NOTICE OF MEETING

Meeting 1/2016 of the Admissions Committee will be held at 11:00am on Wednesday 9 March 2016 in the Western Tower Boardroom, Quadrangle. The Agenda for the meeting is below.

Matthew Charet
Committee Officer

AGENDA

Non-confidential items

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies have been received from Professor Barbara Caine, Professor Archie Johnson and Professor Michelle Lincoln.

Welcome is extended to the following new members:

- Associate Professor Tim Wilkinson as Chair;
- Associate Professor Wendy Davis as Chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee;
- Associate Professor Kirsten McKenzie as Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee;
- Ms Chloe Smith as President of the SRC;
- Professor Archie Johnston, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering & Information Technologies;
- Professor Barbara Caine, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences;
- Professor Michelle Lincoln, Faculty of Health Sciences;
- Professor Greg Tolhurst (Faculty of Law); and
- Maxwell Hall as Undergraduate student member of the Academic Board (subject to Board approval).

2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

2.1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Recommendation
That the Admissions Committee adopt the minutes of the previous meeting, on 11 November 2015.

2.2 Actions Arising

Recommendation
That the Admissions Committee review the action schedule and provide any updates.
3 STANDING ITEMS

3.1 Report of the Chair

3.1.1 Terms of reference and membership

3.1.2 Meeting times

3.1.3 Prioritisation of agenda items

Recommendation
That the Admissions Committee note the report of the Chair.

3.2 Report of the Academic Board meeting of 24 February 2016

Recommendation
That the Admissions Committee note the report of the Academic Board meeting of 24 February 2016.

3.3 Report of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Registrar)

Recommendation
That the Admissions Committee note the report of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Registrar).

4 ITEMS FOR ACTION

4.1 Minor Course Amendment Proposals

The Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies proposes to correct the assumed knowledge details for the Bachelor Information Technology/Bachelor of Commerce degree.

Recommendation
That the Admissions Committee approve the proposal Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to correct the assumed knowledge details for the Bachelor Information Technology/Bachelor of Commerce, with immediate effect, as presented.

4.2 Review of Dux Scheme

The Registrar reports on the Dux Entry Scheme for the Semester 1 2016 admission round, and proposes amendments to the scheme, as presented.

Recommendation
That the Admissions Committee recommend that:
- the Academic Board change the name of the University of Sydney Dux Entry Scheme to the University of Sydney Future Leaders Scheme;
- the Scheme be expanded to include other forms of demonstrated merit in leadership roles in the school community, specifically for 2017: school captains; and
- the Academic Board approve amendment of the Coursework Policy, as presented.

5 ITEMS FOR NOTING

6 OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Any Other Business

Next meeting: 10:00am – 12:00pm, Wednesday 20 April 2016
Western Tower Boardroom, Quadrangle
Minutes of the meeting of the Admissions Committee of 11 November 2015

The Admissions Committee met at 10:00am on Wednesday, 11 November 2015, in the Western Tower Boardroom, Quadrangle.

There were present: Professor J Hanrahan (Chair), Professor T Carlin, Ms J Chambers, Associate Professor R Cooper, Mr K Ghezel, Mr C Jones, Associate Professor P McCallum, Mr B Nelson, Associate Professor T Wilkinson and Ms K Wylie.

In attendance: Ms L Carmichael, Ms F Kiernan and Mr M Charet (Committee Secretary).

1. Apologies
   Apologies were received from: Associate Professor A Masters.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting
   The Committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on 29 September 2015 as a true record.

   Resolution ADM_7_36/15
   That the Admissions Committee adopt the minutes of the previous meeting held by circulation on 29 September 2015 as a true record.

3. Business arising from the minutes (not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda)
   There was no business arising.

4. Report of the Chair
   The Chair advised that there was nothing to report.

6. Report of the Academic Board
   Associate Professor McCallum advised that he had nothing to report additional to the paper circulated with the agenda.

6.1 Report of the Academic Board meeting of 28 October 2015
   (agenda pages 6-7)

   Resolution ADM_7_37/15
   That the Admissions Committee note the reports of the Academic Board meeting of 28 October 2015, as set out in the report presented.

6. Report of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Registrar)
   Professor Carlin tabled two proposals for consideration by the Committee, both relating to items that had been discussed at previous meetings.

(1) HSC 2 Unit Maths as an admission prerequisite:
   At the September 2015 meeting of the Committee, the desirability of introducing HSC 2 Unit Maths as a minimum prerequisite for admission to specified undergraduate degrees was raised and the current proposal has been developed in subsequent consultation with faculties and DVCs. To allow current school students adequate lead time to select appropriate subjects, the requirement is scheduled for introduction in 2019, with the 2016 UAC Year 10 Guide to include advice to that effect. This will permit students to elect to take 2 Unit Maths in 2017 and 2018 prior to the 2019 university admission round.

   The proposal includes a schedule of degrees for which 2 Unit Maths will be required, and a second schedule for degrees for which it is assumed knowledge. It will be possible to add or remove degrees from these lists without requiring a revision of the entire policy. Strategies to accommodate students who have genuinely not had the opportunity to undertake 2 Unit Maths for the HSC were discussed. Bridging schemes, foundational units of study in Summer School or First Year, or some other form of support were mentioned as possible solutions. It was acknowledged that such programs will not be needed until 2019 when the prerequisite comes into effect so there is time for consultation and development of appropriate strategies to address these issues. It was suggested that when the proposal is submitted to the Academic Board, it should include a
note regarding the intention to introduce alternative pathways for students who do not have an opportunity to complete HSC 2 Unit Maths.

The Committee discussed whether compulsory bridging courses should be made available before the prerequisite requirement comes into effect to improve outcomes for students entering the identified degrees without the proposed level of Maths. It was suggested that faculties might adjust their degree structures to address any deficit in this area as an interim solution. Applications for admission on the basis of a TAFE qualification are assessed individually by the Admissions Team and this process could include identification of adequate maths preparation prior to admission.

It was agreed that a communications strategy will be needed to appropriately publicise this change. This will include notification in the 2016 UAC Year 10 Guide as well as rollout to schools, with BOSTES, Careers Advisors, Principals, Maths teachers and the P&C identified as key stakeholders and enablers.

The proposal was approved, with text regarding pathways for students who do not have the option of taking HSC 2 Unit Maths to be added to the proposal before it is submitted to the Academic Board.

2) Dux Admission Scheme:
This proposal arose from a discussion and in-principle agreement of the proposal at the February 2015 meeting. At the September 2015 meeting it was agreed that this admission pathway should be included in the Coursework Policy 2014, and the tabled document outlined proposed amendments to clauses 25 and 26 of that policy.

It was proposed to amend clause 25(3) as follows:

Domestic applicants may apply for admission under more than one flexible entry scheme and educational access scheme, provided that their ATAR or equivalent lies within the approved eligibility band for each scheme. Except for Conditional Early Offers Schemes, and the Cadigal Program and the Dux Scheme, no such applicant will be admitted to a course if his or her ATAR or equivalent is more than five rank points below the relevant cut-off for the course. For the Dux Entry Scheme, no applicant will be admitted to a course if his or her ATAR is below the Minimum Eligibility Score for that course.

Following clause 26, it was proposed to add a clause specifically relating to the Dux Entry Scheme, as follows:

26A Dux Entry Scheme

(1) The University recognises that being named dux of a school shows leadership and is a profound academic achievement in itself. In recognition of this, a school dux may be admitted to a course with an ATAR below that required for normal admission to that course.

(2) Dux entry for specified courses is available to domestic and international applicants who:

(a) are eligible current school leavers attending a school listed in S4.9, including applicants who hold an International Baccalaureate;

(b) are nominated by their school principal or nominee as dux of the school; and

(c) have an ATAR or ATAR equivalent that lies below the previous year’s ATAR cut-off for that course.

(3) The Dux entry scheme comprises two components:

(a) nomination of the applicant as dux by the school principal or nominee; and

(b) a guaranteed entry ATAR or equivalent, lying between the previous year’s ATAR cut-off and a lower limit that is not less than the Minimum Entry Score of that course.
Admissions Schemes Schedule

S4.9 In order to be eligible for the Dux Entry Scheme, an applicant must be attending one of the following schools in the year prior to commencement:

- Any secondary school registered with the NSW Department of Education.

The proposed amendments to the Coursework Policy 2014 were approved, with a report on nominations received for the 2016 admission round to be brought to the next meeting.

Professor Carlin advised that he had nothing further to report.

7. Minor Course Amendment Proposals

The Chair advised that these course amendment proposals are intended to align the affected programs of study with the registration requirements of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA). The Committee noted that AHPRA language requirements do not apply at the time of enrolment in the qualifying degree program but at the time of registration for professional practice. Given that students in the current programs are frequently in clinical settings relating to their study, the Committee agreed that increasing the language requirements for admission be supported.

7.1 Faculty of Dentistry

7.1.1 Bachelor of Oral Health

The Faculty of Dentistry proposed to amend the language requirements for admission to the Bachelor of Oral Health, as set out in the report presented. The Committee supported the proposal.

Resolution ADM_7_38/15

That the Admissions Committee recommend that the Academic Board approve the proposal from the Faculty of Dentistry to amend the resolutions of the Bachelor of Oral Health, with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

7.1.2 Doctor of Dental Medicine

The Faculty of Dentistry proposed to amend the language requirements for admission to the Doctor of Dental Medicine, as presented. The Committee supported the proposal.

Resolution ADM_7_39/15

That the Admissions Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

1. approve the proposal from the Faculty of Dentistry to amend the English language requirements for admission to the Doctor of Dental Medicine;
2. approve the amended course resolutions for the Doctor of Dental Medicine; and
3. approve the amendment of the schedule of Postgraduate English Language Requirements arising from this proposal with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

7.2 Faculty of Medicine

7.2.1 Doctor of Medicine

The Faculty of Medicine proposed to amend the language requirements for admission to the Doctor of Medicine, as presented. The Committee supported the proposal.

Resolution ADM_7_40/15

That the Admissions Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

1. approve the proposal from the Faculty of Medicine to amend the English language requirements for admission to the Doctor of Medicine; and
2. approve the amendment of the schedule of Postgraduate English Language Requirements arising from this proposal.
with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

8. Any other business
The Chair informed the Committee that this was Associate Professor McCallum’s final Admissions Committee meeting as Chair of the Academic Board. Members thanked Associate Professor McCallum by acclamation for his significant contributions to both the Committee and the Board over his term as Chair.

9. Next meeting
The Committee’s next meeting will be held from 10:00am – 12:00pm on Wednesday, 3 February 2016 in the Western Tower Boardroom.
## RECOMMENDATION

*That the Committee note the Terms of Reference and membership, as presented.*
Admissions Committee - Terms of Reference

Purpose
The Admissions Committee advises the Academic Board and its Committees about resolutions, policy and procedures relating to admissions to award courses at the University of Sydney.

Terms of Reference
1. To advise the Academic Board on:
   a. resolutions, policy and procedures relating to all student admissions to the University; and
   b. issues relating to admissions not based solely on the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR).
2. To make recommendations to the Academic Board, or, if deemed appropriate by the Admissions Committee to the Undergraduate Studies Committee and/or the Graduate Studies Committee, regarding:
   a. English language requirements for admission to award courses;
   b. recognition of institutions, programs and courses for the purposes of admission;
   c. approval of admissions criteria in addition to the ATAR;
   d. approval of preparatory programs of study in prior learning;
   e. approval of special admission schemes;
   f. confirmation of academic selection criteria for international students set by Deans; and
   g. University-wide Credit Transfer Policy for all coursework.
3. To oversee and approve the publication of admissions advice.
4. To exercise all reasonable means to provide and receive advice from the Senior Executive Group and its relevant subcommittees.
5. To provide an annual report on its activities under its terms of reference to the Academic Board.
6. To consider and report on any matter referred to it by the Academic Board, the Vice Chancellor, Academic Board committees or the Chair of the Academic Board.

Constitution

Ex Officio Members
the Chair of the Committee
the Chair of the Academic Board
the Chairs of the Undergraduate Studies and Graduate Studies Committees
the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Registrar)
the Director, Student Recruitment, or nominee
the Director, Admissions, or nominee
the President of the Students’ Representative Council, or nominee
the President of the Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association, or nominee

Appointed Members
Where possible, one undergraduate and one postgraduate student member of the Academic Board, appointed annually by the Academic Board on the advice of the Chair of the Academic Board;
three Deans appointed annually by the Academic Board on the advice of the Chair of the Academic Board, or their nominees

Established by Academic Board Resolution 289/11 (7 December 2011); Amended by Academic Board Resolution AB16/1-8 (24 February 2016)
Co-opted Members
The Committee may co-opt up to four members. Co-opted members may be selected from the members of the Academic Board or the wider University community or may express interest directly to the Chair of the Committee, but must have an interest and/or experience in issues considered by the Committee. The term of office of members co-opted by the Committee shall be specified at the time of co-option and such members shall have all rights and privileges of other members.

Frequency of Meetings
The Committee shall meet at least five (5) times a year.

Quorum
A quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall be four (4) members.
Non-Confidential

| Author | Megan Kemmis, Executive Officer to Academic Board |
|Reviewer/Approver | Associate Professor Tony Masters, Chair of the Academic Board |
| Paper title | Report of the Academic Board meeting, held 24 February 2016 |
| Purpose | To advise the Admissions Committee of the outcomes of the Academic Board's meeting held on 24 February 2016 |

RECOMMENDATION

That the Admissions Committee note the report of the Academic Board meeting held on 24 February 2016.

REPORT OF ACADEMIC BOARD MEETING

Items related to the Admissions Committee

The Academic Board:

- approved the Chair’s recommendation to appoint Associate Professor Tim Wilkinson (Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies) as an additional member of the Academic Board for a term of membership expiring 31 December 2017;
- appointed Associate Professor Tim Wilkinson as Chair of the Admissions Committee for a term expiring on 31 December 2017;
- approved the appointment or co-option of academic staff and student members to the Admissions Committee, (noting that the term of membership will be until 31 December 2016 for student members and until 31 December 2017 for staff members), and the amendment of the terms of reference for the Admissions Committee; and
- noted that the previous Chair of the Academic Board had approved a proposal from the Faculty of Education and Social Work to amend the schedule of assumed knowledge with regard to the Bachelor of Education (Primary Education), Bachelor of Education (Secondary: Human Movement and Health Education), Bachelor of Education (Secondary: Humanities and Social Sciences)/ Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Education (Secondary: Mathematics)/ Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Education (Secondary: Science)/ Bachelor of Science.

Other matters

The Academic Board also:

- noted the presentation from the Vice-Chancellor on the Culture section of the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan;
- endorsed the amendments to the Decisions Matrix as set out in the report presented to become a schedule in the Coursework Policy 2014, but resolved to form a working group to discuss remaining issues with the matrix;
- approved the Chair’s recommendation to appoint Associate Professor Kirsten McKenzie (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences) and co-opt Professor Adam Bridgeman (Director, Educational Innovation) and Associate Professor Ross Coleman (Director, Graduate Research) as additional members of the Academic Board for a term of membership expiring 31 December 2017;
- appointed Professor Jane Hanrahan as Deputy Chair of the Academic Board and Chair of the Academic Standards and Policy Committee, Associate Professor Wendy Davis as Chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee and Associate Professor Kirsten McKenzie as Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee for a term expiring on 31 December 2017;
- approved the appointment or co-option of academic staff and student members to the Academic Standards and Policy Committee, Graduate Studies Committee and Undergraduate Studies Committee, noting that the term of membership will be until 31 December 2016 for student members and until 31 December 2017 for staff members, and the amendment of the terms of reference for the Academic Standards and Policy Committee, the Graduate Studies Committee and the Undergraduate Studies Committee;
- noted the Chair’s overview of issues to be addressed in 2016;
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- noted the report on actions taken by the previous Chair and the current Chair on its behalf in respect of any urgent matters that arose between the Academic Board meeting on 2 December 2015 and the first Academic Board meeting in 2016;
- noted that the student members will report regularly as part of the Chair’s report;
- noted a submission as an accurate initial summary and early analysis of the Report of the Watt Review of Research Policy and Funding;
- noted the new agenda paper and PowerPoint templates for Academic Board and Academic Board Committee meetings;
- affirmed respect as one of its core values;
- affirmed that the principles used in determining the membership, or composition, of the Academic Board are that the Board be representative and that the Board be able to function effectively;
- noted the report of the Vice-Chancellor on decisions made by Senate at its meeting in December 2015, and actions being taken by the University regarding the Watt Review;
- recommended that Senate approve the amendments to the Senate Resolutions relating to the Constitution of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences with immediate effect;
- approved a proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to delete the Master of Crosscultural Communication;
- approved a further proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to amend the Diploma of Languages;
- approved proposals from the Faculty of Science to amend the Bachelor of Science/Master of Nutrition and Dietetics and the Master of Nutrition and Dietetics, and the tables of units of study for various postgraduate degrees;
- noted the reports on the promotion of academic staff to Level D and Level E in 2015;
- approved the 2016 Student Proctorial Panel membership; and
- noted the membership of the Academic Panel under the University of Sydney (Student Appeals against Academic Decisions) Rule 2006 (as amended).
RECOMMENDATION

That the Admissions Committee approve the proposal Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to correct the assumed knowledge details for the Bachelor Information Technology/Bachelor of Commerce, with immediate effect, as presented.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The assumed knowledge details for the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies with regard to the degree of Bachelor Information Technology/Bachelor of Commerce is currently listed as “Mathematics or HSC Mathematics Extension 1, Physics”. Physics is not assumed knowledge for either the Bachelor of Information Technology or Bachelor of Commerce, so this entry appears to be an error. A correction is proposed, as presented.
Minor Course Amendment Proposal

Faculty: Engineering and Information Technologies

Contact person: A/Prof Tim Wilkinson ext. 15104, Christine Lacey ext. 40678

1. Name of award course
   Admissions Standards – Assumed Knowledge and Special Entry Requirements

2. Purpose of proposal
   To correct the assumed knowledge details for the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies with regard to the following degree:

   Bachelor Information Technology/Bachelor of Commerce

3. Details of amendment
   The assumed knowledge currently listed is “Mathematics or HSC Mathematics Extension 1, Physics”. Physics is not assumed knowledge for either the Bachelor of Information Technology or Bachelor of Commerce, so this entry appears to be an error.

   The entry should be amended to:

   “Mathematics or HSC Mathematics Extension 1 (depends on the first-year units selected).”

4. Transitional arrangements
   N/A

5. Other relevant information

6. Signature of Dean
   [Signature]
   8/2/16
### Assumed Knowledge and Special Entry Requirements
(as referenced in clause 49 of the Coursework Policy 2014)

#### Engineering and Information Technologies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Assumed Knowledge</th>
<th>Recommended Studies</th>
<th>Special Entry Requirements or Other information</th>
<th>Date revised</th>
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<td>Mathematics or HSC Mathematics or HSC Mathematics Extension 1, Physics, Mathematics or HSC Mathematics Extension 1 (depends on the first year units selected)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Felicity Kiernan, Head of Admissions (Development)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reviewer/Approver</td>
<td>Professor Tyrone Carlin, DVC and Registrar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper title</td>
<td>Review of Dux Scheme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>To provide a report on the newly introduced Dux scheme with recommendations for its expansion for 2017</td>
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</table>

RECOMMENDATION

That the Admissions Committee recommend:
- that the Academic Board change the name of the University of Sydney Dux Entry Scheme to the University of Sydney Future Leaders Scheme;
- that the Scheme be expanded to include other forms of demonstrated merit in leadership roles in the school community, specifically for 2017: school captains; and
- that the Academic Board approve amendment of the Coursework Policy, as presented.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Dux Entry Scheme is an Admissions Pathway Scheme introduced in 2016. As this review shows, this scheme has shown itself in its first year to be successful at identifying and attracting a group of applicants who are able to demonstrate qualities in addition to the ATAR that would indicate that they have the ability to succeed at university.

However, there are other groups who have displayed abilities above and beyond the ATAR, and who would be equally suited to receive offers to the University of Sydney. Recruiting applicants who have already demonstrated leadership potential ties in closely with the aims of the university’s strategic discussion papers.

This proposal identifies one such group, school captains, and proposes expanding the suitably renamed scheme to include this group. In addition, it is proposed to provide this group with continued leadership development opportunities to expand on the potential already identified in these students.

This is expected to attract a cohort of applicants who are exceptionally well suited to embody the desired attributes of a graduate of the University of Sydney, to increase the number of offers to exceptional applicants for 2017 and, based on the results of the 2016 intake, to increase the diversity of our student body by increasing the percentage of offers to students from rural schools.
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BACKGROUND REPORT

The University of Sydney introduced a guaranteed, merit-based offer scheme to the University of Sydney for school duxes in 2016, based on application to Sydney with a confirmation from the school of their status as dux.

In the augural year of the Dux Scheme, results were as follows:

Nominations

- **348 total nominations** of dux students were received for the scheme, submitted by principals (or their delegates)
- **322 schools** in NSW made nominations for 348 Dux students
- **11 schools** nominated 2 equal Dux students
- **The highest number of Dux students for one school** was 9 – that school was James Ruse Agricultural High School
- **Subsequent high numbers of Dux nominees** came from Trinity Grammar School (6), Baulkham Hills High School (4), and Sydney Girls High School (3)
- **Rural: 15% of those nominated, and 9% of those offered a place** under the Dux Scheme were from rural schools – a higher proportion than achieved under E12 this year

Offers

- **210 total offers** were made to nominees
- Of those offers, only **49 (23.3%)** needed to make use of ATAR concessions under the Dux Entry Scheme in order to gain access to their preferred course
- Ten nominees received multiple offers
- 11 nominees received early round offers under the Sydney Scholars scheme and 13 received E12 offers.
- **196 nominees (56.3%) were made offers**

Enrolment

- As at 29 February 2016, 155 nominees, or **79.1%** of those made offers, had enrolled.

ISSUES

The Scheme was successful at identifying one group of applicants who are able to demonstrate academic ability and leadership in more than just the ATAR. However, there are other groups who have displayed such abilities, who would be equally suited to receive offers to the University of Sydney.

The Dux Scheme is authorised under the Coursework Policy. Any change to the scheme will need to be consistent with this policy or subject to a submission to change the policy.

OPTIONS

The scheme could be expanded to include a number of potential leadership categories, as nominated by the principals, such as school captains or other school or community leaders (for example, elected members of a Student Council, cadet officers, citations from the Rural Fire Service, etc).

If the scheme is expanded, the name will need to be changed to reflect the more diverse intake. A number of options have been suggested, including:

- Sydney Leaders Scheme
- Sydney Scholars Scheme
- University of Sydney Leaders Scheme
- University of Sydney Future Leaders Scheme
- University of Sydney Leadership Scheme
The name “Sydney Scholars Scheme” is likely to create confusion with the existing Sydney Scholars scholarships scheme.

This paper has used the name “University of Sydney Future Leaders Scheme” for convenience.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

There will be a small increase in workload to administer the scheme. This could be largely dealt with by existing staff, with approximately two days’ casual work for a level 4 assistant in matching nominees to their UAC applications.

Marketing and communications to schools and staff will be a part of business as usual and will not require extra financing.

**RISKS / BENEFITS**

The categories of school and community leaders are potentially so large as to risk making normal entry to the university superfluous. Therefore, there is no proposal to expand this to a generic category of “other” to be selected by the principal at will.

School captains, however, are nominated or elected at almost all high schools and are generally limited to no more than two per school. As most schools only nominated one Dux, including school captains in the Dux Scheme would potentially triple our intake for this scheme.

This has the benefit of both attracting applicants with a record of achievement and further increasing our student diversity.

The potential increase in applicants could potentially be a problem for quota courses (e.g., B Applied Science (Physiotherapy)). However, these courses will still be able to manage their intake from this scheme as currently, by setting aside places a set quota of places below the cut-off.

Allowing applicants entry to courses below the cut-off has the potential for risking offers to applicants who are not likely to succeed in the course. This will be addressed in two ways. Firstly, offers under this scheme are being made to applicants who have already been identified by their school as being likely to succeed. Secondly, offers are limited to applicants who have an ATAR no lower than the Minimum Eligibility Score for the course. This has already had the benefit of encouraging faculties to closely examine their Minimum Eligibility Scores.

There is a risk that pressure will be brought to bear to change the Minimum Eligibility Scores in line with ATAR cut-offs, particularly for popular courses. If the cut-offs for this scheme proliferate and change from year to year, there is an increased risk of human error in the administration of the scheme. High demand courses are better dealt with by applying a quota to this scheme than changing the cut-offs. Limiting cut-offs under this scheme to a handful of Minimum Eligibility Scores plus quotas for high demand courses will help further disseminate the understanding that course cut-offs by ATAR are based on competition, while entry under this scheme is based on ability to succeed.

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1 The Minimum Eligibility Score is the minimum ATAR that is required for a normal school leaver to succeed in the course.
IMPLEMENTATION

Provided the number of available cut-offs does not proliferate, the workload and assessment increase would be minimal, as
- there would not need to be any significant development of new ICT solutions
- nomination by the principal would be as now, with the addition of one new option to select
- offers would continue to be made through UAC using the current method.

The scheme would continue to be managed as currently, by matching nominees to their UAC applications and making offers through UAC in the main and later rounds. Quota courses could be managed with minimal increase in workload by setting aside places for the scheme as a whole, rather than for sub-categories.

It is proposed that the current s 25 and 26A of the Coursework policy and the Admissions Schemes Schedule be amended as follows:

Coursework Policy

PART 7 SPECIAL ADMISSION PROGRAMS

25 Application for a special admission program

(3) Domestic applicants may apply for admission under more than one flexible entry scheme and educational access scheme, provided that their ATAR or equivalent lies within the approved eligibility band for each scheme. Except for Conditional Early Offers Schemes, the Cadigal Program and the University of Sydney Future Leaders Scheme, no such applicant will be admitted to a course if his or her ATAR or equivalent is more than five rank points below the relevant cut-off for the course. For the University of Sydney Future Leaders Dux Entry Scheme, no applicant will be admitted to a course if his or her ATAR is below the Minimum Eligibility Score for that course.

26A University of Sydney Future Leaders Dux Entry Scheme

(1) The University recognises that the achievement of certain leadership roles in the school environment indicate abilities in the student, above and beyond those identified by their ATAR, that are also relevant to the university environment. Being named dux of a school shows leadership and is a profound academic achievement in itself. In recognition of this, these applicants a school dux may be admitted to a course with an ATAR below that required for normal admission to that course.

(2) University of Sydney Future Leaders Dux entry for specified courses is available to domestic and international applicants who:
- a) are eligible current school leavers attending a school listed in S4.9, including applicants who hold an International Baccalaureate;
- b) are nominated by their school principal or nominee as holding a relevant leadership position within dux of the school; and
- c) have an ATAR or ATAR equivalent that lies below the previous year’s ATAR cut-off for that course.

(3) The University of Sydney Future Leaders Dux Entry Scheme is comprised of two components:
- a) nomination of the applicant as dux or school captain by the school principal or nominee; and
- b) a guaranteed entry ATAR or equivalent, lying between the previous year’s ATAR cut-off and a lower limit that is not less than the Minimum Entry Score of that course.

Admissions Schemes Schedule

S4.9 In order to be eligible for the University of Sydney Future Leaders Dux Entry Scheme, an applicant must be attending one of the following schools in the year prior to commencement:
- Any secondary school registered with the NSW Department of Education.

COMMUNICATION

Communication to undergraduate applicants will include the following:
- the University of Sydney Undergraduate Guide,
- the University of Sydney Access Guide,
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- the UAC Yr 12 Guide,
- the University of Sydney website,
- EDMs in early August and early December,
- phone calls to relevant schools in December,
- promotion at Open Day and Info Day, and
- school visits/careers markets.

Although we have missed the deadline for the University of Sydney Undergraduate Guide, only minimal changes would be required to include the updated scheme in the Access Sydney publication and the UAC guide. These changes would however, need to be made promptly to meet publications deadlines.

The other communications are less time sensitive.

Communications to staff will be by email and in the usual annual wrap up communications.