



# The University of Sydney

## Academic Board Minutes

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### Minutes of the meeting of the Academic Board held at 2 pm on Wednesday 21 November 2007 in the Professorial Board Room

There were present: the Chair (Professor B Sutton) presiding, the Vice-Chancellor and Principal (Professor G Brown), the Chairs of the Standing Committees (Professors C Murphy and R Overall, Associate Professors S Kable, P McCallum and G Ryan), Professors A Aspromourgos, M Behnia, L Copeland, D Day, G Hancock, J Lawler, G Llewellyn, R Mason, I Ramzan, B Roufagalis, C Russell, J Trewhella, K Trigwell and P Wolnizer, Associate Professors F Ahmadi-Esfahani, E Cowley, W Evans, R Ewing, R Magnusson and A F Masters, Drs T Anthony, D Cabrera, M Collier, J Cox, S Cumming, M Edmond, J Hanrahan, J Hughes, K Jolliffe, A Molev, R Stanton and C Taylor, Mr P Ball, Ms K Barnsley, Ms L Brown, Ms J Henderson, Ms C Jarrett and Mr A McFarland.

Also present: Secretary of the Academic Board (Ms J Russell).

Present as observers: Ms A Griffiths (Executive Governance Office), Mr S French (Scholarships and Prizes Office), Ms K Laing (President-Elect, SRC) and Ms S Tang (student observer, Faculty of Medicine).

In attendance: Ms M Kemmis (Executive Officer to the Academic Board).

#### ★ 1. Apologies

The Board noted that apologies had been received from: Professors D Armstrong, A Boyd, A Coats (Ms D Lambourne attended in his stead), M Crossley, P Gay, D Grant, R Jeremy, G Murray, D Nutbeam, S Garton G Triggs and K Walker, Associate Professors A Bashford, B Bennett, B Buckley, R Drynan, H Irving, W Julian (Dr D Cabrera attended in his stead), R Taylor and P Wynn, Drs M Boughton, C Campbell, A Dong, J Kelly, K Nelson, M-A Schnabel, J Shaw and K-C Wong, and Mr V Ghazavi and Ms J Mooney.

#### ★ 2. Arrangement of agenda

##### ★ 2.1 Starring of items

Members of the Board were invited to star for discussion any unstarred items.

The following additional items were starred: 4 and 12.2.1

## 2.2 Adoption of unstarred items

### Resolution 277/07

That the Academic Board resolve as recommended with respect to all unstarred items.

## 3. Minutes of previous meeting

### 3.1 Meeting of 10 October 2007

#### Resolution 278/07

That the Academic Board adopt the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10 October 2007, as a true record.

At this point in the meeting, the Chair invited the Vice-Chancellor to give his report.

- ★ 4. **Business arising from Minutes (not dealt with elsewhere in the Agenda)**  
The Chair advised members that following the presentation on “the Academic User’s Guide to Ethical Entrepreneurialism” at the Academic Board’s last meeting, a working party (comprising the Chair, the Provost, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) and the General Counsel) had met and had authorised the Chair to establish an Academic Board working party. This working party would produce a draft statement on engaging ethically with external stakeholders, which would be a practical guide as well as a statement of principles. He undertook to advise the Board of the membership of this group at the next meeting.

★ 5. **Focus Topics**

#### 5.1 The College, Sydney Project

The Chair invited Professor Brewer to update the Academic Board on the work of the College, Sydney project. Professor Brewer noted that this presentation was an update to her earlier presentation in July 2007, and advised the Board as follows:

- the project website was launched earlier in the year and continues to provide staff with information on the progress of the project;
- in terms of rationale, the College was designed for secondary school students, school leavers, adult entry participants (especially those in the workforce), and others who:
  - had just missed out on admission to the University because of degree quotas
  - are seeking a course articulating into a university degree program (such as international students seeking a foundation program)
  - are looking to bridge the gap between their previous studies and university entry
  - want the option of senior secondary learning with opportunities for accelerated learning
  - are looking to upgrade their professional skills and qualifications
  - want to engage in life-long learning or
  - are interested in active retirement learning;
- the College would be committed to best practice approach, curriculum and qualifications and would focus on identifying the best pathway for each student (i.e. pre-tertiary, tertiary or university);
- pathways for specific students could feature generic and critical skills development (including English language training) and in some cases would provide limited choice access to some of the

- University's degrees based on agreed performance standards (there would be no automatic or guaranteed entry);
- the goals of the College are to:
    - educate, support, prepare fully and guide students through a senior high school pathway and various tertiary pathways through to university access or employment as required,
    - deliver continuing professional learning and development as well as continuing education, and workforce training, development and education (including award options) for employers,
    - drive quality upwards, achieved through the attainment of high academic standards for learning and teaching in the College, providing a personalised learning approach for students, establishing a senior secondary pathway (with a focus on science, mathematics and humanities) and providing opportunities for attaining global citizenship and work-readiness, and
    - offer a "second chance" to those who have missed out on a first opportunity or are in career-transition.
  - there would be a strong emphasis on equity and diversity with a variety of scholarships established by the College and in conjunction with employers, and a focus on admitting students from a variety of social backgrounds, students who had not performed to the best of their abilities at secondary level and students on humanitarian permanent visas; and
  - the College would not be self-accrediting in any of the pathway areas, and would need to comply with the University's governance requirements and the external governance requirements of various State and Federal bodies (such as DEST, VETAB, the NSW Board of Studies, etc).

Professor Brewer noted that Senate had endorsed a number of actions in relation to the College project at its meeting in March 2007. She advised that the following actions had since been taken:

- application was underway to establish a non-self-accrediting institution separate from the University of Sydney;
- application was underway to register the College, Sydney;
- a joint committee was established with the Academic Board to develop a sub-degree program and to investigate the possibility of a degree program at the College;
- potential partners for the College had been investigated and identified;
- market research (involving stakeholders and prospective students) had been undertaken; and
- KPMG had been hired to conduct a due diligence report on the potential impact of the College on the University in terms of reputation, finances, strategy and operations, with further work to be conducted once a preferred partner was identified.

Professor Brewer invited comments on the first part of her presentation, and noted that she would provide further information at the Academic Board's December meeting. Members commented as follows:

- one member commented on the complexity of the proposal and asked for clarification of the primary goal of the College, to which Professor Brewer responded that it would provide a second chance to those students who just missed out on a place at the

- University due to degree quotas, and would provide an additional revenue stream and source of growth for the University;
- Professor Brewer was asked if the College would provide flexible learning, and she advised that while it was not primarily designed to provide distance education it would offer part-time learning and flexible learning approaches;
  - another member asked whether the project had been evaluated in the context of educational opportunities in the region, and if so how would it complement or compete with the offerings of other institutions; Professor Brewer advised that KPMG's market analysis had covered both the local and international markets, and that due diligence had been conducted in terms of how similar structures work at other universities; she also advised that her further presentation at the Board's next meeting would look at some of these issues;
  - Professor Ramzan, noting that he is a Fellow of Senate, asked Professor Brewer to comment on the intended staff to student ratio and improved student experience to be provided by the College in terms of the contrast with the University's offerings, to which she advised that the additional support to be provided to College students was a feature of such institutions globally; and
  - Professor Ramzan also queried the viability of seeking a commercial partner, to which Professor Brewer stated that such a partnership would be necessary for the logistical part of the project.

Professor Brewer advised that the website would be updated with the information in the presentation and that a revised version of the presentation would be supplied for inclusion on the Academic Board's website.

#### **Resolution 279/07**

That the Academic Board note the report on the College Sydney project.

### **5.2 Awarding Degrees with Merit**

Associate Professor Kable presented the report of the Honours Working Party on awarding degrees with merit and highlighted the following points:

- the Undergraduate Studies Committee had been looking at this issue for some time, as there is currently no detailed policy on how merit degrees are to be awarded, the nomenclature to be used or the standards to be applied (in comparison, the policy for the award of honours sets out these parameters quite clearly, and now prohibits the award of honours based purely on the Weighted Average Mark (WAM));
- the Working Party and the Committee supported the adoption of principles for the award of merit degrees, i.e. that there be a single consistent nomenclature for such degrees across the University and that standard for the award of such degrees be documented, consistent and equitable across all faculties;
- faculties were surveyed on a number of issues surrounding awarding degrees with merit, with 7 faculties stating they would like to award degrees with merit, 4 stating they would consider such awards and 1 faculty stating it did not want to use the award (a further 4 faculties did not respond formally on this issue) – on

- this basis the Working Party recommends that degrees awarded with merit be offered to non-honours students;
- a survey of existing degrees showed faculties using a range of different names, e.g. with merit, with credit, with distinction and with high distinction;
  - the fraction of the cohort receiving their degree with merit was also variable and ranged from less than 10% to over 75%;
  - the Working Party looked at the option of awarding degrees with merit at one level or two levels, and analysed the WAM scores for the 2006 cohort in relation to these options;
  - the WAM data showed that roughly 25% of students achieved a WAM of 75 or greater;
  - the faculty survey asked for responses on whether there should be one or two levels for awarding degrees with merit and faculties were unanimous in supporting only one level, with consistent support for the top 10% of the cohort being eligible;
  - faculties were split in their opinions on whether degrees should be awarded with merit based purely on the WAM or as a fraction of the cohort – consequently, the Working Party has decided to recommend that the award be WAM-based but with a maximum cohort percentage of 10% also applying to prevent “bracket creep”;
  - with regard to nomenclature, the Working Party considered a range of different names, including with credit/distinction/high distinction (which were rejected as being likely to confuse unit of study performance with degree performance), with merit or excellence (“with excellence” received the most support out of these two choices) and the Latin titles currently used by many US Ivy League universities (i.e. cum Laude, magna cum Laude and summa cum Laude);
  - the Latin titles have the advantage of being currently in use, particularly in the US, and increasingly being adopted by Asian universities, with the award “magna cum Laude” (i.e. “with high honours”) considered the most appropriate to use, particularly when current US criteria (which is variable from university to university) is compared with the proposed percentage and WAM cut-offs;
  - faculties did not totally support the use of the Latin title, with one strongly against and some others ambivalent, however the Working Party agreed to recommend that degrees awarded with merit use the term “magna cum Laude”;
  - in terms of risks and opportunities associated with the proposal, the risks included potentially lowering the number of students choosing to do honours (particularly if the award with merit was valued too highly, although it was pointed out that the University Medal is only available to honours students) and potentially diminishing the value of the pass degree (although with the proposed 10% cut-off, 90% of students would graduate with the pass degree and the award with merit would meet a need to acknowledge excellent performance in pass degrees); and
  - opportunities included being the first University to offer Latin titles and the potential advantage for graduates of having a degree with a recognised “brand” of achievement attached to it.

Professor Kable concluded the presentation by outlining the consultation with faculties, noting that the report had received unanimous acceptance from the Undergraduate Studies Committee

and recommending that faculties amend their resolutions in 2008 to introduce the award of degrees with merit for 2009.

Members raised the following queries and comments in discussion:

- a member asked whether “summa cum Laude” had been considered, and Professor Kable responded that the Working Party had rejected this level so as to ensure that awarding degrees with merit did not devalue the University’s highest award, the University Medal;
- Associate Professor McCallum congratulated the Working Party on its efforts and pointed out that the proposal would require amendments to the *University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended)* which currently detailed the range of grades in which different courses could be awarded, with the bachelors degree to be awarded in pass or honours only; he also highlighted the current review of postgraduate coursework at the University, suggesting that the Working Party’s recommendations could be considered for postgraduate coursework degrees (Professor Kable noted that he would be happy to refer the report to the Provost’s Working Groups once it had the support of the Academic Board); he further noted the recommendation for awarding degrees with merit based on a flexible WAM mark and a fixed percentage had the potential to highlight the disparity in marking systems across the University;
- another member queried what would happen to students in appended honours degrees who failed the honours year, but had been in the top 10% of their pass cohort; Professor Kable advised that such a scenario would require further thought;
- one member suggested clarifying the wording in the discussion paper to make it clear that the recommendations referred to awarding existing degrees with merit, rather than creating a new group of “merit degrees”;
- the advanced degrees offered by the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science were highlighted as being problematic (as a large percentage of the cohorts of such degrees could be eligible for an award with merit), and Professor Kable agreed that the faculties would need to consider whether or not awarding with merit should be available in such degrees;
- concern was also expressed about the possibility of graduates heading overseas being disadvantaged because of different interpretations of “magna cum Laude”, to which Professor Kable responded that there was no standard definition amongst those universities using the term but that each university provides information with the academic transcript explaining how eligibility for the award is determined;
- it was pointed out that the proposed awarding of degrees with merit would not highlight the top 5% (or 2.5%) of the cohort, with some members expressing support for the adoption of “summa cum Laude” as the top level of award, to which Professor Kable advised that faculties had not supported the idea of two levels of award;
- other members supported the Working Party recommendations, highlighting the provision of greater choice to students, increased recognition of achievement in coursework (it was pointed out that such recognition is heavily skewed towards research students) and greater alignment with the global market;

- Professor Kable advised members that the Latin nomenclature was not normally associated with research degrees in the United States, however the honours system in the United States differed from that used in Australia;
- there was some comment that the adoption of the Latin nomenclature would create a dissonance with the University medal, and Professor Kable acknowledged that this was a risk identified by the Working Party;
- in response to a query as to how the cohort would be determined in combined degrees, Professor Kable advised that this would depend on the relevant degree resolutions; and
- some support was expressed for extending the proposals to cover both postgraduate coursework and research degrees (it was noted that some European universities use merit descriptors with their research degrees), however Professor Kable argued against the extension to postgraduate research degrees.

The Chair noted that there were likely to be amendments to the *University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended)* and possibly some Academic Board policies which would need the Board's approval. He asked the Academic Board to give in principle approval of the Working Party's recommendations, on the understanding that a set of detailed amendments would be provided in early 2008. He noted that the Working Party was recommending:

- that the University award Merit degrees for high performing students not undertaking Honours degrees;
- that the University award one level of Merit degree with a single name across the University (although the standard should, ideally, be WAM-based, no more than 10% of a graduating cohort in a degree program can qualify for the merit degree); and
- that the name of the Merit degree be "Magna cum Laude".

Members gave unanimous approval in principle to the first two recommendations and gave majority (but not unanimous) approval in principle to the third recommendation.

#### **Resolution 280/07**

That the Academic Board approve in principle:

- (1) that the University award Merit degrees for high performing students not undertaking Honours degrees;
- (2) that the University award one level of Merit degree with a single name across the University (although the standard should, ideally, be WAM-based, no more than 10% of a graduating cohort in a degree program can qualify for the merit degree); and
- (3) that the name of the Merit degree be "Magna cum Laude" as set out in the report presented.

#### **5.3 Recent Review of Pan-faculty Undergraduate Scholarships**

The Chair welcomed Mr French to the meeting and invited him to make his presentation on the recent review of pan-faculty undergraduate scholarships. Mr French advised members as follows:

- the University offers around 750 scholarships each year, 10% of which are managed by the Scholarships and Prizes Office;
- the office reviews the scholarships under its management every three to four years, with this year's review conducted by a committee comprised of:

- the Deputy Provost (Learning and Teaching and Pro Vice-Chancellor)
- the Chair of the Academic Board
- representative Deans
- the Chief Operating Officer (Community)
- the Executive Director (Community)
- the Director of Marketing and Student Recruitment
- the Director of Student Services and
- the Head of Careers and Scholarships
- the breadth of membership of the review committee demonstrates the complex nature of managing scholarships;
- the major scholarships offered by the University include:
  - the Outstanding Achievement Scholarships (offered to students who achieve a UAI of 99.95 or 100, with 40 awards offered annually providing \$10,000 per annum for the duration of the degree)
  - University of Sydney Scholarships (offered to students who achieve a UAI of 95 or greater and who display specific personal qualities such as leadership, creativity or community involvement – there are 50 scholarships providing \$5,000 per annum for the duration of the degree and a further 100 scholarships which provide \$5,000 for the first year of study);
  - Access Scholarships (offered to students with high UAIs who fall into specific equity categories, with 65 scholarships providing \$4,000 per annum for the duration of the degree);
  - Honours Scholarships (offered mainly on merit, but can be awarded based on equity needs, with 50 awards providing \$5,000 for the honours year of a degree);
  - Continuing Scholarships (awarded on academic merit to existing students, with 100 awards providing \$5,000 for one year);
  - Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarships (awarded from Commonwealth funds primarily to students in financial need, with 214 awards providing \$2,124 per annum for up to four years); and
  - Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship (awarded from Commonwealth funds to equity students, with 148 awards providing \$4,248 per annum for up to four years);
- the 2007 scholarship review had involved the first quantitative analysis of the performance of scholarship recipients, based on FlexSIS data for the period 2002 to 2006, although he pointed out that there were artefacts in the FlexSIS data which reduced its validity;
- the analysis had looked at pass rates (assuming students had passed all units of study attempted), annual average marks, progression to honours, the level of the undergraduate degree completed and progression to higher degrees;
- analysing the UAI scores for admission, the average student at the University enters with a score for 91.3, with an average of 91.1 for non-scholarship holders compared to 95 for scholarship holders;
- 81% of all students at the University complete a single degree with 16% completing a combined degree (the other 3% complete diplomas or non-award courses), compared with 56% of Outstanding Achievement Scholarship holders who complete a combined degree;

- with regard to pass rates, 75% of all students pass all units attempted, while the percentage for scholarship holders ranged between 85% to 95% and higher;
- the spread of average annual marks for all students at the University showed a peak at the credit level – these peaks were even stronger for access scholarship holders, with academic scholarship holders peaking at distinction and high distinction levels;
- looking at the final degree result, academic scholarship holders showed significant numbers of such students achieving first class honours or first class honours plus the University medal;
- similarly, there were significant numbers of scholarship holders continuing on to postgraduate coursework and research (particularly with the Honours Scholarship), although the levels were lower for the Outstanding Achievement Scholarships – anecdotally, it appears that the University is losing many such scholarship holders to other institutions once they have completed their undergraduate degree, and there were also significant numbers of such scholarship holders enrolling combined law or combined medicine which traditionally had lower rates of continuation to postgraduate study;
- other points gathered from the assessment of FlexSIS data included similar gender balances between scholarship holders and other students, scholarship holders were admitted from the same types of schools as other students, and there was little difference in faculty distribution, however the percentage of recent school leavers was higher for scholarship holders;
- the review committee had made the following recommendations regarding scholarships:
  - Outstanding Achievement Scholarships: current value to be retained but the scholarship should be offered for the duration of the degree including the honours year;
  - Merit and Access Scholarships: again, current value to be retained but the scholarship should be offered for the duration of the degree including the honours year;
  - Honours Scholarships: the number offered should be doubled from 50 to 100;
  - Continuing Scholarships: the number offered should be trebled from 100 to 300, with the value reduced to \$2,000 for one year, and with the scholarship listed on the student's transcript but with a revised name (yet to be determined);
  - Access Scholarships: these are to be increased in number and value to 100 and \$5,000 per annum;
  - \$500,000 is to be earmarked for special initiatives in late 2007 (and to counteract any new scholarships offered by competitors);
  - Interstate Relocation Scholarship: a top-up scholarship for interstate students to be offered in conjunction with the Outstanding Achievement and Merit Scholarships;
  - enhanced student experience opportunities to be offered to scholarship holders; and
  - University scholarships to be listed on academic transcripts.

Associate Professor Masters noted that the sporting scholarships had not been included, and asked if in addition to these there were any other major scholarships not covered by the review. Mr French advised that there were approximately 740 major scholarships not

managed by his office, including the sporting scholarships which were administered by the University Sports Union. Professor Masters also asked whether the review had considered maintaining the current value of the access scholarships but increasing the number even further. Mr French noted that \$5,000 per annum was the optimum value for such scholarships, particularly as it did not prevent recipients from also accessing Centre Link support.

**Resolution 281/07**

That the Academic Board note the report on the recent review of pan-faculty undergraduate scholarships.

★ 6. **Report of the Chair**

6.1 **Report on Senate Matters**

6.1.1 **Report of the Senate meeting held on 5 November 2007**

The Chair asked that members note this report.

**Resolution 282/07**

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board on academic matters considered by Senate at its meeting held on 5 November 2007.

6.2 **Honours and Distinctions**

The Board noted and congratulated by acclamation the recipients of honours and distinctions, as set out in the agenda and supplementary agenda.

**Resolution 283/07**

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board on the honours and distinctions and congratulate the recipients, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* Chair of the Academic Board to write to recipients congratulating them on their honours and distinctions.

6.3 **General Report**

6.3.1 **National Conference of Chairs of Academic Boards**

This item was held over to the next meeting.

6.3.2 **Actions taken on behalf of the Academic Board**

The Chair advised members that Associate Professor Drynan had submitted comments on the amendments to the Master of Pharmacy, and asked Associate Professor McCallum to provide further advice. Professor McCallum stated that Professor Drynan had expressed concern about the removal of a specific GPA cut-off from the resolutions, given that it was good practice to have clear admission requirements. Professor McCallum agreed that admission requirements should be transparent, but argued that the detail did not need to be in the faculty resolutions. He pointed out that this would also provide faculties with a greater degree of flexibility in assessing applicants. Professor Ramzan agreed, pointing out that this would be no different to publishing the UAI for undergraduate degrees separately from the faculty resolutions.

The Chair further advised members that there was an amended resolution in the supplementary agenda, which also

included details of his approval of the early submission of a thesis for the Master of Philosophy in Economics.

**Resolution 284/07**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) endorse the Chair's approval of a request from the Faculty of Pharmacy to amend the admission requirements for the Master of Pharmacy, and
- (2) note the Chair's approval of the early submission of a thesis for the Master of Philosophy in Economics as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Pharmacy, to note the Academic Board's approval of amendments to the Faculty Resolutions for the Master of Pharmacy.

File No. (2003/5095)

★ 7. **Report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal**

7.1 **Report on Senate Matters**

7.1.1 **Report of the Senate meeting held on 5 November 2007**

The Vice-Chancellor asked members to note the report of the Senate meeting on 5 November 2007.

**Resolution 285/07**

That the Academic Board note the report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal on matters considered by Senate at its meeting held on 5 November 2007.

7.2 **General report**

The Vice-Chancellor highlighted the University's performance in the Times Higher Education Supplement rankings, pointing out that the University had risen in the rankings each year since their inception in 2004 (from 40 in 2004, to 38 in 2005, to 35 in 2006, to 31 in 2007). He also pointed out that the University continued to perform well in the five major discipline rankings, noting that only twenty one universities were ranked in the top 50 in all five discipline areas, with the University of Sydney being one of only three such universities in Australia. He offered warm congratulations to the staff of the University in achieving this wonderful result.

The Vice-Chancellor also advised the Academic Board as follows:

Senate has authorised me to state that the University of Sydney is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic probity. In particular, Senate has affirmed its belief that the University's policies on plagiarism have been and will continue to be consistently and rigorously applied.

He expressed the hope that this statement would provide comfort to those members disturbed by recent media reports.

Members commented on the Vice-Chancellor's report of the Times Higher Education Supplement rankings, with one member noting that achieving the "one" in 1:5:40 seemed to be the more difficult of the three tasks. The Vice-Chancellor agreed that in terms of how the current ranking schemes worked, this was so, and also noted that the

level of uncontested research funding provided to the Australian National University made their position difficult to assail. However, he believed that the University was decisively ahead of the ANU in terms of providing a diverse education and rich student experience. He also stated that he would like to see the University achieve 1:5:40 regardless of the yardstick used.

The Vice-Chancellor was also asked to comment on the rankings achieved in the five discipline areas. The Vice-Chancellor responded with some approximate rankings (following the meeting it was noted that the rankings are as follows: Natural Sciences (43); Life Sciences and Biomedicine (23); Technology (equal 41 with Texas A&M University); Social Sciences (27); Arts and Humanities (15)). He added that the University should aim to be in the top forty for all five discipline groups.

**Resolution 286/07**

That the Academic Board note the general report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal.

- ★ 8. **Question time**  
This item was held over to the next meeting.

9. **Report of the 2007 Winter School**  
9.1 **Report of the 2007 Winter School**

**Resolution 287/07**

That the Academic Board note the report of the 2007 Winter School, as set out in the report presented.

10. **Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee**  
(Associate Professor Scott Kable)

- ★ 10.1 **Oral report of the Chair**  
This item was held over to the next meeting.

- 10.2 **Report of the meeting held on 23 October 2007**

**10.2.1 Proposals for New and Amended Courses**

**10.2.1.1 Faculty of Health Sciences: Bachelor of Health Sciences and Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours)**

**Resolution 288/07**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to amend the Bachelor of Health Sciences; Bachelor of Health Sciences Honours,
- (2) recommend that Senate:
  - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend these courses; and
  - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the list of degrees, diplomas and certificates in the Faculty of Health Sciences, and relating to the course,

with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* The Chair to recommend to Senate that it approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the list of degrees, diplomas and certificates in the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Bachelor of Health Sciences and the Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours).

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Health Sciences to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Bachelor of Health Sciences and the Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours).

File No. (2001/1050)

## **10.2.2 Amendment to Faculty Resolutions**

### **10.2.2.1 Sydney College of the Arts: Bachelor of Visual Arts**

#### **Resolution 289/07**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Sydney College of the Arts to change the satisfactory progress requirements of the Bachelor of Visual Arts degree,
  - (2) approve the amendments to the Faculty Resolutions relating to the course
- with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Sydney College of the Arts to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Bachelor of Visual Arts.

File No. (003/0041/00002)

## **10.2.3 Reports from Faculties**

### **10.2.3.1 Faculty of Veterinary Science: Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Bioscience**

#### **Resolution 290/07**

That the Academic Board note the report from the Faculty of Veterinary Science relating changes to units of study in the Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Bioscience degree.

*Action:* The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Veterinary Science to note the Academic Board's endorsement of the amendments to units of study in the Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Bioscience.

(File 2004/8761)

## 10.2.4 Proceedings of the Committee

### Resolution 291/07

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Undergraduate Studies Committee meeting held on 23 October 2007, as set out in the report presented.

## 11. Report of the Graduate Studies Committee

(Associate Professor Peter McCallum)

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### 11.1 Oral report of the Chair

This item was held over to the next meeting.

### 11.2 Report of the meeting held on 31 October 2007

#### 11.2.1 Proposals for New and Amended Courses

##### 11.2.1.1 Sydney College of the Arts: Master of Contemporary Arts for Educators

### Resolution 292/07

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Sydney College of the Arts to delete the Master of Contemporary Art for Educators,
- (2) recommend that Senate:
  - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal;
  - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Sydney College of the Arts; and
  - (c) rescind the Resolutions of Senate relating to the course; and
- (3) approve the rescission of the Faculty resolutions relating to the course with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* The Chair to recommend to Senate that it approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the list of degrees, diplomas and certificates in the Sydney College of the Arts and the rescission of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Master of Contemporary Art for Educators.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Sydney College of the Arts to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to delete the Master of Contemporary Art for Educators.

File No. (2000/2980)

### 11.2.2 Amendments to Faculty Resolutions

#### 11.2.2.1 Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning

##### (1) Master of Architecture

### Resolution 293/07

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to amend the Master of Architecture,
- (2) note the amendment of the Faculty Resolutions relating to this course, and approve the resolutions relating to admission, units of study, requirements for the pass degree and requirements for the honours degree

with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report.

*Action:* The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Faculty Resolutions relating to the Master of Architecture.

File No. (2007/2047)

- (2) **Master of Architectural History and Theory, Master of Design Science, Master of Facilities Management, Master of Heritage Conservation, Master of Urban Design, Master of Urban and Regional Planning, Graduate Diploma in Architectural History and Theory, Graduate Diploma in Design Science, Graduate Diploma in Facilities Management, Graduate Diploma in Heritage Conservation, Graduate Diploma in Urban Design, Graduate Diploma in Urban and Regional Planning, Graduate Certificate in Architectural History and Theory, Graduate Certificate in Design Science, Graduate Certificate in Facilities Management, Graduate Certificate in Heritage Conservation, Graduate Certificate in Urban Design, Graduate Certificate in Urban and Regional Planning**

**Resolution 294/07**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to amend the Master of Architectural History and Theory, Master of Design Science, Master of Facilities Management, Master of Heritage Conservation, Master of Urban Design, Master of Urban and Regional Planning, Graduate Diploma in Architectural History and Theory, Graduate Diploma in Design

Science, Graduate Diploma in Facilities Management, Graduate Diploma in Heritage Conservation, Graduate Diploma in Urban Design, Graduate Diploma in Urban and Regional Planning, Graduate Certificate in Architectural History and Theory, Graduate Certificate in Design Science, Graduate Certificate in Facilities Management, Graduate Certificate in Heritage Conservation, Graduate Certificate in Urban Design, Graduate Certificate in Urban and Regional Planning, and

- (2) note the amendment of the Faculty Resolutions relating to these courses with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report.

*Action:* The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Faculty Resolutions relating to the Master of Architectural History and Theory, Master of Design Science, Master of Facilities Management, Master of Heritage Conservation, Master of Urban Design, Master of Urban and Regional Planning, Graduate Diploma in Architectural History and Theory, Graduate Diploma in Design Science, Graduate Diploma in Facilities Management, Graduate Diploma in Heritage Conservation, Graduate Diploma in Urban Design, Graduate Diploma in Urban and Regional Planning, Graduate Certificate in Architectural History and Theory, Graduate Certificate in Design Science, Graduate Certificate in Facilities Management, Graduate Certificate in Heritage Conservation, Graduate Certificate in Urban Design, Graduate Certificate in Urban and Regional Planning.

File No. (2000/2977, 2000/2978, 2000/2979, 2000/3080, 2000/3082, 2000/3083, 2000/3084, 2000/3085, 2000/3086, 2000/3087, 2000/3088, 2000/3089, 2000/3090, 2000/3091)

**11.2.2.2 Faculty of Medicine: Master of Medical Education, Graduate Diploma in Medical Education and Graduate Certificate in Medical Education**

**Resolution 295/07**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Medicine to amend the Master of Medical Education, Graduate Diploma in Medical Education and Graduate Certificate in Medical Education, and
- (2) note the amendment of the Faculty Resolutions relating to these courses with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Medicine to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Faculty Resolutions relating to the Master of Medical Education, Graduate Diploma in Medical Education and Graduate Certificate in Medical Education.

File No. (2003/4023, 2003/4024, 2003/4025)

#### 11.2.2.3 Faculty of Science

- (1) **Master of Applied Science (Health Psychology), Graduate Diploma in Applied Science (Health Psychology), Graduate Certificate in Applied Science (Health Psychology)**

##### **Resolution 296/07**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Master of Applied Science (Health Psychology), Graduate Diploma in Applied Science (Health Psychology) and Graduate Certificate in Applied Science (Health Psychology)
- (2) note the amendment of the Faculty Resolutions relating to these courses, and approve the resolutions relating to the requirements for the certificate, diploma and degree with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report.

*Action:* The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Science to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Faculty Resolutions relating to the Master of Applied Science (Health Psychology), Graduate Diploma in Applied Science (Health Psychology) and Graduate Certificate in Applied Science (Health Psychology).

File No. (2006/1657)

**(2) Master of Medical Physics, Graduate Diploma in Medical Physics**

**Resolution 297/07**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Master of Medical Physics and Graduate Diploma in Medical Physics
- (2) note the amendment of the Faculty Resolutions relating to these courses, and approve the resolutions relating to the requirements for the certificate, diploma and degree with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report.

*Action:* The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Science to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Faculty Resolutions relating to the Master of Medical Physics and Graduate Diploma in Medical Physics.

File No. (2003/5025, 2003/5026)

**11.2.3 Proceedings of the Committee**

**Resolution 298/07**

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Graduate Studies Committee meeting held on 31 October 2007, as set out in the report presented.

**12. Report of the Learning and Teaching Committee**  
(Associate Professor Greg Ryan)

★ **12.1 Oral report of the Chair**

This item was held over to the next meeting.

★ **12.2 Report of the meeting held on 31 October 2007**

**12.2.1 Annual Reports**

**12.2.1.1 Learning Centre Annual Report 2006**

This item was held over to the next meeting.

**12.2.1.2 Mathematics Learning Centre Annual Report 2006**

This item was held over to the next meeting.

**12.2.2 Proceedings of the Committee**

**Resolution 299/07**

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Learning and Teaching Committee meeting held on 31 October 2007, as set out in the report presented.

**13. Report of the Research and Research Training Committee**  
(Professor Robyn Overall)

★ **13.1 Oral report of the Chair**

This item was held over to the next meeting.

**13.2 Report of the meeting held on 6 November 2007**

**13.2.1 Proposals for New and Amended Courses**

**13.2.1.1 Faculty of Economics and Business: Master of Philosophy in Economics**

**Resolution 300/07**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Economics and Business to amend the Master of Philosophy in Economics;
- (2) recommend that Senate:
  - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal; and
  - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the course,

with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* The Chair to recommend to Senate that it approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Master of Philosophy in Economics.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Economics and Business to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Master of Philosophy in Economics.

File No. (TBA)

**13.2.2 Proceedings of the Committee**

**Resolution 301/07**

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Research and Research Training Committee meeting held on 6 November 2007, as set out in the report presented.

**14. Report of the Academic Staffing Committee**  
(Professor Chris Murphy)

★ **14.1 Oral report of the Chair**

This item was held over to the next meeting.

**14.2 Report of the meeting held on 24 October 2007**

**14.2.1 Nomenclature for Research-only Staff**

**Resolution 302/07**

That the Academic Board endorse the proposed nomenclature for research-only staff as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* Chair of the Academic Board to write to the Director, SydneyPeople, endorsing the adoption of the new nomenclature for research-only staff.

#### **14.2.2 Proceedings of the Committee**

##### **Resolution 303/07**

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Research and Research Training Committee meeting held on 24 October 2007, as set out in the report presented.

#### **15. General Business**

There were no items of general business.

The meeting closed at 3:47 p.m.

Signed as a correct record

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*Chair*

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Date