- 10.2.5 Military Advocacy
- 10.2.6 Military Discipline Law
- 10.2.7 Military Operations Law

(attachment 902/2005)

The Committee has expressed the following opinions:

- The assessments for some of the courses are quite variable especially with regards to the Masters level of the courses; and that the recommendation of the Committee is contingent upon the Faculty of Law ensuring a level of assessment comparable to other Masters program at the ANU.
- Questions were raised regarding the unit values of the different courses as they also relate to the program structure. The DVC(E) explained that this is due to the tender requirements not fitting the standard 6/12/24 units structure.
- The exclusion clause (only Department of Defence students) within the briefing note of the program should be included in the documentation of the program proposals.

The Committee recommended the proposal.

10.3 Faculty of Science/Research School of Earth Sciences

New courses:

- 10.3.1 PEAT 8030: Research Project in Physics of the Earth
- 10.3.2 PEAT 8031: Research Methods in Physics of the Earth
- 10.3.3 PEAT 8014: Special Topics in Earth Physics

(attachment 923/2005)

The Committee recommended the proposal.

PART 5: ANU SECONDARY COLLEGE COURSES

The establishment of the ANU Secondary College courses in Mathematics, Physics, and Chemistry. (attachment 928/2005)

The Committee recommended the proposal.