

AGENDA ITEM 9

Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee

9.2 Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee meeting held on 13 February 2008

The Committee met on 13 February 2008 when there were present: the Chair (Professor S Kable) presiding, Professors D Armstrong and B Sutton, Associate Professors C Collyer and T Ho, Drs D Auld, F Burns, C Comerton-Forde, S Cumming (for Ms J Gamble), D Field (for Professor D Guest), J Hanrahan, J Shaw and B Winter, Mr P Ball, Mr D Bowan and Ms K Laing. Associate Professor M Walton and Ms A Griffiths were in attendance.

9.2.1 The University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999 (as amended)

The Admissions Sub-Committee has recommended changes to the Rule which would allow students with a suitable tertiary record to apply for admission without their record of secondary study being used to determine eligibility. The proposed amendments are aimed at addressing current inequities in the admissions process. The Committee discussed the proposed rewording and agreed that Clause 42.2 in the Amendment Act Rule should be amended as follows (additions indicated by underlined, deletions indicated by strikethrough):

42.2 Except where specifically provided otherwise in the resolutions of the course(s) concerned, consideration shall normally be given to either the applicant's record of tertiary studies or their record of both tertiary and secondary studies, with the better of either record being used to determine their eligibility for admission. Where the applicant does not have recognised secondary qualifications, only the tertiary record will be considered.

Recommendation

That the Academic Board recommend that Senate approve the amendments to the University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999 (as amended), with effect from 1 January 2009.

9.2.2 TOEFL equivalences

pages D3-D5

The Committee has endorsed changes to the list of TOEFL score equivalences, as recommended by the International Office. These changes address inconsistencies between published lists of English Language requirements in time for publication of 2009 entry material.

Recommendation

That the Academic Board approve the list of TOEFL equivalences, with effect from 1 January 2009.

9.2.3 Proposals for New and Amended Undergraduate Courses**9.2.3.1 Faculty of Health Sciences: Bachelor of Health Sciences and Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours)**

page D6

The Faculty of Health Sciences has proposed amendments to the Bachelor of Health Sciences and Bachelor of Health Sciences Honours courses, to offer a major in Hearing and Speech and a major in Human Movement. The proposal to offer a major in Human Movement has been held over so that further consultation may take place with the Faculty of Education and Social Work.

Recommendation

That the Academic Board:

- (1) *approve the proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to amend the Bachelor of Health Sciences and Bachelor of Health Sciences Honours, to include a major in Hearing and Speech,*

- (2) *recommend that Senate:*
 - (a) *endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences,*
 - (b) *approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the course**with effect from 1 January 2009, as set out in the report presented.*

9.2.3.2 Faculty of Science *pages D7-D9*

The Faculty of Science proposes to delete the following two courses, effective from 1 January 2009.

(1) Bachelor of Science (Molecular Biotechnology) *pages D7-D9*

Recommendation

That the Academic Board:

- (1) *approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to delete the Bachelor of Science (Molecular Biotechnology)*
 - (2) *recommend that Senate:*
 - (a) *endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to delete this course; and*
 - (b) *approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the list of degrees, diplomas and certificates in the Faculty of Science, and the rescission of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the course,*
 - (3) *approve the deletion of the Faculty Resolutions relating to the course*
- with effect from 1 January 2009, as set out in the report presented.*

(2) Bachelor of Science (Marine Science) *pages D7-D9*

Recommendation

That the Academic Board:

- (1) *approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to delete the Bachelor of Science (Marine Science)*
 - (2) *recommend that Senate:*
 - (a) *endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to delete this course; and*
 - (b) *approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the list of degrees, diplomas and certificates in the Faculty of Science, and the rescission of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the course,*
 - (3) *approve the deletion of the Faculty Resolutions relating to the course*
- with effect from 1 January 2009, as set out in the report presented.*

9.2.4 Proceedings of the Committee

The Committee also noted the following reports:

- Report of the Academic Board meeting held 21 November 2007;
- Report of the Academic Board meeting held 12 December 2008;
- Report of the Admissions Sub-Committee held 17 October 2007
- Report of the Chair.



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Subject: TOEFL iBT Recommendation

1) Background

Educational Testing Services (ETS) the organisation that conducts the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) has introduced an internet based test known as TOEFL iBT. The paper-based version of the TOEFL test will continue to be offered in some regions, however the Computer-based test has now been phased out.

Because of the University's 2 year recognition policy in relation to TOEFL, applicants for admission will continue to apply for admission with the old Computer based TOEFL results but these cases are now rare and will soon cease to be presented.

The University currently recognises the TOEFL iBT in its domestic and international promotional publications and in the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) Guide, however the score requirements have not been formally ratified by the Academic Board and there are differences between these published policies.

2) Recommendation

It is recommended that the University adopt for the undergraduate programs, the Internet Based TOEFL scores as detailed in the attached table. These equivalencies have been derived on the basis of information provided by the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC), ETS, advice provided by Ms Janet Conroy the Director of the Centre for English Teaching, and the scores adopted by other similar Australian universities.

At Ms Conroy's suggestion, the proposed schedule recommends the introduction of minimum scores across all subtests, where currently the University only stipulates a minimum score for the Writing subtest.

English Language Proficiency Requirements for Undergraduate Courses

Faculty/Course	IELTS (Academic)		Paper-based TOEFL		Computer-based TOEFL (CBT)		<u>Internet-based TOEFL (IBT)</u>	
	Overall	Section minimum	Overall	Test of Written English	Overall	Essay	Overall	Subtest minimums
Standard requirement	6.5	6	577	4.5	233	4.5	90	23 for Writing 22 for reading Speaking and Listening
Architecture (all programs)	7	6	600	5	250	5	101	25 for Writing 24 for Reading, Speaking and Listening
Bachelor of Arts (Media and Communications)	7.5	7	627	5	263	5	106	25 for Writing 24 for Reading, Speaking and Listening
Bachelor of Education And Social Work	7.5	7	627	5	263	5	106	25 for Writing 24 for Reading, Speaking and Listening
Health Sciences	7	7	600	5	250	5	101	25 for Writing 24 for Reading, speaking and listening
Law (all programs)	7.5	7	627	5	263	5	106	25 for Writing 24 for Reading, Speaking and Listening

Combined Nursing	7	7	600	5	250	5	101	25 for Writing 24 for Reading, Speaking and Listening
Veterinary Science	7	7	600	5	250	5	101	25 for Writing 24 for Reading, Speaking and Listening

Amendment to Resolutions of Senate

Faculty of Health Sciences

The Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Bachelor of Health Sciences in the Faculty of Health Sciences (p 244, *Calendar 2007*) are amended, with effect from 1 January 2009, as follows:

Bachelor of Health Sciences

1. Requirements for the Degree of Bachelor of Health Sciences

1.1 To qualify for the award of the Bachelor of Health Sciences students must:

1.1.1 complete successfully units of study giving credit for a total of:

1.1.1.1 144 credit points for the pass degree; and

1.1.1.2 192 credit points for the honours degree; and

1.1.2 satisfy the requirements of all other relevant By-laws, Rules and Resolutions of the University.

2. Specialisations, streams or majors

2.1 The award course, Bachelor of Health Sciences will be awarded in the following majors:

2.1.1 Health Sciences

2.1.2 Students will also take a major in ~~second major as described in the Faculty Resolutions:~~

2.1.2.1 Hearing and Speech, or

2.1.2.2 Human Movement, or

2.1.3 a major from another Faculty of the University as approved by the Faculty of Health Sciences.

3. Requirements for the Bachelor of Health Sciences honours degree

3.1 To qualify for the award of the honours degree students must complete the honours requirements published in the faculty resolutions relating to the course.

Amendment to Resolutions of Senate

Faculty of Science

The Resolutions of the Senate relating to the degrees, diplomas and certificates in the Faculty of Science (pp 279-280, *Calendar 2007*) are amended, with effect from 1 January 2009, as follows:

Degrees, diplomas and certificates in the Faculty of Science

1. The degrees in the Faculty of Science shall be:
 - 1.1 Bachelor of Science (BSc)
 - 1.1.1 which shall also incorporate the streams:
 - 1.1.1.1 Bachelor of Science (Molecular Biology & Genetics) (BSc(Molecular Biology & Genetics))
 - 1.1.1.2 Bachelor of Science (Environmental) (BSc(Environmental))
 - 1.1.1.3 Bachelor of Science (Bioinformatics) (BSc(Bioinformatics))
 - 1.1.1.4 Bachelor of Science (Advanced) (BSc(Advanced))
 - 1.1.1.5 Bachelor of Science (Advanced Mathematics) (BSc(Advanced Mathematics))
 - 1.1.1.6 Bachelor of Science (Nutrition) (BSc(Nutrition))
 - ~~1.1.1.7 Bachelor of Science (Marine Science) (BSc(Marine Science))~~
 - ~~1.1.1.8 Bachelor of Science (Molecular Biotechnology) (BSc(Molecular Biotechnology))~~
 - 1.2 Bachelor of Medical Science (BMedSc)
 - 1.3 Bachelor of Psychology (BPsych)
 - 1.4 Bachelor of Science and Technology (BST)

Amendment to Resolutions of Senate

Faculty of Science

The Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Bachelor of Science in the Faculty of Science (pp 280-281, *Calendar 2007*) are amended, with effect from 1 January 2009, as follows:

Bachelor of Science

Bachelor of Science
Bachelor of Science (Advanced)
Bachelor of Science (Advanced Mathematics)
Bachelor of Science (Bioinformatics)
Bachelor of Science (Environmental)
~~Bachelor of Science (Marine Science)~~
Bachelor of Science (Molecular Biology and Genetics)
~~Bachelor of Science (Molecular Biotechnology)~~
Bachelor of Science (Nutrition)

and the combined degree courses:

Bachelor of Science [or BSc(Advanced) or BSc(Advanced Mathematics)]/Bachelor of Laws
Bachelor of Science [or BSc(Advanced) or BSc(Advanced Mathematics)]/Bachelor of Arts
Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science [or BSc(Advanced) or BSc(Advanced Mathematics)]
Bachelor of Science [or BSc(Advanced) or BSc(Advanced Mathematics)]/Bachelor of Commerce
Bachelor of Science [or BSc(Advanced) or BSc(Advanced Mathematics)]/Bachelor of Engineering
Bachelor of Engineering/Bachelor of Science [or BSc(Advanced) or BSc(Advanced Mathematics)]
Bachelor of Education (Secondary: Science)/Bachelor of Science [or BSc(Advanced) or BSc(Advanced Mathematics)]
Bachelor of Education (Secondary: Mathematics)/Bachelor of Science [or BSc(Advanced) or BSc(Advanced Mathematics)]
Bachelor of Education (Secondary: Science)/Bachelor of Science (Psychology)
Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Science [or BSc(Advanced) or BSc(Advanced Mathematics)]
Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sports Science)/Bachelor of Science (Nutrition)

1. Requirements for the pass degree

1.1 To qualify for the award of the pass degree students must:

- 1.1.1 complete successfully units of study giving credit for a total of 144 credit points; and
- 1.1.2 satisfy the requirements of all other relevant By-laws, Rules and Resolutions of the University.

2. Requirements for the honours degree

2.1 To qualify for the award of the honours degree students must complete the honours requirements published in the faculty resolutions relating to the course.

3. Requirements for the combined degrees

3.1 To qualify for the award of the two degrees in a combined degree course students must complete the requirements published in these and the other relevant faculty resolutions relating to the course.

Amendment to Faculty Resolutions

Faculty of Science

The Faculty Resolutions relating to the Bachelor of Science in the Faculty of Science are amended, with effect from 1 January 2009, as follows:

Undergraduate Resolutions

This chapter contains the regulations governing undergraduate degrees throughout the University and the regulations governing undergraduate degrees offered by the Faculty of Science.

1. The degrees in the Faculty of Science shall be:
 - 1.1 Bachelor of Science (BSc)
 - 1.1.1 which shall also incorporate the streams:
 - 1.1.1.1 Bachelor of Science (Molecular Biology & Genetics) (BSc(Molecular Biology & Genetics))
 - 1.1.1.2 Bachelor of Science (Environmental) (BSc(Environmental))
 - 1.1.1.3 Bachelor of Science (Bioinformatics) (BSc(Bioinformatics))
 - 1.1.1.4 Bachelor of Science (Advanced) (BSc(Advanced))
 - 1.1.1.5 Bachelor of Science (Advanced Mathematics) (BSc(Advanced Mathematics))
 - 1.1.1.6 Bachelor of Science (Nutrition) (BSc(Nutrition))
 - ~~1.1.1.7 Bachelor of Science (Marine Science) (BSc(Marine Science))~~
 - ~~1.1.1.8 Bachelor of Science (Molecular Biotechnology) (BSc(Molecular Biotechnology))~~
 - 1.2 Bachelor of Medical Science (BMedSc)
 - 1.3 Bachelor of Psychology (BPsych)
 - 1.4 Bachelor of Science and Technology (BST)

Bachelor of Science

3.4 Other streams of the Bachelor of Science

3.4.1 In order to qualify for the award of the pass degree in the following streams, a student shall, except with the permission of the Dean, complete the requirements for the BSc degree in subsection 3.1 with the exception of 3.1.1.2 and complete the units of study set out in the respective Tables of undergraduate units of study:

~~3.4.1.1 Marine Science Table IC~~

3.4.1.1 Molecular Biology and Genetics Table ID

~~3.4.1.3 Molecular Biotechnology Table IE: or~~

3.4.1.2 in order to qualify for the award of honours degree in the Nutrition stream, a student shall, except with the permission of the Dean, complete the requirements for the BSc degree in subsections 3.1 and 4 and complete the units of study set out in Table IF.