MINUTES

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Committee welcomed the following new members:

- Tom Greenwell as the new President of SUPRA; and
- Emma Tseris is the new nominee of the Dean of Education and Social Work.

2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

2.1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolution AC16/4-1
That the Admissions Committee resolve that the minutes of the meeting by circulation of 8 June 2016 be confirmed as a true record.

3 STANDING ITEMS

3.1 Report of the Academic Board meeting of 29 June 2016

Resolution AC16/4-2
That the Admissions Committee note the report of the Academic Board meeting of 29 June 2016.

4 ITEMS FOR ACTION

4.1 Minor Course Amendment Proposal: Faculty of Science – Bachelor of Science (Advanced) / Doctor of Dental Medicine

The Faculty of Science proposes to amend the English language requirements for admission to the Bachelor of Science (Advanced) / Doctor of Dental Medicine to align with the graduate-admission Doctor of Dental Medicine requirements.

Resolution AC16/4-3
That the Admissions Committee recommend that the Academic Board:
(1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the English language requirements for admission to the Bachelor of Science (Advanced) / Doctor of Dental Medicine; and
(2) approve the amendment of the schedule of Undergraduate English Language Requirements arising from this proposal;
with immediate effect, as set out in the report presented.
4.2 Minor Course Amendment Proposal: Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning – Master of Urban and Regional Planning

The Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning requests an amendment to the admission requirements within the course resolutions for the Master of Urban and Regional planning to make the requirements consistent with those of the Master of Urbanism.

Resolution AC16/4-4

That the Admissions Committee recommend that Academic Board:

(1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to amend the Master of Urban and Regional Planning; and

(2) approve the amendment to the course resolutions arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.3 Minor Course Amendment Proposal: Sydney Medical School – Master of Science in Medicine and related programs

It is proposed to amend the Course Resolutions regarding Admission of Candidature to the Master of Science in Medicine and related programs.

Resolution AC16/4-5

That the Admissions Committee recommend that Academic Board:

(1) approve the proposal from the Sydney Medical School to amend the Master of Science in Medicine; Master of Science in Medicine (Advanced); the Graduate Diploma in Science in Medicine; and the Graduate Certificate in Science in Medicine; and

(2) approve the amendment to the Course Resolutions regarding Admission of Candidature arising from this proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.4 Minor Course Amendment Proposal: Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery – Postgraduate Coursework Degrees

The Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery is seeking approval to amend the course resolutions relating to admission and English language proficiency requirements to the Master of Primary Health Care Nursing, Master of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner), Master of Advanced Nursing Practice, Master of Cancer and Haematology Nursing, Master of Emergency Nursing, Master of Intensive Care Nursing and Master of Mental Health Nursing, and embedded programs.

Resolution AC16/4-6

That the Admissions Committee recommend that Academic Board:

(1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery to amend the Master of Primary Health Care Nursing, Master of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner), Master of Advanced Nursing Practice, Master of Cancer and Haematology Nursing, Master of Emergency Nursing, Master of Intensive Care Nursing and Master of Mental Health Nursing, and embedded programs;

(2) approve the amendment to the Course Resolutions arising from the proposal;

(3) approve the amendment to the Faculty Resolutions arising from the proposal; and

(4) approve the amendment of the Schedule of English language requirements; with effect from 1 January 2017.

5 ITEMS FOR NOTING

5.1 Stronger HSC Standards

The Chair drew the attention of members to the 19 July 2016 launch of “Stronger HSC Standards” by the NSW Education Minister. Details are available at www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/stronger-hsc-standards/.

Quoting from the BOSTES website,

“These reforms will come into effect over the next four years along with new Year 11 and 12 syllabuses in English, maths, science and history. They include:

- establishing minimum literacy and numeracy standard from 2020. Students in Year 9 from 2017 will be able to meet the standard by achieving Band 8 in NAPLAN in reading, writing and numeracy. From 2018, an online literacy and numeracy test will be available for students to demonstrate they have met the standard.
• establishing a regular review cycle of syllabuses provided online. Syllabuses will provide more opportunities for students to master knowledge and skills
• new courses, starting with a Science Extension course for Year 12 from 2019
• introducing rigorous guidelines for effective school-based assessment that focuses on the application of knowledge and skills, and reduces student stress by capping the number of tasks
• redesign HSC exam questions to assess depth of knowledge and application of skills
• apply a common scale for maths, to encourage students to study the maths course best suited to their level of ability.”

An initial glance of the proposed changes suggests at least two issues that ought to have a positive impact for us:

• The change in assessment process will likely create students more aligned with critiquing and analysing, rather than memorisation.
• Students are likely to be rewarded with better scores for attempting and achieving in higher levels of maths, reducing the temptation to maximise ATAR by attempting lower maths.

As an institution we should maintain awareness of these changes, and how this will impact on our commencing local students from 2020 and beyond.

**Resolution AC16/4-7**
That the Admissions Committee note the Stronger HSC Standards campaign, launched 19 July 2016, as presented.

**Next meeting:** 10:00am – 12:00pm, Wednesday 24 August 2016
Western Tower Boardroom, Quadrangle