



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 30 May 2007 in the Professorial Board Room

There were present: the Chair (Professor B Sutton) presiding, the Acting Vice-Chancellor and Principal (Professor D Nutbeam), the Deputy Chair (Associate Professor P McCallum), the Chairs of the Standing Committees (Professors C Murphy and R Overall, Associate Professors R Ewing and S Kable), Professors D Armstrong, A Aspromourgos, M Behnia, A Brewer, A Coats, M Crossley, D Day, G Hancock, L Jeffcott, G Llewellyn, R Mason, G Murray, B Robinson, C Russell, K Trigwell, K Walker and P Wolnizer, Associate Professors F Ahmadi-Esfahani, B Bennett, R Drynan, W Julian and A F Masters, Drs M Collier, J Cox, S Cumming, M Edmond, J Hanrahan, J Hughes, P Knight, A Molev, K Nelson, J Shaw, C Taylor and K-C Wong, Ms L Brown, Ms J Gavan, Ms S Hanfling, Ms J Henderson, Ms C Jarrett, Mr B Kotic, Ms J Leong and Mr A McFarland.

Also present: Secretary of the Academic Board (Dr W A Adams), Focus Topic Facilitator (Professor S Chapman).

Present as observer: Ms D Alis (Secretariat) and Mr G Pearman (Centre for Continuing Education).

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

★ 1. Apologies

The Board noted that apologies had been received from: Professors C Benrimoj, A Boyd, G Brown, L Copeland, G Gallop, S Garton, P Gay, J Lawler, R McCallum, I Ramzan, R Tiffen and J Trehwella, Associate Professors B Buckley, E Cowley, W Evans, T Gerzina, R Magnusson, A Rubbo, S West and S Williams, Drs T Anthony, C Campbell, K Jolliffe, J Kelly, I Maxwell, R Stanton, A van Schaik and P Wynn, Mr P Ball, Mr M Goldberg, Mr C Ritchie and Mr J Shipp (Ms S Hanfling attending in his place).

★ 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 item was starred: 12.2.2.

2.2 Adoption of unstarred items

Resolution 80/07

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

3. Minutes of previous meeting

3.1 Meeting of 18 April 2007

Resolution 81/07

That the Academic Board adopt the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 April 2007, as a true record.

4. Business arising from Minutes (not dealt with elsewhere in the Agenda)

There was no business arising from the minutes.

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5. Report of the Chair

5.1 General Report

5.1.1 Report of the Senate meeting held on 7 May 2007

The Chair asked that members note this report.

Resolution 82/07

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 7 May 2007.

5.2 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 83/07

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.

5.3 General Report

5.3.1 University College Sydney Joint Working Party

The Chair reminded members that at the previous meeting he had invited expressions of interest from members to join the University College Sydney Academic Planning Committee. As a result of the response to this request he wished to nominate Dr P Knight, from the Faculty of Medicine, to join the Committee. Members approved the nomination.

Resolution 84/07

That the Academic Board note the appointment of Dr P Knight to the University College Sydney Academic Planning Committee, as set out in the report presented.

5.3.2 Action Taken on Behalf of the Academic Board

The Chair advised members that the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies had contacted him regarding an urgent amendment to the resolutions relating to the Bachelor

of Engineering. Amendments had been submitted in 2002 which were intended to alter the name of a Civil Engineering specialisation from “Geomechanics” to “Geotechnical”. While this change had been reflected in the Faculty’s handbook from 2003, the resolutions themselves had not been properly amended. The Chair advised members that he had approved this amendment so that the correct name could appear on the testamurs of students graduating this year. Members noted his action and approved the amendment.

Resolution 85/07

That the Academic Board note the Chair’s approval of the request from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to amend the Faculty Resolutions relating to the Bachelor of Engineering with regard to the specialisation “Civil Engineering (Geotechnical)”, with effect from 1 January 2003, as set out in the report presented.

Action: That the Dean and the Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies note the Academic Board’s approval of the amendment to the Faculty Resolutions of the Bachelor of Engineering, amending the name of Civil Engineering specialisation from “Geomechanics” to “Geotechnical”.

(File 003/0018/00016)

5.3.3 Charter of Academic Freedom

At its meeting of 18 April 2007, the Academic Board endorsed the Charter of Academic Freedom and agreed to ask Senate to also endorse the document. Prior to its submission to Senate, a suggestion was made that the document be reworded. The intent was to maintain the content but provide a more inspirational form of words. Members approved the amended version of the Charter.

Resolution 86/07

That the Academic Board endorse the amended Charter of Academic Freedom and recommend that Senate also endorse the Charter of Academic Freedom.

Action: That the Chair of the Academic Board recommend to Senate that it endorse the Charter of Academic Freedom.

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

6.1 Report on Senate Matters

6.1.1 Report of the Senate meeting held on 7 May 2007

The Acting Vice-Chancellor asked members to note the Vice-Chancellor’s report of the Senate meeting on 7 May 2007.

Resolution 87/07

That the Academic Board note the report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal on matters considered by Senate at its meeting held on 7 May 2007.

6.2 General report

The Acting Vice-Chancellor spoke to member regarding the impact of the 2007/2008 federal budget. Some of the positive items in the budget included the formation of an endowment to address the chronic under-funding of infrastructure in the tertiary education sector, and the increased flexibility regarding under- and over-enrolment and application of loads across discipline groups. Funding levels had been altered, with increased funding for disciplines such as mathematics and some health sciences areas, and decreased funding for business. However it was difficult for the University to get a clear picture of how these changes would affect its operations until such time as detailed information was released on how the changes would be implemented and what conditions might apply to the new funding arrangements (e.g. would funding be contingent on state governments transferring their oversight of universities to the federal government).

The Acting Vice-Chancellor highlighted the recent election of Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir as the University's new Chancellor, and noted that good progress was being made in the search for a new Vice-Chancellor.

Resolution 88/07

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

★ 7. Question time

The following questions were raised:

The Acting Vice-Chancellor was asked to comment on the likelihood of Voluntary Student Unionism being repealed if there was a change in the federal government. He responded that neither major party had expressed support for such a move and that the University should continue to support the student groups to become financially independent.

The Acting Vice-Chancellor was asked whether or not the University was thinking of using the greater flexibility of the new, larger funding bands to shift load between faculties, giving a theoretical example of shifting HECS load from the Faculty of Law to the Faculty of Economics and Business. He responded that the University did not have enough detail about the new arrangements and was not giving specific consideration to such a plan.

The Acting Vice-Chancellor was asked, following the announcement in the budget of a planned expansion of the income support scheme for postgraduate students, whether the University had identified postgraduate courses to which the expanded income support scheme should apply. He responded that the University needed further information on the proposed changes and he invited SUPRA to provide suggestions.

A member stated that he understood a review of undergraduate course structures was being undertaken under the auspices of the Provost. The Acting Vice-Chancellor was asked to comment on a view that the Higher Education Support Act (HESA) allowed the University to charge all students one year of full fees and whether or not the University was contemplating, as part of the review of courses, introducing such a compulsory payment; and if not why not. The Acting Vice-Chancellor responded that course reviews were ongoing across the University and recent reviews had included the review of postgraduate coursework programs, as well as major undergraduate courses

with the aim of improving the flexibility of choice for students. He stated that there was no plan to introduce mandatory full fees for all student places and indicated that he was not aware that this was possible but would take that part of the question on notice.

Resolution 89/07

That the Academic Board note the questions and responses provided.

★ 8. **Focus Topic: Role of the Academic Board**

The Chair introduced Professor Simon Chapman to the Academic Board and invited him to facilitate the discussion on this topic.

Professor Chapman advised members that the Chair had circulated a discussion paper which elucidated many of the issues being discussed across the University. The paper proposed that the Board has a role in “preserving the core values and purpose of the institution”, that there is an existing duality between excellence in academic performance and efficiency in business operations to support this and that, while the Board does not have a management role, it has a critical role in developing academic policies that support management. He noted that there was a tension between the traditional values of academic life and the sector-wide drive towards more commercial activities and less reliance on government funding. He invited members to discuss the issues raised in the paper.

Members raised the following points in discussion:

- the original incarnation of the Academic Board (1975 to 1996) was referred to as a parliamentary-style debating chamber, and some members stated that things changed, for the worse, when the Board was reduced in numbers in 1996 and the Academic Forum was introduced (the Forum was disbanded in 2004);
- one member suggested that the authority of the Academic Board depended upon the level of seriousness with which people took their role as members of the Board;
- another member suggested that the Academic Board should reclaim some of its original role in considering academic appointments, highlighting some of the concerns regarding the current procedures;
- members agreed that the committees and the working parties of the Academic Board performed well, but it was noted that most staff were disengaged from the decisions made by the committees and by the Academic Board – the issue of appropriate resourcing of Academic Board activities was also raised;
- one member expressed concern at the concept of the academic/management divide, and the consequent assumption that senior management did not embrace the same core values as academics, noting that if this was the case then there were serious problems with the University’s senior appointment processes;
- the same member encouraged the Academic Board to focus on quality assurance and improvement, noting that properly constituted committees should be entrusted with the routine work of the Board, and argued that communication and engagement on philosophical and value debates should be occurring at all levels of the University;
- another member pointed out the unique characteristics of universities as highly democratic and self-managed organisations, with a large percentage of staff with leadership roles, and that the Board plays an important role in bringing together a cross-section of these people to engage in discussion and debate;

- members agreed that the exchange of academic views (as exemplified in this discussion) was more interesting than the more frequent debate of points of policy;
- one member encouraged the Academic Board to take on a more visionary role and to participate in shaping the University's strategies;
- another member pointed out that the Academic Board had substantial influence and noted that the vast majority of its recommendations had been approved by Senate; and
- the high level of collegiality at the University was highlighted by another member, who pointed out that the Academic Board was the guardian of that collegiality, and encouraged the Board to become prospective and proactive and to increase its influence by becoming more effective.

A number of suggestions were raised during discussion including:

- seeking more resources for the formation and administration of working parties;
- distributing committee reports to Academic Board members (using an earlier timeline than for current agenda distribution) and inviting members to provide comment on the reports prior to the Board meetings, thus providing more time at the meetings for discussion of academic topics; and
- extending the distribution of the agenda to all staff at the University, with the invitation to comment on starred items.

Members also noted the need to encourage students and junior academic staff to participate as members of the Academic Board, and it was noted that amendments to the processes for student elections in particular required review.

The Chair noted that the Deputy Provost (Learning and Teaching) & Pro Vice-Chancellor would be giving a seminar that night on similar issues and that the role of the Academic Board would also be discussed at next weeks Vice-Chancellor's Advisory Committee Forum. He thanked members for their participation and indicated that the matter would be revisited.

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



9.1 Oral report of the Chair

The Chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee advised members that - most of the business in the past month has been "late, urgent" approvals. All such approvals were supported unanimously by the Committee, with the exception of the amendment to the Bachelor of Laws (the student representative had abstained from voting on this proposal).

Resolution 90/07

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee.

9.2 Report of the meeting held on 8 May 2007

9.2.1 Proposals for New and Amended Courses

9.2.1.1 Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies and Faculty of Economics and Business: Bachelor of Information Technology/ Bachelor of Commerce

Resolution 91/07

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies and the Faculty of Economics and Business for a new combined degree course of Bachelor of Information Technology and Bachelor of Commerce
- (2) recommend that Senate:
 - (i) endorse the introduction of the new combined degree course; and
 - (ii) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies and the Faculty of Economics and Business and the introduction of new resolutions of Senate relating to the course;
- (3) note the introduction of the new Faculty Resolutions relating to the course, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended), and approve the Faculty requirements relating to units of study, and the award of the degrees at pass and honours levels,

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

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the introduction of the Bachelor of Information Technology and Bachelor of Commerce in the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies and the Faculty of Economics and Business, the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies and Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Economics and Business and the introduction of Resolutions of the Senate relating to the course.

The Deans and Faculty Managers of the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies and the Faculty of Economics and Business to note the Academic Board's approval of the new course, the Bachelor of Information Technology and Bachelor of Commerce and the related faculty resolutions.

(File TBA)

9.2.1.2 Faculty of Medicine: Bachelor of Arts (Advanced) (Honours)/Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery; Bachelor of Medical Science/Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery; Bachelor of Music Studies/Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery; Bachelor of Science (Advanced) /Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery

Resolution 92/07

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Medicine to amend the Bachelor of Arts (Advanced) (Honours)/Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, Bachelor of Medical Science/Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, Bachelor of Music Studies/Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery and Bachelor of Science (Advanced) /Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery;
- (2) recommend that Senate:
 - (i) endorse the amendment of these courses; and
 - (ii) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to these courses;
- (3) note the Resolutions of the Faculty relating to these courses, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended); and
- (4) approve the faculty requirements relating to the pass degree,
from 1 January 2007, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the proposal to amend the course requirements for the Bachelor of Arts (Advanced)(Honours)/Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, Bachelor of Medical Science/ Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, Bachelor of Music Studies/Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, and Bachelor of Science (Advanced)/Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery and the amendment of Resolutions of the Senate relating to these courses.

The Deans and Faculty Managers of the Faculties of Arts, Medicine and Science and the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to note the Academic Board's approval of the amendment to the faculty resolutions of the Bachelor of Arts (Advanced)(Honours)/Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, Bachelor of Medical Science/ Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, Bachelor of Music Studies/Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, and Bachelor of Science (Advanced)/Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery.

(File 2004/2936, 2004/2937)

9.2.1.3 Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery: Bachelor of Nursing (Post-registration) Degree

Resolution 93/07

That the Academic Board approve the proposal from the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery to offer the Bachelor of Nursing (Post-registration) degree locally as well as off-shore with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to offer the Bachelor of Nursing (Post-registration) degree locally as well as off-shore.

(File 2007/2790)

9.2.1.4 Faculty of Pharmacy (1) Bachelor of Pharmacy

Resolution 94/07

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Pharmacy to amend the Bachelor of Pharmacy degree; and
- (2) recommend that Senate approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Bachelor of Pharmacy;
- (3) note the Resolutions of the Faculty relating to this course, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended); and
- (4) approve the faculty requirements relating to admission, the pass degree, the honours degree and award of the degree,

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

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the proposal from the Faculty of Pharmacy to amend the Bachelor of Pharmacy and approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the course.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Pharmacy to note the Academic Board's approval of the amendment of the Bachelor of Pharmacy and the related faculty resolutions.

(File 2003/2022)

(2) Bachelor of Pharmacy (Rural)

Resolution 95/07

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Pharmacy to delete the Bachelor of Pharmacy (Rural) degree; and
- (2) recommend that Senate approve the amendment to the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Pharmacy and the rescission of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Bachelor of Pharmacy (Rural);

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

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the proposal from the Faculty of Pharmacy to delete the Bachelor of Pharmacy (Rural), approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Pharmacy and the rescission of Resolutions of the Senate relating to the course.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Pharmacy to note the Academic Board's approval of the deletion of the Bachelor of Pharmacy (Rural) and the related faculty resolutions.

(File 2002/2020)

9.2.1.5 Faculty of Health Sciences: Bachelor Applied Science (Speech Pathology) and Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours

Resolution 96/07

That the Academic Board endorse the proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to amend the Bachelor Applied Science (Speech Pathology) and Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report.

Action: 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 Applied Science (Speech Pathology) and Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours and the related faculty resolutions.

(File 2003/3393)

9.2.1.6 Sydney Conservatorium of Music

(1) Diploma of Music

Resolution 97/07

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to amend the Diploma of Music course;
- (2) recommend that Senate approve the new Resolutions of Senate relating to the course and the rescission of the existing Resolutions of Senate for the course;
- (3) note the introduction of new Resolutions of the Faculty relating to the course, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended); and
- (4) approve the faculty requirements relating to admission, units of study, the diploma and award of the diploma, from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the proposal from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to amend the Diploma of Music and approve the rescission of the existing Resolutions of Senate and the introduction of new Resolutions of Senate relating to the course.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to note the Academic Board's approval of the amendment of the Diploma of Music and the related faculty resolutions.

(File 2000/4198)

(2) Bachelor of Music Studies

Resolution 98/07

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to amend the Bachelor of Music Studies course;
- (2) recommend that Senate approve the new Resolutions of Senate relating to the course and the rescission of the existing Resolutions of Senate for the course;
- (3) note the introduction of new Resolutions of the Faculty relating to the course, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended); and

- (4) approve the faculty requirements relating to admission, units of study, the pass degree, the honours degree and award of the degree, from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the proposal from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to amend the Bachelor of Music Studies and approve the rescission of the existing Resolutions of Senate and the introduction of new Resolutions of Senate relating to the course.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to note the Academic Board's approval of the amendment of the Bachelor of Music Studies and the related faculty resolutions.

(File 2000/4197)

(3) Bachelor of Music

Resolution 99/07

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to amend the Bachelor of Music course;
- (2) recommend that Senate approve the new Resolutions of Senate relating to the course and the rescission of the existing Resolutions of Senate for the course;
- (3) note the introduction of new Resolutions of the Faculty relating to the course, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended); and
- (4) approve the faculty requirements relating to admission, units of study, the pass degree, the honours degree and award of the degree, from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the proposal from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to amend the Bachelor of Music and approve the rescission of the existing Resolutions of Senate and the introduction of new Resolutions of Senate relating to the course.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to note the Academic

Board's approval of the amendment of the Bachelor of Music and the related faculty resolutions.

(File 2000/4196)

(4) Advanced Diploma of Opera

Resolution 100/07

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to replace the Diploma of Opera with the Advanced Diploma of Opera;
- (2) recommend that Senate approve the new Resolutions of Senate relating to the Advanced Diploma of Opera, the rescission of the existing Resolutions of Senate for the Diploma of Opera and the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Sydney Conservatorium of Music;
- (3) note the introduction of new Resolutions of the Faculty relating to the Advanced Diploma of Opera, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended); and
- (4) approve the faculty requirements relating to admission, units of study, the advanced diploma and award of the advanced diploma,

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

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the proposal from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to replace the Diploma of Opera with the Advanced Diploma of Opera, approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, approve the rescission of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Diploma of Opera and the introduction of new Resolutions of Senate relating to the Advanced Diploma of Opera.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to note the Academic Board's approval of the replacement of the Diploma of Opera with the Advanced Diploma of Opera and the introduction of the related faculty resolutions.

(File TBA)

9.2.1.7 Faculty of Law

(1) Bachelor of Laws

Resolution 101/07

That the Academic Board:

- (1) note the amendments to the Resolutions of the Faculty relating to the Bachelor of Laws, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended); and
- (2) approve the faculty requirements relating to the requirements of the degree,

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

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Law to note the Academic Board's approval of the amendment of the Bachelor of Laws and the related faculty resolutions.

(File 003/0019/00019)

(2) Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Arts (Media & Communications)/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Economics/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Economic and Social Sciences/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Engineering/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of International Studies/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Laws

Resolution 102/07

That the Academic Board:

- (1) note the amendments to the Resolutions of the Faculty relating to the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Arts (Media & Communications)/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Economics/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Economic and Social Sciences/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Engineering/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of International Studies/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Laws, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended); and
- (2) approve the faculty requirements relating to the requirements of the degrees,

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

Action: The Deans and Faculty Managers of the Faculties of Arts, Economics and Business,

Engineering and Information Technologies, Law and Science to note the Academic Board's approval of the amendment of the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Arts (Media & Communications)/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Economics/ Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Economic and Social Sciences/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Engineering/Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of International Studies/ Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Science/ Bachelor of Laws and the related faculty resolutions.

(File 003/0018/00009, 2000/3991)

9.2.2 Reports from Faculties

9.2.2.1 Faculty of Veterinary Science

(1) Bachelor of Veterinary Science

Resolution 103/07

That the Academic Board note the report from the Faculty of Veterinary Science regarding Faculty approved amendments to the units of study in the Bachelor of Veterinary Science course.

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

(File 003/0022/00001)

(2) Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Bioscience

Resolution 104/07

That the Academic Board note the report from the Faculty of Veterinary Science regarding Faculty approved amendments to the units of study in the Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Bioscience course.

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

(File 2004/8761)

9.2.2.2 Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies: Bachelor of Computer Science and Technology, Bachelor of Computer Science and Technology (Advanced), Bachelor of Engineering, Bachelor of Information Technology

Resolution 105/07

That the Academic Board note the report from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies regarding the Faculty approved amendments to the units of study in the Bachelor of Computer Science and Technology, Bachelor of Computer Science and Technology (Advanced), Bachelor of Engineering, Bachelor of Information Technology.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to note the Academic Board's approval of the amendments to the units of study in the Bachelor of Computer Science and Technology, Bachelor of Computer Science and Technology (Advanced), Bachelor of Engineering, Bachelor of Information Technology.

(File 003/0018/00010, 003/0018/00012,
003/0021/00005, 2000/4313)

9.2.2.3 Faculty of Law: Bachelor of Laws

Resolution 106/07

That the Academic Board note the report from the Faculty of Laws regarding Faculty approved amendments to the units of study in the Bachelor of Laws and related combined degrees, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Law to note the Academic Board's approval of the amendments to the units of study in the Bachelor of Laws.

(File 003/0019/00019)

9.2.3 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution 107/07

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Undergraduate Studies Committee meeting held on 8 May 2007, as set out in the report presented.

10. Report of the Graduate Studies Committee
(Associate Professor Peter McCallum)

★ **10.1 Oral report of the Chair**

The Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee noted that the proposal for the Master, Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate in US Studies had been the subject of some debate at the Committee, and that significant work had been undertaken to address a number of

concerns. He also noted that a joint working party would be established with the Admissions Sub-Committee and the Research and Research Training Committee to review English language requirements at the University.

Resolution 108/07

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee.

10.2 Report of the meeting held on 22 May 2007

10.2.1 Proposals for New and Amended Courses

10.2.1.1 Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning

(1) Master of Architecture

Resolution 109/07

That the Academic Board:

- (i) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to introduce the Master of Architecture
- (ii) 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 Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning; and
 - (c) approve the introduction of Resolutions of Senate relating to the course; and
- (iii) approve the faculty requirements relating to the degree;

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

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the proposal from the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to introduce the Master of Architecture, approve the amendment of the Senate Resolutions relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning and the introduction of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to this course.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to introduce the Master of Architecture and the new Faculty Resolutions relating to the course.

(File 2007/2407)

- (2) **Master of Architecture (Architectural Design), Graduate Diploma in Architecture (Architectural Design), Graduate Certificate in Architecture (Architectural Design), Master of Architecture (Architectural and Urban Design), Graduate Diploma in Architecture (Architectural and Urban Design), Graduate Certificate in Architecture (Architectural and Urban Design), Master of Architecture (Architectural History, Theory and Criticism), Graduate Diploma in Architecture (Architectural History, Theory and Criticism) and Graduate Certificate in Architecture (Architectural History, Theory and Criticism)**

Resolution 110/07

That the Academic Board:

- (i) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to rename the Master of Architecture (Architectural Design), Graduate Diploma in Architecture (Architectural Design), Graduate Certificate in Architecture (Architectural Design), Master of Architecture (Architectural and Urban Design), Graduate Diploma in Architecture (Architectural and Urban Design), Graduate Certificate in Architecture (Architectural and Urban Design), Master of Architecture (Architectural History, Theory and Criticism), Graduate Diploma in Architecture (Architectural History, Theory and Criticism) and Graduate Certificate in Architecture (Architectural History, Theory and Criticism)
- (ii) 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 Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning and relating to the courses; and
- (iii) approve the faculty requirements relating to the degrees, diplomas and certificates;

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

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the proposal from the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to rename the Master of Architecture (Architectural Design), Graduate Diploma in Architecture

(Architectural Design), Graduate Certificate in Architecture (Architectural Design), Master of Architecture (Architectural and Urban Design), Graduate Diploma in Architecture (Architectural and Urban Design), Graduate Certificate in Architecture (Architectural and Urban Design), Master of Architecture (Architectural History, Theory and Criticism), Graduate Diploma in Architecture (Architectural History, Theory and Criticism) and Graduate Certificate in Architecture (Architectural History, Theory and Criticism), the amendment of the Senate Resolutions relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning and the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to these courses.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to rename the Master of Architecture (Architectural Design), Graduate Diploma in Architecture (Architectural Design), Graduate Certificate in Architecture (Architectural Design), Master of Architecture (Architectural and Urban Design), Graduate Diploma in Architecture (Architectural and Urban Design), Graduate Certificate in Architecture (Architectural and Urban Design), Master of Architecture (Architectural History, Theory and Criticism), Graduate Diploma in Architecture (Architectural History, Theory and Criticism) and Graduate Certificate in Architecture (Architectural History, Theory and Criticism) and amend the Faculty Resolutions relating to these courses.

(File 2001/5035)

10.2.1.2 Faculty of Arts

(1) Master of US Studies, Graduate Diploma in US Studies, Graduate Certificate in US Studies

Resolution 111/07

That the Academic Board:

- (i) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts to introduce the Master of US Studies, Graduate Diploma in US Studies and Graduate Certificate in US Studies
- (ii) 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 Degrees, Diplomas and

- Certificates in the Faculty of Arts and relating to the courses;
- (c) approve the introduction of Resolutions of Senate relating to the courses; and
 - (iii) approve the faculty requirements relating to the degree, diploma and certificate; with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the proposal from the Faculty of Arts to introduce the Master of US Studies, Graduate Diploma in US Studies and Graduate Certificate in US Studies, the amendment of the Senate Resolutions relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Arts and the introduction of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to these courses.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Arts to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to introduce the Master of US Studies, Graduate Diploma in US Studies and Graduate Certificate in US Studies and the new Faculty Resolutions relating to these courses.

(File 2007/2558)

(2) Master of Arts, Graduate Diploma in Arts, Graduate Certificate in Arts: Italian Renaissance Studies Major

Resolution 112/07

That the Academic Board:

- (i) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts to re-introduce the Italian Renaissance Studies major in the Master of Arts, Graduate Diploma in Arts and Graduate Certificate in Arts
- (ii) recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal; and
- (iii) approve the faculty requirements relating to the degree, diploma and certificate; with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Arts to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to re-introduce the Italian Renaissance Studies major in the Master of Arts, Graduate Diploma in Arts and Graduate Certificate in Arts and the amended Faculty Resolutions relating to these courses.

(File 003/0015/00026, 003/0015/00031,
003/0015/00032)

(3) Master of Human Rights, Graduate Diploma in Human Rights, Graduate Certificate in Human Rights

Resolution 113/07

That the Academic Board:

- (i) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts to introduce the Master of Human Rights, Graduate Diploma in Human Rights, Graduate Certificate in Human Rights
- (ii) 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 Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Arts and relating to the courses;
 - (c) approve the introduction of Resolutions of Senate relating to the courses; and
- (iii) approve the faculty requirements relating to the degree, diploma and certificate; with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the proposal from the Faculty of Arts to introduce the Master of Human Rights, Graduate Diploma in Human Rights, Graduate Certificate in Human Rights, the amendment of the Senate Resolutions relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Arts and the introduction of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to these courses.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Arts to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to introduce the Master of Human Rights, Graduate Diploma in Human Rights, Graduate Certificate in Human Rights and the new Faculty Resolutions relating to these courses.

(File TBA)

10.2.1.3 Faculty of Science: Master of Applied Science (Spatial Information Systems), Graduate Diploma in Applied Science (Spatial Information Systems)

Resolution 114/07

That the Academic Board:

- (i) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to introduce the Master of Applied Science (Spatial Information Systems) and the Graduate Diploma in Applied Science (Spatial Information Systems);
- (ii) 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 Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Science and
 - (c) approve the introduction of Resolutions of Senate relating to the courses; and
- (iii) approve the faculty requirements relating to the degree and the diploma;

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

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the proposal from the Faculty of Science to introduce the Master of Applied Science (Spatial Information Systems) and the Graduate Diploma in Applied Science (Spatial Information Systems), the amendment of the Senate Resolutions relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Science and the introduction of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to these courses.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Arts to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to introduce the Master of Applied Science (Spatial Information Systems) and the Graduate Diploma in Applied Science (Spatial Information Systems) and the new Faculty Resolutions relating to these courses.

(File 2006/11177)

10.2.1.4 Sydney College of the Arts: Master of Multimedia Design

Resolution 115/07

That the Academic Board:

- (i) approve the proposal from the Sydney College of the Arts to amend the Master of Multimedia Design to become the Master of Interactive and Digital Media
- (ii) 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 Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Sydney College of the Arts and relating to the course;
 - (iii) approve the faculty requirements relating to the degree;
- with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the proposal from the Sydney College of the Arts to amend the Master of Multimedia Design to become the Master of Interactive and Digital Media, the amendment of the Senate Resolutions relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Sydney College of the Arts and the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to these courses.

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 Master of Multimedia Design to become the Master of Interactive and Digital Media and the amendment of the related Faculty Resolutions.

(File 2002/5339)

10.2.2 Amendments to Faculty Resolutions

10.2.2.1 Faculty of Architecture, Design & Planning: Master of Design Science (Design Computing), Graduate Diploma in Design Science (Design Computing), Graduate Certificate in Design Science (Design Computing)

Resolution 116/07

That the Academic Board approve the amendments to the admission requirements in the Faculty Resolutions for the Master of Design Science (Design Computing), the Graduate Diploma in Design Science (Design Computing) and the Graduate Certificate in Design Science (Design Computing), with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to note the Academic Board's approval of the amendments to the admission requirements in the Faculty Resolutions for the Master of Design Science (Design Computing), the Graduate Diploma in Design Science (Design Computing) and the

Graduate Certificate in Design Science (Design Computing).

(File 2000/2977)

10.2.3 Reports from Faculties

10.2.3.1 Faculty of Law: Master of Criminology, Graduate Diploma in Criminology, Master of Environmental Law, Graduate Diploma in Environmental Law, Master of Health Law, Graduate Diploma in Health Law, Master of International Law, Graduate Diploma in International Law, Master of International Taxation, Master of Taxation, Graduate Diploma in Taxation

Resolution 117/07

That the Academic Board note the report from the Faculty of Law regarding the introduction and amendment of units of study in the Master of Criminology, Graduate Diploma in Criminology, Master of Environmental Law, Graduate Diploma in Environmental Law, Master of Health Law, Graduate Diploma in Health Law, Master of International Law, Graduate Diploma in International Law, Master of International Taxation, Master of Taxation, Graduate Diploma in Taxation, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Law to note the Academic Board's approval of the amendments to the units of study in the Master of Criminology, Graduate Diploma in Criminology, Master of Environmental Law, Graduate Diploma in Environmental Law, Master of Health Law, Graduate Diploma in Health Law, Master of International Law, Graduate Diploma in International Law, Master of International Taxation, Master of Taxation, Graduate Diploma in Taxation.

(File 003/0019/00007, 003/0019/00009,
003/0019/00013, 2000/348)

10.2.4 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution 118/07

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Graduate Studies Committee meeting held on 22 May 2007, as set out in the report presented.

11. Report of the Learning and Teaching Committee (Associate Professor Robyn Ewing)

★

11.1 Oral report of the Chair

The Chair of the Learning and Teaching Committee advised members that the Assessment Working Party was continuing to meet and discuss a variety of issues regarding processes and policies across

the University. She recommended scheduling a forum to look at some of these issues.

The President of SUPRA noted that the issue of full-fee paying places, and their potential impact on learning and teaching, had been discussed at the Committee. She asked if there were any plans to review the impact of such admissions at the University. The Chair of the Academic Board noted that this would need to be referred to the Provost for advice.

Resolution 119/07

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Learning and Teaching Committee.

11.2 Report of the meeting held on 15 May 2007

11.2.1 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution 120/07

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Learning and Teaching Committee meeting held on 22 May 2007, as set out in the report presented.

12. Report of the Research and Research Training Committee

(Associate Professor Robyn Overall)

★

12.1 Oral report of the Chair

The Chair of the Research and Research Training Committee advised members that she had no items to draw to their attention, other than those already starred for discussion.

Resolution 121/07

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Research and Research Training Committee.

12.2 Report of the meeting held on 8 May 2007

★

12.2.1 Allocation of APAs and UPAs

The Chair advised members, prior to opening up the topic for discussion, that this item was being considered on behalf of the University, and should be discussed in terms of the University's core values of merit and equity. He further advised that the recommendation was being made on the basis that the University has robust and consistent assessment practices, and he reminded members that there had been a recent review of Honours at the University and that a comprehensive review of assessment practices and policies was currently underway. Finally he noted that the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) had announced that morning that the University was actively working towards increasing the pool of scholarships.

Professor Overall advised members that the recommended changes to allocation had been the subject of vigorous debate by the Postgraduate Awards Sub-Committee and the Research and Research Training Committee. The major recommendation was the replacement of the previous three college lists with a single University list. She noted that, while

there would no longer be college quotas, both faculties and faculty clusters would have input in determining the ranking of students on the University list. She further noted that the process would be reviewed following its use for the Semester Two allocations. She also pointed out to members that the table on pages G13 and G14 should be replaced with the table on pages G4 and G5 of the report.

The motion was seconded.

During discussion, the following points were raised:

- the faculties of health were opposed to the changes and questioned the modelling, the amended use of the research potential indicator and the process for evaluation;
- these faculties were also concerned that there would be significant changes to the numbers of scholarships awarded to specific faculties and that this should be evaluated;
- the President of SUPRA asked whether the evaluation of the allocation process would be considered by the Postgraduate Awards Sub-Committee or the Research and Research Training Committee and was assured that the Committee would consider and make recommendations on the evaluation;
- SUPRA also expressed concern that the number of scholarships awarded to any one faculty could fluctuate from year to year and could have an adverse impact on research resourcing in individual faculties, that the process could be affected by the inflation of assessment marks and suggested that the process be modelled on previous years' data;
- the factors of demand and merit had to be considered, and the new process would provide a stronger guarantee that the best students were receiving the scholarships;
- the definition of merit was questioned, and the amended processes were questioned with respect to the practices of other Group of Eight universities (e.g. the University of Western Australia and the Australian National University had adopted, and then abandoned a single list);
- on this last matter, it was noted that ANU had recently reverted to a single list;
- it was pointed out that there were different cultures of marking across the University using different mark ranges, and that the amended processes no longer linked completions to scholarship allocations which could reduce the incentive to improve completion rates;
- on these two points it was noted that completion rates were now linked to other funding formulae, and that discrepancies in marking and assessment regimes could still be dealt with at the faculty and cluster level;
- concerns were raised about assessing recent school leavers and mid-career professionals with the same criteria and it was argued that they be treated as separate groups (it was agreed that this matter would be looked into);
- it was noted that the recent amendments to the award of honours were incorporated into the new processes;

- it was suggested that one of the responsibilities of the Board was to look at policy proposals with a broad view in order to be consistent in its application of principles that underlie policy; and that in the case of undergraduate admissions the University was willing to depart from a single merit list and to set quotas for undergraduate HECS places, which the Vice-Chancellor had fairly argued were scholarships, for particular faculties and degrees; and
- it was also noted that, while there was specific mention of creative and performing arts in the detail of the process, they were not specifically mentioned in the body of the report or the policies.

The recommendation was put to the vote with a majority voting in favour of it and ten members voting against it. The recommendation was carried.

Resolution 122/07

That the Academic Board approve:

- (i) the adoption of a single list for ranking applicants for APAs and UPAs, with associated guidelines,
- (ii) the nomination of three representatives from the Postgraduate Awards Sub-Committee to scrutinise the cluster rankings for these scholarships, and
- (iii) the piloting of the new process during the Semester 2, 2007 allocations round, with a review of the guidelines following this round,

as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Executive Officer to amend the policies relating to the method of award and ranking guidelines for APAs and UPAs.

(File P21)

★ **12.2.2 Submission of Theses Containing Published Work**

The Chair advised members that Associate Professor Masters, who had starred the item, was unable to remain for the discussion, but had tabled some written notes. Professor Masters, in his notes, pointed out that the recommendation did not accurately reflect the item, as the Faculty of Medicine had not requested a full waiver of the policy (Submission of Theses Containing Published Work) but had requested that a senior author be permitted to certify the published work on behalf of a large group of authors. He suggested that the recommendation be emended to reflect that the request was for a specific variation on the requirements of the policy for a single case. Members approved the amendment to the recommendation, and approved the request for variation of the requirements of the policy for this case.

It was agreed that the process suggested by the Faculty of Medicine (i.e. certification of published works by a single senior author) be referred to the Research and Research Training Committee for further consideration.

Resolution 123/07

That the Academic Board approve the variation of the requirements in the policy “Submission of Doctor of Philosophy Theses Containing Published Work”, to allow a senior author to certify the written works on behalf of all other authors, with regard to one specific case, 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 request to vary the requirements in the policy “Submission of Doctor of Philosophy Theses Containing Published Work” to allow a senior author to certify the written works on behalf of all other authors, for this particular case.

(File P19)

12.2.3 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution 124/07

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Learning and Teaching Committee meeting held on 8 May 2007, as set out in the report presented.

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

★

13.1 Oral report of the Chair

The Chair of the Academic Staffing Committee advised members that he was in support of the amendments to the Charter of Academic Freedom, although he thought that the changed version was in fact less 'poetic' than the version originally approved by the Academic Staffing Committee and the Academic Board.

Resolution 125/07

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Staffing Committee.

14. General Business

14.1 Membership of the Central Promotions Committees 2007

Resolution 126/07

That the Academic Board appoint members to the Central Promotions Committees for 2007, as set out in the report presented.

The Chair apologised to members in advance for being unable to attend the next meeting of the Academic Board on 11 July 2007, as he would be at the Australian Universities Quality Forum conference in Hobart.

The meeting closed at 3:50 p.m.

Signed as a correct record

Chair

Date