1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES
The Committee welcomed new members and noted apologies as recorded above.

2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

2.1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Members confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 1 August 2017, as an accurate record, subject to correction of the finish time of the meeting.

Resolution GSC17/8-1
That the Graduate Studies Committee resolve that the minutes of meeting 7/2017, held on 19 September 2017, as amended, be confirmed as a true record.

2.2 Actions Arising

Associate Professor Coleman informed members that the issues identified at the previous meeting relating to proposed amendments of HDR policies had been discussed with the Policy Management Unit and it has been agreed that there is no huge risk to operations with the amendments as currently presented. Noting that it is intended to conduct a wholesale review of HDR policies and procedures in 2018 – including the consistency issues identified – members agreed to endorse the presentation of these policies, as presented to the 19 September meeting, to the Academic Board for further action as appropriate.

3 STANDING ITEMS

3.1 Report of the Chair
The Chair had nothing to add to the written report.

Resolution GSC17/8-2
That the Graduate Studies Committee note the report of the Chair.
3.2 Report of the Academic Board

In addition to the written report, Associate Professor Masters informed members that at the meeting, the Board was presented with a model of the proposed new structure for the committees of the Academic Board from 2018, with comments invited from both members of the Board and of the Committee. A final proposal was currently in formulation and a working group was scheduled to discuss the model prior to presentation of a final version to the 28 November Academic Board meeting.

Associate Professor Masters also thanked Professor McKenzie and Associate Professor Kertesz for their work as Chair and Acting Chair of the committee respectively over the last two years.

Resolution GSC17/8-3
That the Graduate Studies Committee note the report of the Academic Board meeting held on 10 October 2017.

3.3 Report of HDR Examinations Sub-Committee

Associate Professor Nelson advised that she had nothing to add further to the circulated report, which the committee duly noted.

Resolution GSC17/8-4
That the Graduate Studies Committee note the report of the HDR Examinations Sub-Committee meeting of 3 October 2017.

3.4 Report of HDR Scholarships Sub-Committee

Associate Professor McCrystal was not in attendance.

4 ITEMS FOR ACTION

Major Course Proposals

4.1 Arts: Bachelor of Arts / Master of Teaching (School and Community Education)

Dr Freebody was in attendance to speak to this proposal. She informed members that this vertically-integrated award course consolidates a number of currently ad-hoc activities for education in non-school settings (such as rural, remote and aboriginal communities, the youth and corrective services, hospitals and the like). It is intended that the Masters component will be professionally accredited and the proposal has been discussed with the profession, which is supportive. Dr Freebody advised that it is intended to run this program over 4.5 years, with mandatory course overload to achieve this timeframe. In discussion, Ms Grose advised that the University cannot mandate over-enrolment, so it will be necessary to redesign delivery over five years. A number of critical pieces of information are also lacking from the current proposal, such as unit of study tables, and these will need to be rectified before the proposal can be considered.

In order to rectify these issues, and to allow time for a Government decision on the matter of CSPs, it was agreed that this item not be approved but be brought back to the committee in early 2018.

Resolution GSC17/8-5
That the Graduate Studies Committee recommend that this proposal not be approved, but be revised and represented to a future meeting.

4.2 Arts: Master of Education Leadership in Aboriginal Education

Dr Freebody spoke to this proposal and advised that it adds an additional specialisation within the existing Master of Education award course. Observing that the primary intake pathway for this degree is limited, Associate Professor Masters informed members that the Curriculum and Course Planning Committee had expressed concern that the admission pool would soon ‘dry up’, and Dr Freebody advised that there are other admission pathways to leverage and that relationships are being developed with other institutions, observing that this is the only offering of its kind in NSW.

The proposal was endorsed for presentation to the Academic Board.

Resolution GSC17/8-6
That the Graduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:
(1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to introduce the Master of Education Leadership in Aboriginal Education;
(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 introduction of course resolutions arising from this proposal, with effect from 1 January 2019.

4.3 **Medicine: Master of Medicine/Master of Science in Medicine (General Practice and Primary Health Care)**

Associate Professor Katelaris was in attendance to speak to this proposal and advised that it is an addition to the existing streams in the Master of Medicine/Master of Science in Medicine award courses. The intended structure will provide a further specialisation, drawing largely on existing units of study. The program will provide a guided enrolment program taking into consideration the career development needs of candidates.

The proposal was endorsed for presentation to the Academic Board.

**Resolution GSC17/8-7**

That the Graduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

1. approve the proposal from the Faculty of Medicine to introduce a stream in General Practice and Primary Health Care in the Master of Medicine / Master of Science in Medicine and associated award courses;
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 Medicine; and
3. approve the amendment of course resolutions and the introduction of new units of study arising from this proposal, with effect from 1 January 2019.

4.4 **Science: Bachelor of Science / Master of Mathematics**

Professor Myerscough was in attendance to speak to this proposal and Item 4.5, which were presented together. Members were informed that the proposed courses are intended to fill a gap in the University’s positioning within the sector and will build on the School’s strong reputation in research. In discussion, Professor Myerscough advised that a full-fee model will be introduced if CSPs for postgraduate coursework award courses are removed pending a Government decision.

The proposal was endorsed for presentation to the Academic Board.

**Resolution GSC17/8-8**

That the Graduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

1. approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to introduce the Bachelor of Science / Master of Mathematics;
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 Science; and
3. approve the introduction of course resolutions and the amendment of unit of study tables arising from this proposal, with effect from 1 January 2019.

4.5 **Science: Master of Mathematics**

This item was discussed with Item 4.4 above.

The proposal was endorsed for presentation to the Academic Board.

**Resolution GSC17/8-9**

That the Graduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

1. approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to introduce the Master of Mathematics;
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 Science; and
3. approve the introduction of course resolutions and the amendment of unit of study tables arising from this proposal, with effect from 1 January 2019.
4.6 **Education Portfolio:** Curriculum Framework for a Research-Pathway and Vertically-Integrated Masters Degree

Associate Professor McCallum informed members that this proposal marks the beginning of the next phase following the redesign of the undergraduate curriculum and calls for policy changes to enable the development of a research-pathway Masters degree as well as vertically-integrated Bachelor-Masters combined award courses. Noting that the Government is currently discussing the availability of CSPs for postgraduate qualifications, it is anticipated that full course proposals for award courses enabled by these policy changes will proceed for implementation in 2019 (for the stand-alone research-pathway Masters) and 2020 (for a suite of Vertically-Integrated Masters degrees including specialisations). A reduction in the volume of learning may be possible for these degrees based on prior study, and it is proposed to require the completion of a number of OLEs as part of the stand-alone degree. Associate Professor McCallum assured members that these new award courses are not intended to mandate the replacement of appended Honours or existing postgraduate or vertically-integrated awards (such as combined Nursing), but faculties may wish to transition existing offerings into the newly-available framework enabled by these changes.

Members were also informed that a discussion is also currently underway regarding how the research-pathway award will be assessed for HDR scholarship allocations; this will be further discussed by the HDR Scholarships Sub-Committee in 2018. It was also observed that the award is intended to provide a direct pathway into PhD candidature for students who demonstrate the appropriate academic merit (by achieving the equivalent of First or Second Class Honours, for example). Members were advised that the possible future phasing-out of existing Master of Philosophy award courses (as discussed following the ACOLA Review) will also be enabled by the introduction of the research-pathway Masters award course.

The proposal was endorsed for presentation to the Academic Board.

*Resolution GSC17/8-10*

*That the Graduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:*

1. endorse the proposed curriculum framework for a research-pathway Masters degree;
2. note the name Master of Advanced Studies ([discipline]) for the research-pathway Masters degree;
3. endorse the proposed curriculum framework for vertically-integrated research-pathway and professional/specialist Bachelor/Master combined degrees; and
4. endorse the proposed changes to the Coursework Policy to include the curriculum framework for a research-pathway Masters degree and vertically integrated Bachelor/Masters degrees.

**Minor Course Proposals**

4.7 **Arts:** Graduate Certificate in Human and Community Services

Associate Professor Ramia advised that this proposal enables more targeted marketing in this area. In discussion, it was observed that a number of corrections or clarifications were needed, including the addition of missing unit of study codes and the alignment of the proposal with the definition of ‘specialisation’ as provided in the Learning and Teaching Policy.

In order to rectify these issues, it was agreed that this item not be approved but be brought back to a future meeting.

*Resolution GSC17/8-11*

*That the Graduate Studies Committee recommend that this proposal not be approved, but be revised and represented to a future meeting.*

4.8 **Arts:** Master of Human Rights

Associate Professor Ramia advised that this proposal had been included in a suite of changes to postgraduate award courses endorsed earlier in the year, but that the Academic Model Team (AMT) had identified a number of errors in the structure of the program. This proposal corrects these errors following consultation with the AMT, and it is proposed to slightly delay the opening of enrolment in this degree until after the Academic Board has approved the proposal.

The proposal was endorsed for presentation to the Academic Board.

*NOTE:* Subsequent to the meeting, Ms Fernandez advised that there is an error in the program composition, with insufficient core units presented to enable completion of the Graduate Diploma.
The Faculty has amended the proposal to address this.]

**Resolution GSC17/8-12**
That the Graduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:
(1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to amend the Master of Human Rights and related award courses, as amended; and
(2) approve the amendment of unit of study tables arising from the proposal, with effect from 1 January 2018.

4.9 **Engineering:** Master of Information Technology / Master of Information Technology Management

Associate Professor Valix advised that this proposal arises from changes made earlier in the year to the stand-alone Master of Information Technology and Master of Information Technology Management to allow credit transfer from the Graduate Diploma in Computing. The current proposal is required to align the combined degree with the individual degrees in enabling this recognition of prior learning.

The proposal was endorsed for presentation to the Academic Board.

**Resolution GSC17/8-13**
That the Graduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:
(1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to amend the Master of Information Technology and Master of Information Technology Management; and
(2) approve the amendment of course resolutions and unit of study tables arising from this proposal, with immediate effect.

4.10 **Law:** Juris Doctor

This item was withdrawn from discussion.

4.11 **Science:** Graduate Diploma in Psychology

Professor Andrews was in attendance to speak to this item and advised that the current version of this award course needs to be updated to make it compliant with AQF Level 8. This has been achieved by increasing the number of 4000 level units of study, and the award has also been mapped against the requirements of AQF Level 8 to demonstrate student achievement of suitable knowledge and skills.

The proposal was endorsed for presentation to the Academic Board.

**Resolution GSC17/8-14**
That the Graduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:
(1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Graduate Diploma in Psychology; and
(2) approve the amendment of course resolutions and unit of study tables arising from the proposal, with effect from 1 January 2019.

**Higher Degree by Research**

4.12 **Implementing the Watt Review – funding HDR training and support through the RTP**

Associate Professor Coleman advised that this paper sets out a framework to ensure that HDR students develop the graduate qualities approved at the previous meeting of the Academic Board. It is intended to require all HDR candidates to undertake a minimum of two and up to six coursework units of study, including an OLE specific to research candidates, and that funding for this coursework will be provided through the Research Training Program (RTP). Contrary to local perception, external benchmarking indicates that rather than distracting students from their research projects, such coursework preparation improves completion times as well as providing better skills for career advancement. Flexibility will be possible to accommodate students who enter HDR study through a coursework Masters degree, and there will also be opportunities to accommodate discipline-specific specialist learning requirements, including the enablement of completion of 2000- and 3000-level units of study where appropriate.

Associate Professor Coleman invited further observations to be returned directly to him.
Resolution GSC17/8-15
That the Graduate Studies Committee note the proposal to:
(1) Provide enhanced training and support to all HDR students through the establishment of a requirement to complete a minimum of 12 credit points of coursework for PhD candidates and 6 credit points of coursework for Masters by research candidates;
(2) Provide coursework for HDR students through the Open Learning Environment and require that PhD students access at least 6 of their credit points of coursework from the Open Learning Environment at 5000 level; and
(3) Fund the completion of coursework through a modest redistribution of the completions portion of the Research Training Program (RTP) grant of $1200 per PhD student and $600 per Masters by Research student, noting that UEM would not be charged on HDR student load in coursework.

Major Course Proposals

4.13 Medicine: Master of International Public Health

Associate Professor Kelly advised at the meeting that this proposal and the proposal for Item 4.14 below had been considered by the Curriculum and Course Planning Committee and the University Executive but had not been forwarded to the Committee Secretary for inclusion in the agenda. It was agreed that these proposals be considered by circulation, and the Committee Secretary circulated the proposals immediately following the meeting. Feedback was requested by close of business Friday 10 November 2017.

In discussion by circulation, it was recommended to remove reference to the Graduate Diploma as an 'exit-only' award, and to map learning outcomes and graduate qualities to the relevant AQF level, including the Graduate Diploma.

The proposal was endorsed for presentation to the Academic Board as amended.

Resolution GSC17/8-16
That the Graduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:
(1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Medicine to amend the Master of International Public Health and the Graduate Diploma in International Public Health (including renaming these award courses);
(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 Medicine; and
(3) approve the introduction of course resolutions and units of study arising from this proposal, with effect from 1 January 2019.

4.14 Medicine: Master of Public Health

This item was circulated with Item 4.13 above following the meeting.

In discussion, it was observed that there was a lack of clarity as to what “Part 1 of the Table” refers, with Table 1 not included in the proposal. The Faculty undertook to correct this as an intended correction that had been missed in the course review process.

The proposal was endorsed for presentation to the Academic Board as amended.

Resolution GSC17/8-17
That the Graduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:
(1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Medicine to amend the Master of Public Health and the Graduate Diploma in Public Health;
(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 Medicine; and
(3) approve the amendment of course resolutions and units of study arising from this proposal, with effect from 1 January 2019.

5 ITEMS FOR NOTING

5.1 HDR Internships Working Party Report

This paper was noted without further comment.
Resolution GSC17/8-18
That the Graduate Studies Committee:
(1) note the advice in the Higher Degree by Research (HDR) Internships Working Party Report.
(2) note that further work will be conducted by the Director-Graduate Research to develop a proposal of means by which HDR students may undertake internships with industry, including such options as:
   a. implementing a non-credit bearing module in the Learning Management System (LMS) to act as a shell unit for HDR internship activities;
   b. refining the APR process to help the APR panel and candidate have a discussion about the suitability and relevance of an internship for a given student’s candidature;
   c. develop and distribute supporting documentation to faculties and students that addresses internship standards, university responsibilities, Intellectual Property (IP), and insurance; and
   d. produce a means by which students can access information about internship opportunities and perhaps enrol in opportunities of interest.
(3) note that further advice will be sought on the best way to collect data on student involvement with internships and then propose a solution to the committee.
(4) note the proposal for student participation in internship activities to be included on their academic transcript.

5.2 Dentistry: Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (Special Needs Dentistry)
This paper was noted without further comment.

Resolution GSC17/8-19
That the Graduate Studies Committee recommends that the Academic Board:
(1) formally note the previous approval of a proposal from the Faculty of Dentistry to amend the Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (Special Care Dentistry);
(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 Dentistry; and
(3) formally approve the amendment of course resolutions and unit of study tables arising from this proposal, with effect from 1 January 2019.

6 OTHER BUSINESS
6.1 Any Other Business
There being no other business, the meeting closed at 4:08pm.

Next meeting: 2:00pm – 4:00pm, Tuesday 6 February 2018
Senate Room, Quadrangle

A full copy of the Graduate Studies Committee papers is available at sydney.edu.au/secretariat/pdfs/academic-board-committees/graduate-studies/2017/20171107-GSC-Agenda-Pack.pdf