MINUTES

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Committee noted that Wencong Chai has replaced Kate Wylie as a member of the Committee.

2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

2.1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolution AB Adm 2016/3-1

The Admissions Committee resolved that the minutes of the meeting of 20 April 2016 be confirmed as a true record.

3 STANDING ITEMS

3.1 Report of the Academic Board meeting of 18 May 2016

Resolution AB Adm 2016/3-2

The Admissions Committee noted the report of the Academic Board meeting of 18 May 2016.

4 ITEMS FOR ACTION

4.1 Minor Course Amendments

4.1.1 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: Master of Applied Linguistics

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences proposed to amend the admission criteria for the Master of Applied Linguistics and embedded programs, to allow entry for admission by students with any disciplinary background rather than requiring a major in a “relevant subject area”. It was noted that the proposal as originally presented required, for admission to the Graduate Diploma, a minimum average of 65% in the Graduate Certificate but an average of 60% if the basis for admission was an undergraduate qualification. The Faculty has advised that the minimum standard for admission to the Graduate Diploma should be amended to 60% in both instances.

The proposal was supported by the Committee.

Resolution AB Adm 2016/3-3

The Admissions Committee supported a proposal to recommend that the Academic Board approve amendment to the degree resolutions for the Graduate Certificate in Applied Linguistics, Graduate Diploma in Applied Linguistics and Master of Applied Linguistics, with...
effect from 1 January 2017, as set out in the report presented.

4.1.2 Sydney Medical School: Doctor of Medicine combined degrees

Sydney Medical School, with the support of partner faculties, proposes to amend the English language requirements for admission to the Doctor of Medicine combined degrees, including the Bachelor of Commerce and Doctor of Medicine, Bachelor of Economics and Doctor of Medicine, Bachelor of Music Studies and Doctor of Medicine, Bachelor of Science (Advanced) and Doctor of Medicine, and Bachelor of Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine combined degree programs. This is to facilitate students from non-English speaking backgrounds to have sufficient language skills to undertake medical studies and associated clinical training without language difficulties. The double degrees currently have different admission requirements from the stand alone degrees so the proposal will introduce consistency across the combined Doctor of Medicine programs.

The proposal was supported by the Committee.

Resolution AB Adm 2016/3-4
The Admissions Committee approved the introduction of additional English language requirements for admission to the Bachelor of Commerce and Doctor of Medicine, Bachelor of Economics and Doctor of Medicine, Bachelor of Music Studies and Doctor of Medicine, Bachelor of Science (Advanced) and Doctor of Medicine, and Bachelor of Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine combined degree programs, with effect from 1 January 2017, as set out in the report presented.

4.1.3 Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies: Master of Professional Engineering

The Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies proposes to amend the criteria for admission to the Master of Professional Engineering as a response to very strong growth in student numbers. It is proposed to increase the overall IELTS requirement from 6.5 to 7.0, with a minimum result of 6.0 in each band; and also to increase the primary performance requirement for admission from a credit average (equivalent to a GPA of 5.0), to a GPA requirement of 5.2 (on a 7-point scale).

The proposal was approved by the Vice-Chancellor and supported by the Committee by circulation on 20 June.

Resolution AB Adm 2016/3-5
The Admissions Committee noted the amendment of English language requirements and minimum performance requirement for admission to the Master of Professional Engineering, with effect from 1 January 2017, as approved by the Vice-Chancellor as set out in the report presented.

4.2 Optional Essay Requirements for US Admissions Tests

It is proposed to amend the admission standards to require applicants entering on the basis of completion of the United States Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and American College Test (ACT), to also complete the optional essay component, with a minimum score of 50% for this component.

The proposal was supported by the Committee.

Resolution AB Adm 2016/3-6
The Admissions Committee approved an amendment to admissions standards such that from Semester 1, 2017, the University of Sydney only accept the United States Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and American College Test (ACT) scores if accompanied by the optional essay component, with a minimum score of 50% for this component.

4.3 New UAC Schedules for 2017 Admissions

It is proposed to amend the University’s admission standards to reflect recent changes arising from recent Universities Admissions Centre analyses of a number of the schedules used to assess applicants with overseas qualifications. Changes have been made to the schedules for admission on completion of the Fijian Seventh Form Certificate, Ontario Secondary School Diploma with University/College Preparation Courses (Canada), Brazil National High School Exam (Exame Nacional do Ensino Médio – ENEM), Polish Matura Certificate, Sri Lankan General Certificate of 

Respect is a core value of the Academic Board
Education (GCE) and Cambridge International Diploma.

The proposal was supported by the Committee.

Resolution AB Adm 2016/3-7
The Admissions Committee approved the adoption and rejection of UAC schedules for 2017 admission, as presented.

5 ITEMS FOR NOTING

5.1 Go8 and University of Sydney submissions to HESP Review on Transparency of Higher Education Admissions Processes

At the previous meeting on 20 May, the HESP Review on Transparency of Higher Education Admissions Processes discussion paper was discussed, and a draft response paper was formulated based on feedback received. The Committee noted the Go8 submission and the University’s response, which included a detailed paper from the Academic Board based on the draft discussed at the Admissions Committee.

Resolution AB Adm 2016/3-8
The Admissions Committee noted the Go8 and University of Sydney submissions to the HESP Review on Transparency of Higher Education Admissions Processes, as presented.

Next meeting: 10:00am – 12:00pm, Wednesday 20 July 2016
Western Tower Boardroom, Quadrangle