UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE
10:00 am – 12:00 pm, Wednesday 15 June 2016
Senate Room

Members Present: Associate Professor Wendy Davis (Chair); Helen Agus, Law (for Dr Jenny Saleeba); Associate Professor Tina Bell, Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources; Dr Stephen Carter, Pharmacy; Associate Professor Rae Cooper, Business; Professor Alan Fekete, Engineering and Information Technologies; Anne Fernandez, Deputy Registrar Nominee; Dr Jennifer Green, Nursing and Midwifery; Dr Mark Halaki, Health Sciences; Dr Melissa Hardie, Arts and Social Sciences; Professor Gail Mason, Law and Associate Professor Tony Masters, Chair of the Academic Board.

Attendees: Matthew Charet, Acting Executive Officer to Academic Board; Professor David Lowe, Associate Dean (Education), Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies (for items 4.1-4.3); Professor Gail Mason, Sydney Institute of Criminology (for items 4.4-4.5); Associate Professor Peter McCallum, Director, Education Strategy, Deputy-Vice-Chancellor (Education) (for items 5.2-5.5) and Ms Natalie Zawerucha, Committee Officer.

Apologies: Professor Adam Bridgeman, Director, Educational Innovation; Dr Wayne Cotton, Education and Social Work; Dr Kimberly Coulton, Dentistry; Dr James Humberstone, Sydney Conservatorium of Music; Dr Eric Knight, Business; Mr Andrew Lavery, Sydney College of the Arts; Dr Jenny Saleeba, Science; Ms Chloe Smith, President of the SRC and Associate Professor Tim Wilkinson, Chair of the Admissions Committee.

MINUTES

3/2016

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Board noted apologies as recorded above.

Resolution UGSC2016/3-1
The Undergraduate Studies Committee resolved to note that apologies have been received from the members above and that they be excused for their absence.

2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

2.1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolution UGSC2016/3-2
The Undergraduate Studies Committee resolved that the minutes of meeting 2/2016 on 27 April 2016 be confirmed as a true record.

2.2 Actions Arising

Resolution UGSC2016/3-3
The Undergraduate Studies Committee noted that there were no outstanding actions.

3 ITEMS FOR ACTION

3.1 Report of the Chair

The Chair informed members that at its 18 May meeting, the Academic Board approved the Sydney Medical School’s proposal to amend the progression requirements in the course resolutions for the Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery and the Doctor of Medicine. The Faculty had revised the proposals at the request of the Undergraduate Studies Committee and Graduate Studies Committee. However, the versions of the resolutions submitted to the Academic Board were based on different documents than those submitted to the committee. At its 29 May meeting, the Academic Board will be asked to note that the resolutions submitted present the original intent of the proposal and should be accepted as the approved version of the resolutions.

Resolution UGSC2016/3-4
The Undergraduate Studies Committee resolved to note the report of the Chair.
3.2 Report of the Academic Board meetings

A/Professor Masters reported that an external review of Academic Board was scheduled for later in the year.

He also informed members of a discussion at a recent NSW Chairs of Academic Board meeting regarding the notable increase in high school teachers requesting training in HSC mathematics. This was a positive outcome following the University’s decision to increase the number of courses with mathematics as a pre-requisite.

Resolution UGSC2016/3-5
The Undergraduate Studies Committee noted the report of the 18 May Academic Board meeting.

4 ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Major Course Proposals

4.1 Faculty of Engineering and IT: Deletion of Bachelor of Engineering and related combined degrees

A proposal was received from the Faculty of Engineering and IT (FEIT) to delete the Bachelor of Engineering and related combined degrees. This course deletion proposal was submitted in conjunction with proposed changes to the grading scheme of the Bachelor of Engineering Honours. The FEIT proposed to bring the University’s Bachelor of Engineering programs into alignment with the practice across the sector, where all graduates from 4-year Bachelor of Engineering programs (and the associated combined degrees) are awarded an AQF8 qualification. As part of this change, the Bachelor of Engineering degree (awarded without Honours) would be deleted. All students entering from Semester 1, 2015 have entered the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) rather than the Bachelor of Engineering.

This proposal was discussed in conjunction with item 4.2 and as such, the resolution for this proposal is combined with item 4.2, below.

4.2 Faculty of Engineering and IT: Change to honours grading in Bachelor of Engineering Honours and combined degrees

A proposal was received from FEIT to modify the honours grading within the (AQF8) Bachelor of Engineering Honours degree program (and associated combined degree programs), in order to bring them into alignment with all other undergraduate professional engineering programs within Australia, and ensure that the programs can remain accredited by the relevant professional industry body, Engineers Australia.

Members discussed options for the most suitable nomenclature for degrees awarded to students whose work falls below the threshold for second class honours. Professor Lowe advised that other universities were using either a ‘third class’ designation or remaining silent after the degree name.

A/Professor McCallum noted that the matter of third class honours had implications for the newly updated Coursework Policy 2014, the amendments of which were focused on streamlining honours standards across the University.

With regard to FEIT’s request for retrospective approval to the beginning of 2016, members advised that students would have the right to remain in the old resolutions or transfer to the new resolutions, and retrospective approval was therefore not necessary.

The committee requested that Engineering’s proposed changes to the Coursework Policy 2014 be incorporated into the most recent version of the policy and then be submitted to the next Academic Standards and Policy Committee for endorsement.

Resolution UGSC2016/3-6
The Undergraduate Studies Committee approved for recommendation to Academic Board, in principle agreement with the Faculty of Engineering and IT proposal to:
i) delete the Bachelor of Engineering and related combined degrees, to take effect from 1 January 2017.

ii) change honours grading in the Bachelor of Engineering Honours and combined degrees and make related changes to the University Coursework policy, Senate Resolutions, Faculty Resolutions, Bachelor of Engineering Honours course resolutions and Bachelor of Engineering Honours combined course resolutions.

Subject to:

i) further discussion with the Director, Education Strategy to ensure that changes to the Coursework Policy 2014 are consistent with the most current version endorsed by the Academic Standards and Policy Committee on 8 June and

ii) approval from the Academic Standards and Policy Committee regarding the proposed Coursework Policy 2014 changes.

Minor Course Proposals

4.3 Faculty of Engineering and IT: Change to the UoS table for the BE(Hons) Mechanical Engineering Stream

A proposal was received from FEIT to amend the unit of study (UoS) table for the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) Mechanical Engineering stream. As part of the curriculum restructure of the BE(Hons), approved in 2015, Aerospace, Mechanical and Mechatronic Engineering (AMME) introduced two new engineering computational analysis units. The intention was for AMME2000 to be available as a Mechanical Stream core unit and AMME3060 to be a Mechanical Specialist elective unit. However, they are currently classified the other way around. FEIT proposed that Engineering Analysis become a Mechanical Stream Core unit and Engineering Methods become a Mechanical Specialist Elective unit.

Resolution UGSC2016/3-7
The Undergraduate Studies Committee agreed to recommend that the Academic Board approve:

(1) the proposal from the Faculty of Engineering and IT to amend the Bachelor of Engineering Honours Mechanical Engineering stream and

(2) the course resolutions’ units of study table arising from the proposal, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.4 Sydney Law School: Addition of a UoS to the elective units of study tables (Bachelor of Laws, Juris Doctor)

A proposal was received from the Sydney Law School to add an optional UoS, Energy Law: Renewables & Emerging Technologies, to the Bachelor of Laws in Part 1 of the Elective Units of Study table.

Resolution UGSC2016/3-8
The Undergraduate Studies Committee agreed to recommend that the Academic Board:

(1) approve the proposal from the Sydney Law School to amend the Bachelor of Laws and

(2) amend the course resolutions’ units of study table arising from the proposal, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.5 Sydney Law School: Amendment to assessment guidelines (Bachelor of Laws, Juris Doctor)

A proposal was received from the Sydney Law School to amend the text of the Faculty Resolutions relating to assessment guidelines, to achieve consistency in wording between the Undergraduate and Juris Doctor guidelines. In September 2014, the Faculty Board agreed that the wording should be changed to reflect the intention that all units of study offer two or more assessments. This has been the practice since that decision. However, the proposal was not forwarded to Academic Board at the time due to an administrative error.

Members noted their support for approving the proposal, but highlighted concern around the ability
of the school to maintain consistency of standards and learning outcomes when students are permitted to choose different assessments. Professor Gail Mason advised that she would note the concerns to Sydney Law School to ensure that there were no adverse effects.

Resolution UGSC2016/3-9
The Undergraduate Studies Committee agreed to recommend that the Academic Board approve the proposal from the Sydney Law School to amend the Faculty of Law coursework assessment guidelines in the Resolutions of the Faculty of Law for Coursework Awards arising from the proposal, effective immediately.

4.6 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: Change to FASS Honours Provisions
A proposal was received from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) to amend the FASS honours provisions. The current requirement specifies that students intending to enrol in Honours programs, "must have completed 48 senior credit points (normally, eight units of study) at an average of 70% or better in the subject in which they intend to take honours." This proposal sought to change that requirement to, "a major at an average of 70% or better in the subject in which they intend to take honours."

Members requested that the FASS Honours Provisions 2014 – Honours program requirements be updated to specify exactly how the 70%+ admission mark was calculated.

The Undergraduate Studies Committee considered the revised proposal via circulation.

Resolution UGSC2016/3-10
Following the meeting, an updated proposal was circulated to members.

The Undergraduate Studies Committee agreed to recommend that the Academic Board approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to amend the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences – Honours Provisions 2014, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.7 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: Deletion of World Religions major
A proposal was received from FASS to amend the Faculty Resolutions to reflect the retirement of the World Religions major as a Table A major. This major was identified as an outlier in terms of attractiveness to students in the FASS Sustainability project of 2014-15 and is not sufficiently distinct from the Studies in Religion major to justify its ongoing status as a major. Sydney Student data suggests that very few currently enrolled students are considering completing a major in World Religions, but those who elect to do so will be accommodated by the offer of an appropriate suite of elective units through relevant departments / majors.

Resolution UGSC2016/3-11
The Undergraduate Studies Committee agreed to recommend that the Academic Board approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to delete the World Religions major and amend the Resolutions of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences for Coursework Awards arising from the proposal, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.8 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: Merge of Two Majors – Biblical Studies and Hebrew (Classical)
A proposal was received from FASS to amend the Faculty Resolutions to reflect the merging of the Biblical Studies major and Hebrew (Classical) major into a new Biblical Studies and Classical Hebrew major, as a Table A major offered by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

Resolution UGSC2016/3-12
The Undergraduate Studies Committee agreed to recommend that the Academic Board approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to merge two majors – Biblical Studies and Hebrew (Classical), with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.9 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: Economics combined degree (correction to the resolutions)
A proposal was received from FASS to amend the Bachelor of Economics combined degree
course resolutions for the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Economics, Bachelor of Economics and Bachelor of Laws, and Bachelor of Economics/Doctor of Medicine to include the five majors offered by the School of Economics.

Members noted that the major, Quantitative Business Analysis, was now called Business Analytics and it was agreed that this would be amended prior to submission of the proposal to Academic Board.

**Resolution UGSC2016/3-13**

The Undergraduate Studies Committee agreed to recommend that the Academic Board approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to amend the resolutions of the Bachelor of Economics combined degrees to include the five majors offered by the School of Economics, effective immediately.

4.10 **Sydney Nursing School: Change to the UoS table Bachelor of Nursing (Advanced Studies)**

The Sydney Nursing School requested a minor amendment to the order of units of study offered in the Bachelor of Nursing (Advanced Studies). More specifically, it proposed that NURS2002 Child and Adolescent Health and Care (2nd year) and NURS3010 Managing Chronic Conditions (3rd year) be swapped to ensure that students are clinically prepared and competent in paediatric health care settings.

**Resolution UGSC2016/3-14**

The Undergraduate Studies Committee agreed to recommend that the Academic Board approve the proposal from the Sydney Nursing School to amend the study pattern for the Bachelor of Nursing (Advanced Studies), with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.11 **Faculty of Health Sciences: Bachelor of Applied Science (Diagnostic Radiography)**

The Faculty of Health Sciences requested an amendment to the course resolutions’ units of study table to include new units of study for Year 4 of the Bachelor of Applied Science (Diagnostic Radiography) Pass and Honours, available from 2017. These new units will complete the rollout of the new four-year course, approved by Academic Board in 2012.

**Resolution UGSC2016/3-15**

The Undergraduate Studies Committee agreed to recommend that the Academic Board approve the proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to amend the course resolutions’ units of study table for the Bachelor of Applied Science (Diagnostic Radiography) Pass and Honours, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.12 **Faculty of Health Sciences: Changes to Undergraduate Electives List**

The Faculty of Health Sciences requested an amendment to the Faculty of Health Sciences undergraduate electives list to include a new elective, HSBH3XXX Bodily Senses in Health and Disease.

**Resolution UGSC2016/3-16**

The Undergraduate Studies Committee agreed to recommend that the Academic Board approve the proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to include a new elective in the Faculty of Health Sciences undergraduate electives list, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.13 **Faculty of Health Sciences: Change to Bachelor of Health Sciences table of Senior Research Units**

The Faculty of Health Sciences requested an amendment to the Bachelor of Health Sciences units of study table, resulting in the replacement of BHSC3014 Writing a Research Proposal, which will be last offered in 2016, with a new unit of study, HSBH3XXX Designing a Research Project from 2017. The Faculty of Health Sciences sought approval for a resulting amendment to the list of Senior Research Units in the Bachelor of Health Sciences, from 2017.

The Chair noted a typo with the word “and” in the table on page 2 and it was agreed that this would be amended prior to submission of the proposal to Academic Board.
Resolution UGSC2016/3-17
The Undergraduate Studies Committee agreed to recommend that the Academic Board approve the proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to amend the Bachelor of Health Sciences units of study table, with effect from 1 January 2017.

5
ITEMS FOR NOTING

5.1 Faculty of Health Sciences: New elective UoS for pilot
A proposal was received from the Faculty of Health Sciences to note their intention to pilot two new elective units of study in 2017 - HSBH1XXX Accelerate Communication Excellence (0cp) and HSBH3XXX BHS Work Integrated Learning Placement (6cp).

Members requested that the faculty notify the Undergraduate Studies Committee following the pilot as to whether the UoS will remain offered in the future.

Resolution UGSC2016/3-18
The Undergraduate Studies Committee noted the update from the Faculty of Health Sciences on their intention to offer two new electives.

5.2 Learning and Teaching Policy 2015
A/Professor Peter McCallum, Director, Education Strategy, Deputy-Vice-Chancellor (Education) provided members with an overview of additional changes made to the Learning and Teaching Policy 2015 and Coursework Policy 2014, to incorporate the Curriculum Framework. Members were informed that the Coursework Policy 2014 had been endorsed at the 8 June Academic Standards and Policy Committee meeting.

Resolution UGSC2016/3-19
The Undergraduate Studies Committee noted the report on the Coursework Policy 2014, Learning and Teaching Policy 2015, Learning and Teaching Procedures 2016 and the Curriculum Framework.

5.3 Learning and Teaching Procedures 2016
This item was discussed under item 5.2.

5.4 Curriculum Framework
This item was discussed under item 5.2.

5.5 Honours in Combined Degrees with Bachelor of Advanced Studies
A proposal was received from A/Professor McCallum for the committee to i) note the model for honours and double honours in combined degrees with the Bachelor of Advanced Studies and ii) flag an intention to consider moving appended honours programs for stand-alone Liberal Studies into the proposed combined degree model.

Members noted the need to ensure that students would still have the option to undertake the majority of their study in a focused discipline area if desired.

Resolution UGSC2016/3-20
The Undergraduate Studies Committee noted the report on honours in combined degrees with Bachelor of Advanced Studies.

6
OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Any other business
There was no further business.

6.2 Next meeting
10:00 am-12:00 pm, Wednesday 27 July 2016, Senate Room, Quadrangle