



Undergraduate Studies Committee Agenda

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Supplementary Agenda

for the meeting on **Wednesday 13 August 2008**

	Pages
1. Apologies Additional apologies have been received from: D Armstrong, A Boyd, F Burns, R Gibson, M Rosenman.	
2. Minutes of previous meeting Ms L Brown should appear under apologies listed for the 18 June meeting.	
6. Reports of the Admissions Sub-Committee	2
9. Policy: Admission to Undergraduate Courses (approved by Academic Board 16 October 2002, last amended 2 July 2008), Schedule Three. This is provided for the consideration of members for the September meeting.	9

Agenda Item 6.1 Reports of the Admissions Sub-Committee

6.1 Report of the Admissions Sub-Committee meeting held on 4 June 2008

The Committee met on 4 June 2008 when there were present: The Chair (Professor B Sutton) presiding, Professor S Kable, Dr W Adams, Dr T Hubble(for D Day), Dr D Auld, Mr C Riley, Mr D Bowan, Mr T Evans, Mr T Heath, Ms Susanna Wills-Johnson. Ms A Griffiths was in attendance.

Apologies were received from Professor A Coats, Professor D Day, Mr P Ball, Mr T Robinson and Ms A Jerram.

6.1.1 Admission Schemes

Please note: this item was discussed and passed by USC in June

Faculty of Health Sciences

The Faculty of Health Sciences offers a Rural Entry Scheme for students applying for the Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy). The faculty proposes to extend this scheme to apply to all disciplines with undergraduate programs. Information on the existing rural entry scheme can be found at

http://www.fhs.usyd.edu.au/phy/fstudent/undergrad/docs/ug_rural_entry_scheme.pdf

There was discussion of the proposal followed by agreement that the Sub-Committee would recommend to the Undergraduate Studies Committee that the Academic Board be requested to approve the changes.

6.1.2 Advanced Standing

The Committee has been considering the Academic Board's *Admission: Advanced Standing, Credit and Exemption Policy* following on from discussions in the Undergraduate Studies Committee late last year. A revised policy was presented by Professor Sutton with further minor changes suggested at the meeting.

The redrafted policy is to be circulated for the consideration of members.

Recommendation

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee endorse the revised Admission: Advanced Standing, Credit and Exemption Policy, as presented.

6.1.2 Other Reports

The Committee also considered:

- The foundation studies program offered by Bond College for Bond University
- The International Baccalaureate and flexible entry criteria.

Agenda Item 6.2
Report of the Admissions Sub-Committee

6.2 Report of the Admissions Sub-Committee meeting held on 30 July 2008

The Committee met on 30 July 2008 when there were present: The Chair (Professor B Sutton) presiding, Professor A Coats, Dr T Hubble(for D Day), Mr P Ball, Mr C Riley, Mr T Evans and Ms Susanna Wills-Johnson. Ms A Griffiths was in attendance. Apologies were received from Professor D Day, Professor S Kable, Dr D Auld, Mr D Bowan, Mr T Heath and Mr T Robinson.

6.2.1 Admission to Undergraduate Courses Policy

Following on from discussion at the June meeting of Bond University's Foundation program, the International Office presented a proposal to update section 11.2 of the Admission to Undergraduate Courses Policy.

Mr Peter Ball and Mr Chris Riley from the International Office were present at the meeting and spoke to the proposal. The proposal brings policy in line with current practices and corrects parts of the policy which have become outdated. It also provides the opportunity to address the request from Bond University. Blanket recognition of Australian foundation programs will be given by the changes. Only international students are covered by section 11.2 of the Admission to Undergraduate Courses policy.

The proposal was discussed by the committee and accepted with members recommending that sections 11.2.5.1 and 11.2.5.2 be removed.

Recommendation

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee endorse changes to the Admission to Undergraduate Courses Policy and recommend that the Academic Board approve the changes, as set out in the report presented, with effect from 1 September 2008.

The proposal is contained on the following pages.

6.2.2 Proceedings of the Sub-Committee

- The Committee also noted an oral report of the Chair.
- Approved an updated entry for the University's entry on the International Baccalaurette Schools website.
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Recommendation

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee note the report of the Admissions Sub-Committee.

Date: 5 June 2008

Subject: **Admission to Undergraduate Courses Policy – Proposal to Amend
Sub-section 11.2 – Foundation Programs**

Background

Section 11.2 of the Admission to Undergraduate Courses policy, which deals with the admission of students who have undertaken a foundation studies or university preparation program, has not been updated for a number of years. Consequently, the section is out of date in relation to a number of the approved programs listed.

It is recommended that the section be updated to reflect the current practice, and also to adopt a more general listing of approved programs to ensure that the section does not become outdated due to minor or procedural changes which can occur regularly, for example, each time a particular program or institution amends its title.

Out of Date Listings

The policy is no longer current as it has not been reviewed or amended for a significant period. There are programs offered by Go8 universities that have not been included on the list and other programs are now out of date due to program changes or changes to the UAC schedules. Some specific examples are:

1. The University of Sydney International Preparation Program is now known as the University of Sydney Foundation Program.
2. The University of Western Australia now offers a foundation program through Taylors College which is not acknowledged in the current policy. The Western Australian Universities Entrance Program that is acknowledged, is a combined course offered for the other Western Australian universities.
3. The Australian National University foundation program is not listed.
4. The UAC schedules now recommend that the TAFE Tertiary Preparation Course (TPC) should not be recognised by ACT and NSW universities as meeting minimum admission requirements.
5. The University of Adelaide now offers its foundation program through two colleges, the second of which is not acknowledged in the current policy.

2002 Agreement Regarding Assessment of Foundation Programs

In 2002, an agreement was made between the International Office and the Chair of the Academic Board to simplify and streamline the admissions process for international students who had undertaken foundation or university preparatory studies programs.

Prior to this agreement, only a small number of foundation programs had been recognised and the Admissions Sub-Committee and Academic Board were receiving regular requests to assess and recognise new programs from universities and other providers, both inside and outside Australia.

There was no formal procedure for assessing programs for recognition or setting admission standards. After a review of the situation, the then Chair of the Academic Board and the International Office agreed to recognise all foundation or university preparatory programs offered by universities in Australia and New Zealand and to use the conversion table provided in the UAC schedules to determine the appropriate standards to be applied to the qualifications in accordance with the UAI scores required by the Faculties for admission to their programs.

This agreement was notified to all Faculties in February 2002 and applications have been assessed accordingly since then. During this time, there have been no problems identified with the agreed approach, which is also in line with the practice at other Go8 universities. However, the Academic Board Admission to Undergraduate Programs policy has never been updated to reflect this change. Therefore, the practice that has been in place for the assessment of foundation programs is not reflected in the relevant section of the current Academic Board policy.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Sub-section 11.2 Foundation Programs be updated to reflect the practice which has been in place since 2002. Specifically, it is proposed that the current Sub-sections 11.2.2 and 11.2.3 be replaced as follows:

- 11.2.1 International applicants who have successfully completed an approved University Preparation Program which was commenced as an international student are eligible for admission to candidature.
- 11.2.2 The following preparation programs are approved by the Academic Board for admission of international applicants:
 - ~~11.2.2.1 University of Sydney International preparation program (or authorized providers of this program)~~
 - ~~11.2.2.2 University of New South Wales Foundation Studies Certificate~~
 - ~~11.2.2.3 Canberra Institute of Technology Foundation Studies~~
 - ~~11.2.2.4 Deakin Foundation Studies Program~~
 - ~~11.2.2.5 Foundation Studies Program (Advanced Certificate) from the Sydney Institution of Business Technology~~
 - ~~11.2.2.6 Monash University Foundation Year~~
 - ~~11.2.2.7 Trinity Foundation Studies Program (Trinity College, affiliated with the University of Melbourne)~~
 - ~~11.2.2.8 TAFE Tertiari Preparation Course (TPC)~~
 - ~~11.2.2.9 Western Australian Universities Entrance Program~~
 - ~~11.2.2.10 Wollongong University Entrance Program~~
 - ~~11.2.2.11 Advanced International Certificate of Education, University of Cambridge~~
 - ~~11.2.2.12 Foundation Studies Program, Bradford College, University of Adelaide.~~
 - 11.2.2.1 courses offered by public higher education providers in Australia who are authorised to self-accredit their courses under the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF);
 - 11.2.2.2 courses offered by public higher education providers in New Zealand who are authorised to self-accredit their courses under the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF); and
 - 11.2.2.3 Advanced International Certificate of Education, University of Cambridge.
- ~~11.2.3 The Academic Board will consider recognizing foundation and preparatory programs that fall into one of the following categories:~~
 - ~~11.2.3.1 courses offered by institutions in Australia who are authorized to self-accredit their courses under the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF); and~~
 - ~~11.2.3.2 courses offered by institutions in New Zealand who are authorized to self-accredit their courses under the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF); and~~
 - ~~11.2.3.3 courses offered by private providers subject to the courses in:~~
 - ~~11.2.3.3.1 Australian being accredited under AQF at Certificate IV level; and~~

~~11.2.3.3.2 – New Zealand being accredited under NZQF at Certificate IV level.~~

~~Courses offered by overseas providers are considered for recognition on a case-by-case basis.~~

- 11.2.3 The Academic Board will consider recognising foundation and preparatory programs offered by private higher education providers in Australia and New Zealand subject to the courses in:
- 11.2.3.1 Australia being accredited under the AQF at Certificate IV level; or
 - 11.2.3.2 New Zealand being accredited under the NZQF at Certificate IV level.
- 11.2.4 The Academic Board will consider recognising foundation and preparatory programs offered by overseas higher education providers on a case-by-case basis.
- 11.2.5 Unless otherwise specified by a particular Faculty, admission standards for foundation and preparatory courses that are recognised for admission by the Academic Board shall be set in accordance with the relevant UAC schedule subject to the following:
- 11.2.5.1 the GPA/average required for programs offered by Go8 institutions shall be that required by the relevant UAC schedule for the University of Sydney Foundation Program; or
 - 11.2.5.2 the GPA/average required for programs offered by non-Go8 institutions shall be one point higher than that required by the relevant UAC schedule for the University of Sydney Foundation Program.

Agenda item 9

Policy: Admission to Undergraduate Courses (approved by Academic Board 16 October 2002, last amended 2 July 2008), Schedule Three. This is provided for the consideration of members for the September meeting.

Schedule 3: Assumed Knowledge and Special Entry Requirements

Course	Assumed Knowledge	Recommended Studies	Special Entry Requirements or Other Information
AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND NATURAL RESOURCES			
Agricultural Economics	Mathematics		
Agriculture (Science in Agriculture), Horticultural Science, Land & Water Science	Mathematics and Chemistry		
Resource Economics	Mathematics Extension 1 and Chemistry	Biology or Earth & Environmental Science	
Animal Science	Mathematics and Chemistry	Biology	
ARCHITECTURE			
Design Architecture	Mathematics and English (Advanced)		
Design Computing	Mathematics		
ARTS			
Arts, Arts (Advanced), Arts (Languages)	Depends on the first year subjects selected		Some languages are offered at Advanced (A) and Basic (B) level, with some intermediate (AB) units of study. A and AB units of study have prerequisites of appropriate HSC (or equivalent) courses. B units of study have no prerequisites.
Arts (Media & Communications)			
Arts/Music Studies	Music 2		Applicants must attend an audition and an interview
Social Sciences, Arts (Informatics), Arts/Social Work	Depends on the first year subjects selected		
Liberal Studies, Liberal Studies (International)	Mathematics. Other Assumed Knowledge depends on subjects studied		
DENTISTRY			
Oral Health		Chemistry	Selection for all applicants involves the consideration of UAI/TER or equivalent, or tertiary studies record and PQA test results, and a mini-interview based on the OSCE format.
Dentistry			Only available to graduates. Applicants will be considered for admission according to the following criteria:

Course	Assumed Knowledge	Recommended Studies	Special Entry Requirements or Other Information
			Previous performance in a bachelor's degree; Performance in the Graduate Australian Medical School Admission Test (GAMSAT); Performance in a semi-structured interview; and Performance in a practical aptitude test.
ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS			
All courses	Mathematics (Mathematics Extension 1 for Business Information Systems)		
EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WORK			
Education (Primary)	Any two units of English and any two units of Mathematics		
Education Human Movement, Education Humanities/Arts	Depends on first year subjects selected		
Education Maths/Science, Education Science/Science, Education Science/Psychology	Mathematics		
Education Secondary (Design & Technology)			Entry through TAFE Level 4 Certificate
Social Work	Depends on the first year subjects selected		
Teaching			Only available to graduates, as initial component of Master of Teaching. All applicants are required to demonstrate proficiency in English.
ENGINEERING			
All courses	Chemistry and Physics and HSC Mathematics Extension 1		
HEALTH SCIENCES			
Aboriginal Health and Community Development	None		Preference is given to applicants who have experience in issues which are relevant to indigenous people. Aboriginal people are particularly encouraged to apply. Applicants may be required to attend an interview, undertake tests or complete a questionnaire as specified by the faculty.

Course	Assumed Knowledge	Recommended Studies	Special Entry Requirements or Other Information
Occupational Therapy		Chemistry or the completion of a chemistry bridging course.	Applicants for occupational therapy, speech pathology, orthoptics, medical radiation sciences, leisure and health and exercise and sport science who are not completing the HSC or equivalent in the year of application must complete a questionnaire as well as lodging a UAC application.
Physiotherapy	Physics and Chemistry	Mathematics	
Speech Pathology		English (Advanced) and Chemistry or the completion of a chemistry bridging course.	
Orthoptics	Two of Chemistry or Biology or Physics		
Nuclear Medicine, Diagnostic Radiography, Radiation Therapy		Mathematics plus one of Biology, Chemistry or Physics	
Rehabilitation Counselling			Selected applicants who are not sitting the HSC or equivalent in the year of application may be required to attend an interview. Final selection will be based on academic merit and/or employment background with preference given to those with some relevant work experience.
Leisure & Health		Chemistry or the completion of a chemistry bridging course.	
Exercise and Sport Science	Chemistry and Mathematics	Physics, Biology, Mathematics Extension 1 & PDHPE	
Exercise, Sport Science & Nutrition	Chemistry, Mathematics and Biology		
Hearing & Speech		English (Advanced) and Chemistry or the completion of a chemistry bridging course.	
Health Sciences		Chemistry or the completion of a chemistry bridging course.	
LAW			
Law (Graduate)	Graduate Entry		
Combined Law	Depends on degree combined with Law but none for Law itself		
MEDICINE			
Medicine			Not available to non-graduates

Course	Assumed Knowledge	Recommended Studies	Special Entry Requirements or Other Information
NURSING			
Nursing (Indigenous Australian Health)	Biology or Chemistry or PDHPE, General Mathematics		Interview
PHARMACY			
Pharmacy, Pharmacy (Rural)	Mathematics plus either Chemistry and Physics OR Chemistry and Biology		Selection for all applicants involves the consideration of UAI/TER or equivalent or tertiary studies record <u>and</u> the results of a Special Tertiary Admission Test (STAT)
SCIENCE			
Computer Science & Technology	Mathematics or Mathematics Extension 1		Applicants for the BSc (Advanced), BSc(Advanced Mathematics) and BSc (Molecular Biology and Genetics Courses, in addition to achieving satisfactory UAIs are required to obtain marks in specified subjects in the HSC or equivalent which will allow enrolment in the necessary advanced unit of study
Science (Advanced Maths)	Mathematics Extension 2		
Computer Science & Tech (Advanced), Information Technology, Science/Arts, Science/ Commerce	Mathematics Extension 1		
Science, Science (Advanced)	Mathematics or Mathematics Extension 1. Other assumed knowledge depends on the areas or programs studied.		
Science (Bioinformatics)	Mathematics Extension 1 and (Biology and Chemistry)		
Science (Environmental)	Mathematics Extension 1 and Chemistry.		
Science (Marine Science), Science (Molecular Biology & Genetics)	Chemistry and Mathematics.		
Science (Molecular Biotechnology)	Mathematics or Mathematics Extension 1, Biology, Chemistry		
Science (Nutrition)	Mathematics or Mathematics Extension 1, Chemistry and Biology or Physics.		
Medical Science (Year 1)	Mathematics and (Chemistry & Physics) OR (Chemistry & Biology).		
Psychology	Mathematics		
Science/Arts	Mathematics. Other assumed knowledge depends on the first year subjects selected		
VETERINARY SCIENCE			

Course	Assumed Knowledge	Recommended Studies	Special Entry Requirements or Other Information
Veterinary Science	Chemistry and Physics and Mathematics	Biology	All applicants who have previously undertaken university study must, in addition to applying through UAC, undertake the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT). Criteria include: excellent academic record; high score in STAT and evidence of a strong commitment to a career in Veterinary Science
SYDNEY COLLEGE OF THE ARTS			
Visual Arts (Fine Arts, Object Art & Design, Media Arts)		Visual Arts	Interview/Portfolio
SYDNEY CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC			
All courses	Music 2		Applicants must satisfactorily complete an interview and audition