MINUTES

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and noted the apologies.

2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

2.1 Minutes of Meeting 2016/2, 27 April 2016

Members confirmed the minutes of the last meeting held on 27 April 2016.

Resolution GSC2016/3-1

The Graduate Studies Committee resolved that the minutes of meeting 2016/2, held on 27 April 2016, be confirmed as a true record.

2.2 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

3 STANDING ITEMS

3.1 Report of the Chair

The Chair advised she had nothing report.

Resolution GSC2016/3-2

The Graduate Studies Committee noted the report of the Chair.

3.2 Report of the Academic Board meeting held 18 May 2016

Associate Professor Masters advised the Committee that as the Academic Board is obliged under the Higher Education Standards Framework to conduct an external review of the Board every seven years and that organisational changes will necessitate a new structure for the Board from 2017, it is proposed to hold an external audit of the Board in September. The Terms of Reference for this review will be presented to the next meeting of the Board on 29 June.
Resolution GSC2016/3-3
The Graduate Studies Committee noted the report of the Academic Board meeting held on 30 March 2016 and the Report of the Chair of the Academic Board.

3.3 Report of PhD Award Sub-Committee meetings of 19 April and 31 May 2016
Associate Professor Nelson advised she had nothing to add to the written report.

Resolution GSC2016/3-4
The Graduate Studies Committee noted the reports of the PhD Award Sub-Committee meetings of 19 April and 31 May 2016.

3.4 Report of Postgraduate Awards Sub-Committee
Associate Professor McCrystal advised that the Sub-Committee had recently met to assess Travelling Scholarships and was scheduled to meet again before the next meeting of Graduate Studies. A report of both of these meetings would be circulated with the next agenda.

4 ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

4.1 Major Course Proposals

4.1.1 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: Master of Human Rights and Democratisation – course deletion

Associate Professor Ramia advised that this course will transfer to administration by a partner institution in Thailand, allowing the focussing of local resources on the Master of Human Rights program, which will continue to be offered by the University.

The proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-5
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board:
1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to delete the Master of Human Rights and Democratisation (Asia Pacific Regional Program);
2) recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board’s approval of the proposal and approve amendments to the Resolutions of Senate related to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences; and
3) approve the deletion of Course Resolutions arising from this proposal with immediate effect, as presented.

4.1.2 Faculty of Medicine: Master of Medicine, Master of Science in Medicine – Internal Medicine Stream

Professor Leo Davies spoke to the revised proposal, which had been discussed at the previous meeting. At that meeting, further information was requested regarding the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with the University of Melbourne and the Committee was advised that the MoA has not been completed but is being worked on by the Office of General Counsel, and that the program can be delivered entirely by the University of Sydney pending finalisation of the MoA.

The Committee agreed to endorse the proposal for delivery by the University of Sydney, with in-principle support for cross-institutional delivery once the MoA has been finalised. With this caveat, the proposal was approved as presented

Resolution GSC2016/3-6
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board:
1) approve the proposal from Sydney Medical School to amend the Master of Medicine, Master of Science in Medicine, Master of Medicine (Advanced), Master of Science in Medicine (Advanced), Graduate Diploma in Medicine, Graduate Diploma in Science in Medicine, Graduate Certificate in Medicine and Graduate Certificate in Science in Medicine to introduce a stream in Internal Medicine;
2) recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board’s approval of the proposal and approve amendments to the Resolutions of Senate related to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in Sydney Medical School; and
3) approve the amendment of the course resolutions arising from this proposal
4.1.3 **Faculty of Medicine:** Master of Medicine, Master of Science in Medicine – Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Development Stream

Professor Paul Young and Associate Professor Annette Katelaris spoke to this proposal and informed the Committee that it will fill a gap in knowledge regarding industry approval and regulatory processes. The proposal has strong industry support and will utilise existing units of study for online delivery, requiring a medical or science degree for admission.

Noting that a slight amendment to units of study was needed before presentation of the proposal to the Academic Board, the proposal was approved as presented.

**Resolution GSC2016/3-7**
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board:
1) approve the proposal from Sydney Medical School to amend the Master of Medicine, Master of Medicine (Advanced), Master of Science in Medicine, Master of Science in Medicine (Advanced), Graduate Diploma in Medicine, Graduate Diploma in Science in Medicine, Graduate Certificate in Medicine and Graduate Certificate in Science in Medicine to introduce a stream in Pharmaceutical & Medical Device Development;
2) recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board’s approval of the proposal and approve amendments to the Resolutions of Senate related to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in Sydney Medical School; and
3) approve the amendment of the course resolutions arising from this proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2 **Minor Course Proposals**

4.2.1 **Business School:** Master of Commerce – Amended Units of Study

Associate Professor Frost spoke to this proposal and advised that it incorporates a number of changes to the units of study within the program.

The proposal was approved as presented.

**Resolution GSC2016/3-8**
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the University of Sydney Business School to amend the Master of Commerce and embedded programs;
2) the amendment of the Course Resolutions arising from the proposal; and
3) the amendment of the table of Units of Study arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.2 **Business School:** Master of Commerce, Master of Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations, Master of International Business, Master of Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Master of Marketing, Master of Professional Accounting, Master of Transport Management – Admission Criteria

Associate Professor Frost advised that this proposal adds a pathway for admission to the affected programs and will assist with international recruitment, especially from the United States. The Committee was advised that the University is the last in the Go8 to adopt this pathway.

The proposal was approved as presented.

**Resolution GSC2016/3-9**
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the University of Sydney Business School to amend the admission criteria for the Master of Commerce, Master of Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations, Master of International Business, Master of Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Master of Marketing, Master of Professional Accounting and Master of Transport Management; and
2) the amendment of the Course Resolutions arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.3 **Business School:** Master of Human Resource Management & Industrial Relations and
related programs – Amended Units of Study

Associate Professor Frost advised that this proposal swaps several core units of study following a program review.

The proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-10
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the University of Sydney Business School to amend the Master of Human Resource Management & Industrial Relations and embedded programs; and
2) the amendment of the table of Units of Study arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.4 Business School: Master of Professional Accounting – Amended Units of Study

Associate Professor Frost advised that this proposal reduces the number of core units of study from 14 to 13, and will be followed by a broader review of the program in 2017.

The proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-11
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the University of Sydney Business School to amend the Master of Professional Accounting; and
2) the amendment of the table of Units of Study arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.5 Business School: Master of Logistics and Supply Chain Management – Amended Units of Study

Associate Professor Frost advised that this proposal addresses industry feedback to increase the core competencies provided by the program.

The proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-12
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the University of Sydney Business School to amend the Master of Logistics and Supply Chain Management and embedded programs;
2) the amendment of the Course Resolutions arising from the proposal; and
3) the amendment of the table of Units of Study arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.6 Education and Social Work: Master of Learning Sciences and Technology (Professional) – Capstone Requirements

Associate Professor Hirsh spoke to a proposal to adjust the capstone experience in the Master of Learning Sciences and Technology (Professional), to bring the program into alignment with other offerings in the Faculty. It has arisen as a result of student feedback regarding professional experience in the degree, and the program offers a research stream to accommodate those anticipating a research career.

The proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-13
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Faculty of Education and Social Work to amend the Master of Learning Sciences and Technology (Professional); and
2) the amendment of the Course Resolutions arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.7 Engineering and IT: Master of Engineering – Reduction in the Volume of Learning (RVL)

Associate Professor Valix spoke to this proposal and advised that it seeks to address preparedness of students admitted with a reduction in the volume of learning, especially regarding completion of thesis or capstone requirements, by restricting admission to higher-performance students. Associate Professor Masters requested the provision of a table
mapping the full and reduced programs to AQF outcomes.

Subject to provision of this mapping table, the proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-14
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to amend the Master of Engineering; and
2) the amendment of the Course Resolutions arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.8 Engineering and IT: Master of Engineering and Master of Professional Engineering – Amended Units of Study

Associate Professor Valix advised that this proposal tidies up the program, as well as adding additional units of study in the Civil Engineering program.

The proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-15
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to amend the Master of Engineering and Master of Professional Engineering; and
2) the amendment of the tables of units of study arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.9 Engineering and IT: Master of Data Science – Amended Units of Study

Associate Professor Valix advised that this proposal removes a redundant capstone unit of study.

The proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-16
The Graduate Studies Committee recommend Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to amend the Master of Data Science; and
2) the amendment of the tables of units of study arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.10 Engineering and IT: Master of Health Technology Innovation – Amended Units of Study

Associate Professor Valix advised that this proposal replaces units of study to better deliver content, and includes new units of study within the program.

The proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-17
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to amend the Master of Health Technology Innovation; and
2) the amendment of the tables of units of study arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.11 Engineering and IT: Master of Information Technology – Amended Units of Study

Associate Professor Valix advised that this proposal adjusts units of study within the degree to revise a major in IT Security as well as tidying up units of study.

The proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-18
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to amend the Master of Information Technology, Master of Information Technology Management, Master of Information Technology / Master of Information Technology Management and Graduate Diploma in Computing; and
2) the amendment of the tables of units of study arising from the proposal
4.2.12 **Health Sciences**: Master of Diagnostic Radiography – Capstone Unit of Study  
Natalie Pollard spoke to this proposal, which was approved as presented.  

*Resolution GSC2016/3-19*  
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:  
1) the proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to amend the Master of Diagnostic Radiography;  
2) the amendment of the Course Resolutions arising from the proposal; and  
3) the amendment of the table of units of study arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.13 **Sydney Law School**: Juris Doctor – Elective Units of Study  
Associate Professor Hamer spoke to this proposal, which was approved as presented.  

*Resolution GSC2016/3-20*  
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:  
1) the proposal from the Sydney Law School to amend the Juris Doctor; and  
2) the amendment of the table of units of study arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.14 **Sydney Law School**: Juris Doctor – Assessment Guidelines  
Associate Professor Hamer advised that this proposal corrects an administrative error regarding assessment guidelines to reflect current faculty practice. The Committee was informed that the proposal had been supported by the Undergraduate Studies Committee earlier in the day.  
The proposal was approved as presented.  

*Resolution GSC2016/3-21*  
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:  
1) the proposal from the Sydney Law School to amend the Juris Doctor; and  
2) the amendment of the Course Resolutions arising from the proposal with immediate effect.

4.2.15 **Medical School**: Doctor of Medicine (MD) – Amended Units of Study  
Associate Professor Kelly advised that this proposal seeks to change the current project unit of study to better reflect practice by spreading enrolment over three semesters, as well as changing the weighting for other units of study in 3rd and 4th Year to better reflect the workload required. The Committee questioned whether the content of any existing unit of study has changed as a result of this proposal to reflect the new credit point values, and additional information was requested to support the changed values.  
An amended proposal is to be circulated for approval prior to the next meeting, incorporating details of assessment.

4.2.16 **Medical School**: Doctor of Medicine (MD) – Project Units of Study  
This item was withdrawn by the Faculty.

4.2.17 **Medical School**: Doctor of Medicine (MD) – Admission Requirements  
Associate Professor Kelly advised that this proposal seeks to expand the admission criteria for the Doctor of Medicine program to admit applicants who completed an undergraduate qualification more than ten years prior to admission but can demonstrate sustained research activity since graduation.  
The proposal was approved as presented.  

*Resolution GSC2016/3-23*  
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:  
1) the proposal from the Sydney Medical School to amend the Doctor of Medicine; and  
2) the amendment of the Course Resolutions arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.
4.2.18 Medical School: Master of Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology) and related programs – Amended Units of Study

Associate Professor Kelly advised that this proposal amalgamates units of study into 6 credit point blocks, as well as tidying up course resolutions for transitional students. It also adds a capstone experience and splits elective units to ensure balance of learning.

The proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-24
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Sydney Medical School to amend the Master of Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology), Graduate Certificate in Clinical Epidemiology, Graduate Diploma in Clinical Epidemiology and Master of Science in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology);
2) the amendment of the Course Resolutions arising from the proposal; and
3) the amendment of the table of units of study arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.19 Medical School: Master of Medicine (Sleep Medicine) and related programs – Amended Units of Study

Associate Professor Kelly advised that this proposal aligns units of study to 6 credit point values and that current students will be able to continue undertaking modules that reflect current credit point values. The Faculty was asked to provide further information to confirm that the AQF-mapped assessment outcomes for the course are not affected by this adjustment.

Subject to provision of this confirmation, the proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-25
That the Graduate Studies Committee recommend Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Sydney Medical School to amend the Graduate Certificate in Medicine (Sleep Medicine), Graduate Diploma in Medicine (Sleep Medicine), Master of Medicine (Sleep Medicine), Master of Medicine (Advanced) (Sleep Medicine), Graduate Certificate in Science in Medicine (Sleep Medicine), Graduate Diploma in Science in Medicine (Sleep Medicine), Master of Science in Medicine (Sleep Medicine) and Master of Science in Medicine (Advanced) (Sleep Medicine); and
2) the amendment of the table of units of study arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.20 Medical School: Master of Surgery (Breast Surgery) and related programs – Amended Units of Study

Associate Professor Kelly had nothing to add to the submitted proposal, which was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-26
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from Sydney Medical School to amend the Graduate Certificate in Surgery (Breast Surgery) and Master of Surgery (Breast Surgery) programs; and
2) the amendment of the table of Units of Study arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.21 Sydney Nursing School: Master of Advanced Nursing Practice; Master of Cancer and Haematology Nursing; Master of Emergency Nursing; Master of Intensive Care Nursing; Master of Mental Health Nursing; Master of Primary Health Care Nursing – Amended Units of Study

Dr McCloughen spoke to the proposal, which was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-27
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Sydney Nursing School to amend the Master of Advanced Nursing Practice, Master of Cancer and Haematology Nursing, Master of Emergency Nursing, Master of Intensive Care Nursing, Master of Mental Health Nursing, Master of Primary Health Care Nursing, Graduate Diploma in Advanced Nursing Practice,
Graduate Diploma in Cancer and Haematology Nursing, Graduate Diploma in Emergency Nursing, Graduate Diploma in Intensive Care Nursing, Graduate Diploma in Mental Health Nursing and Graduate Diploma in Primary Health Care Nursing; and
2) the amendment of the table of units of study arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.22 Sydney Nursing School: Master of Nursing – Singapore Units of Study

Dr McCloughen spoke to the proposal, which was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-28
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Sydney Nursing School to amend the Master of Advanced Nursing Practice, Master of Cancer and Haematology Nursing, Master of Emergency Nursing, Master of Intensive Care Nursing, Master of Mental Health Nursing and Master of Primary Health Care Nursing; and
2) the amendment of the table of units of study arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.2.23 Faculty of Veterinary Science: Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Bachelor of Veterinary Biology / Doctor of Veterinary Medicine – Amended Units of Study

Associate Professor Merran Govendir spoke to this proposal and advised that all units of study have been endorsed by the Faculty of Science.

The proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-29
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Faculty of Veterinary Science to amend the Bachelor of Veterinary Biology / Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine; and
2) the amendment of the table of units of study arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.3 Higher Degrees by Research

4.3.1 Master of Philosophy: Faculty of Dentistry, Sydney Medical School, Faculty of Pharmacy

Professor Gary Halliday spoke to this proposal and advised that the faculties involved wish to include a grade with the award of the Master of Philosophy, to recognise outstanding work and make the MPhil distinctive from the PhD. The Committee was also advised that Medicine and Dentistry have no Honours program so the MPhil will provide a PhD entry pathway and increase student eligibility for Australian Postgraduate Awards. Associate Professor McCrystal flagged that this would need to be revisited by the Postgraduate Awards Sub-Committee.

Professor Halliday advised that examiners would be asked to provide a mark for the thesis against descriptors, with the Combined Board of Postgraduate Studies to agree on the aggregate grade for the thesis. It was suggested that Honours grading be used, and members were advised that Education and Social Work already grade their theses so the proposal has precedent.

The proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-30
The Graduate Studies Committee recommends that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Combined Board of Postgraduate Studies to amend the Master of Philosophy degree in the Faculties of Dentistry, Medicine and Pharmacy; and
2) the amendment of the Course Resolutions arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.3.2 Simplifying the Examinations Landscape

Simon French spoke to this proposal and informed the Committee that the current HDR examination process contains many levels of decision-making, that it is not always clear where decisions are made, and that there are loops of decision which can significantly delay the examination. The model proposed is for ‘Faculty minus 1’-level decision-making (by the
Graduate Studies Committee, minutes of meeting held 15 June 2016

school, discipline or equivalent unit), then to PhDASC, meaning that problematic outcomes are reviewed by only one committee rather than several. Associate Professor Kelly suggested that asking the student to provide feedback if a single examiner recommends revision would provide unnecessary stress to the student.

Associate Professor Kertesz sought clarification regarding the recommendation to award another degree instead of the PhD, noting that the PhD is a University award but the MPhil is a faculty award. The case of compelling the student to transfer to another degree was also questioned. It was noted that the current intention is to transfer decision-making for all HDR degrees to the PhDASC.

Noting that this proposal outlines a preliminary model and that changes will be contingent on a process of amendment to policy and procedures requiring development, consultation and approval, the proposal was approved in principle, as presented.

Resolution GSC2016/3-31
The Graduate Studies Committee:
1) discussed the proposed new structure for HDR examinations; and
2) endorsed in principle a proposal to amend the Thesis and Examination of Higher Degrees by Research Policy and Procedures, with specific emendations to current policy and procedures to be returned to the Committee for approval following appropriate development and consultation.

5 ITEMS FOR NOTING

5.1 Learning and Teaching Procedures 2016
Associate Professor McCallum advised that these Procedures grew out of the Learning and Teaching Policy and that an earlier draft had been presented to the Committee. The introduction of these Procedures was endorsed by the Academic Standards and Policy Committee at its meeting of 8 June, and is presented for noting.

Resolution GSC2016/3-32
The Graduate Studies Committee noted the revisions to the Learning and Teaching Procedures 2016 to accompany the Learning and Teaching Policy 2015.

6 OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Any Other Business
There was no other business.

Next meeting: 2:00pm – 4:00pm, Wednesday 27 July 2016
Senate Room, Quadrangle

Remaining Meeting Dates for 2016:
2:00pm – 4:00pm, Wednesday 27 July 2016
2:00pm – 4:00pm, Wednesday 31 August 2016
2:00pm – 4:00pm, Wednesday 19 October 2016
2:00pm – 4:00pm, Wednesday 16 November 2016

A full copy of the Graduate Studies Committee papers is available at: