UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

10:00am – 1:00pm, Wednesday 19 October 2016
Senate Room

Members Present: Associate Professor Wendy Davis (Chair); Dr Vasiliki Betihavas (Nursing and Midwifery) for Dr Jennifer Green; Dr Stephen Carter, Pharmacy; Associate Professor Rae Cooper, Business; Dr Kimberly Mathieu Coulton, Dentistry; Professor Alan Fekete, Engineering and Information Technologies; Anne Fernandez, Deputy Registrar Nominee; Dr Kelly Freebody (Education and Social Work) for Dr Wayne Cotton; Associate Professor Jamie Glister, Law; Dr Mark Halaki, Health Sciences; Dr James Humberstone, Sydney Conservatorium of Music; Mr Andrew Lavery, Sydney College of the Arts; Associate Professor Tony Masters, Chair of the Academic Board; Dr Dagmar Reinhardt, Architecture, Design and Planning and Dr Anne Rogerson, Arts and Social Sciences; Dr Jenny Saleeba, Science and Associate Professor Tim Wilkinson, Chair of the Admissions Committee.

Attendees: Matthew Charet, Executive Officer to Academic Board; Associate Professor Peter McCallum (Director, Educational Strategy, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education); Dr Leah Schwartz (Program Manager, Education Strategy); Ms Georgie Wheadon (Senior Policy and Projects Officer, Education Strategy) and Natalie Zawerucha, Committee Officer.

Apologies: Associate Professor Tina Bell, Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources; Professor Adam Bridgeman, Director, Educational Innovation; Dr Wayne Cotton, Education and Social Work; Dr Jennifer Green, Nursing and Midwifery; Dr Eric Knight, Business; Dr Gary Muscatello, Veterinary Science and Ms Chloe Smith, President of the SRC.

6/2016

MINUTES

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Board noted apologies, as recorded above.

Resolution UGSC2016/6-1
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 UGSC2016/6-2
The Undergraduate Studies Committee resolved that the minutes of meeting 5/2016 on 31 August 2016 be confirmed as a true record.

2.2 Actions Arising

Resolution UGSC2016/6-3
The Undergraduate Studies Committee noted that there were no outstanding actions.

3 ITEMS FOR ACTION

3.1 Report of the Chair

The Chair highlighted the curriculum renewal paper on the agenda and thanked members in advance for their work in reviewing the proposal.

Resolution UGSC2016/6-4
The Undergraduate Studies Committee noted the report of the Chair.

3.2 Report of the Academic Board meeting

A/Professor Masters reported that an external review of Academic Board was underway. He advised that transitional arrangements have been put in place to ensure that the composition of Academic Board and its sub-committees are retained until the review recommendations are

Respect is a core value of the Academic Board
received.

Resolution UGSC2016/6-5
The Undergraduate Studies Committee noted the report of the 14 September Academic Board meeting.

4 ITEMS FOR ENDORSEMENT
   Major Course Proposals

4.1 Curriculum Reform – introduction, amendment and deletion of courses

A/Professor Peter McCallum Director, Educational Strategy, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education), Dr Leah Schwartz (Program Manager, Education Strategy) and Ms Georgie Wheadon (Senior Policy and Projects Officer, Education Strategy) were in attendance to seek feedback from members on the University Strategy 2016-2020 Curriculum Reform proposal.

Members provided detailed feedback to be incorporated into the final version of the proposal for Academic Board approval. The key issues discussed by members included:

i. ‘Named Scientist’ stream in the Bachelor of Science (BSc) and combined and double degrees involving the BSc

A paper was tabled explaining that further discussions had been held with the Faculty of Engineering and IT (FEIT) and the Faculty of Science since the circulation of meeting papers. Members were informed that FEIT wished to withdraw the ‘Alumni Name’ stream and add the Dalyell stream to the Bachelor of Engineering Honours and Bachelor of Advanced Computing degrees. The tabled paper stated that Science requested to withdraw the ‘Named Scientist’ stream from the Bachelor of Science and all combined Bachelor of Science combined degrees, except for a yet to be named stream in the combined Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Advanced Studies degree. However, at the meeting, Dr Saleeba reported that the Faculty of Science was unable to commit to withdrawal of the ‘Named Scientist’ stream at that time.

Members endorsed the resolutions, but expressed discomfort with the ‘Named Scientist’ stream. Concern was raised regarding potential confusion around the duplication of schemes for high performing students (Dalyell for entrance ATAR 98+ and Named Scientist for ATAR 95+). Dr Saleeba recommended that the ‘Named Scientist’ stream be removed from all BSc combined double degrees except the BSc/BAdvStudies, and that ‘Named Scientist’ be retained as a placeholder in the BSc and BSc/BAdvStudies, pending further faculty discussions.

ii. Requirement to complete two majors to earn honours in the Bachelor of Advanced Studies

Members questioned whether it was appropriate to require students that enrol in the Bachelor of Advanced Studies in order to undertake honours to complete two majors. Members noted the need to ensure that students were provided with adequate warning if they were pursuing a study path that could not lead to honours. It was recommended that faculties consider ways of accommodating students that pursue minors in disciplines that don’t offer majors. A/Professor McCallum commented that there were a large number of related majors for focused students. He added that it was fundamental principal of the strategy that the Bachelor of Advanced Studies required two majors and that appended honours would remain as a pathway to earn honours without completing the Bachelor of Advanced Studies.

iii. Overlap of units of study between requirements for multiple majors

Members noted that the progression rule for the Bachelor of Advanced Studies combined degrees states that students may not commence 3000-level units of study (UoS) until they complete the required 2000-level UoS, or complete the UoS concurrently. Concern was raised that international students and students who take semesters off could be adversely affected. A/Professor McCallum noted that many UoS are offered several times across the year.
Some members commented that rather than having degree level rules, it could be preferable to establish pre-requisites or include a statement that entry to 3000 level UoS required completion of a certain number of credit points. A/Professor McCallum advised that the least number of exceptions was preferred. He added that the general expectation still allowed for exemptions where required. Ms Fernandez commented that administering special permission for large numbers of students was very time consuming. A/Professor McCallum committed to take the comments on board. Members also noted that the transitional provision on page 87 Section 15 (3) could be misunderstood to be violating the 10 year rule. A/Professor McCallum committed to delete the phrase, noting that it was already explained within the rule.

The issue of overlapping requirements between different majors was raised and it was noted that not all degree resolutions include a statement regarding this issue. A/Professor McCallum advised that a rule regarding overlap could be written into the progression rules if the committee desired. It was noted that this had initially been avoided to avoid creating issues with faculties granting exceptions. The committee agreed that instances in which students that have completed units of study toward one major are required to undertake alternative units of study in order to complete another major should be made explicit, as is already done for some majors.

Resolution UGSC2016/6-6
That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

(1) Approve the introduction of the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Advanced Studies, Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Advanced Studies, Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Advanced Studies, Bachelor of Advanced Studies, Bachelor of Design Computing/Bachelor of Advanced Studies, Bachelor of Economics/Bachelor of Advanced Studies, Bachelor of Computing (exit only), Bachelor of Advanced Computing, Bachelor of Advanced Computing/Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Advanced Computing/Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Arts and Doctor of Medicine;

(2) Approve the amendment of the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Economics, Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Economics and Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Social Work, Bachelor of Education (Secondary: Humanities and Social Sciences)/Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Education (Secondary: Mathematics)/Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Education (Secondary: Science)/Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Engineering Honours and Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Engineering Honours and Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Engineering Honours and Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Arts and Master of Nursing, Bachelor of Science and Master of Nutrition and Dietetics, Bachelor Science and Doctor of Medicine and Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Dental Medicine;

(3) Approve the deletion of the Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, Bachelor of Food and Agribusiness, Bachelor of Environmental Systems (deleted), Bachelor of Arts (Asian Studies), Bachelor of Arts (Languages), Bachelor of Arts (Media and Communications), Bachelor of International and Global Studies, Bachelor of Political, Economic and Social Sciences, Bachelor of Health Sciences, Bachelor of Medical Science, Bachelor of Science (Advanced), Bachelor of Science (Advanced Mathematics), Bachelor of Health Sciences, Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Bioscience, Bachelor of Music Studies; Bachelor of Commerce (Liberal Studies); Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Economics; Bachelor of Arts (Media and Communications) and Bachelor of Laws; Bachelor of Design in Architecture and Bachelor of Laws; Bachelor of International and Global Studies and Bachelor of Laws; Bachelor of Music Studies and Bachelor of Arts; Bachelor of Project Management and Bachelor of Arts; Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts; Bachelor of Engineering Honours and Bachelor of Medical Science; Bachelor of Health Sciences and Master of Nursing; Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Arts; Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Science; Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)/Bachelor of Music Studies; Bachelor or Economics and Doctor of Medicine; Bachelor of Commerce and Doctor of Medicine; Bachelor of Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine; Bachelor of Music Studies and Doctor of Medicine; Bachelor of Science (Advanced)
and Doctor of Medicine; and Bachelor of Science (Advanced) and Doctor of Dental Medicine;

(4) recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board’s approval of the proposal and approve amendments to the Resolutions of Senate, as appropriate; and

(5) approve the introduction, amendment or deletion, as appropriate, of Course Resolutions arising from this proposal with effect from 1 January 2018;

Subject to:

i) Feedback from members being considered and incorporated into the proposal where appropriate; and

ii) Confirmation being sought from the Faculty of Science regarding the ‘Named Scientist’ stream.

Minor Course Proposals

4.2 Business School: Bachelor of Commerce (and combined courses) – Banking Major transition – Amendment of Course Resolutions

Resolution UGSC2016/6-7

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that Academic Board approve:

1) the proposal from the University of Sydney Business School to amend the Bachelor of Commerce (and selected combined courses); and

2) the amendment of the Course Resolutions arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.3 Dentistry: Bachelor of Oral Health – Amendment of course resolutions

The item was withdrawn from the agenda by the faculty.

4.4 Engineering & IT: Substitution of elective unit for Bachelor of Engineering Honours (Mechatronic stream) – Amendment of UoS table

The proposal was endorsed subject to confirmation that the School of Chemistry has been consulted regarding AMME5931.

Resolution UGSC2016/6-8

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that Academic Board approve:

1) the proposal from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to amend the Bachelor of Engineering Honours (Mechatronic stream); and

2) the amendment of the table of Units of Study arising from the proposal, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.5 Engineering & IT: Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies combined degrees with Bachelor of Medical Science – Amendment of course resolutions

Resolution UGSC2016/6-9

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend Academic Board approve:

1) the proposal from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to amend the combined Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) and Bachelor of Medical Science and the combined Bachelor of Information Technology and Bachelor of Medical Science; and

2) the amendment of the course resolutions arising from the proposal, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.6 Engineering & IT: Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) Chemical and Biomolecular stream – Amendment of UoS table

Resolution UGSC2016/6-10

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to amend the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours); and
2) the amendment of the table of Units of Study arising from the proposal, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.7 Faculty of Science: Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Bioscience – Amendment of UoS table
The proposal was endorsed subject to amendment of the prohibitions, which had been incorrectly listed as pre-requisites.
Resolution UGSC2016/6-11
That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Bioscience; and
2) the amendment of the table of Units of Study arising from the proposal, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.8 Faculty of Science: Bachelor of Food and Agribusiness – Amendment to UoS table and course resolutions
Resolution UGSC2016/6-12
That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Bachelor of Food and Agribusiness;
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.

4.9 Faculty of Science: Bachelor of Psychology – Amendment to UoS table and course resolutions
Resolution UGSC2016/6-13
That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Bachelor of Psychology;
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.

4.10 Faculty of Science: Bachelor of Science in Agriculture – Amendment to UoS table
Resolution UGSC2016/6-14
That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Bachelor of Science in Agriculture; and
2) the amendment of the table of Units of Study arising from the proposal, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.11 Faculty of Science: Bachelor of Science, Neuroscience Major – Amendment to UoS table
Resolution UGSC2016/6-15
That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Bachelor of Science; and
2) the amendment of the table of Units of Study arising from the proposal, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.12 Faculty of Science: Bachelor of Science, Nutrition and Metabolism major – Amendment to UoS table
Resolution UGSC2016/6-16
That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that Academic Board approve:
1) the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Bachelor of Science; and
2) the amendment of the table of Units of Study arising from the proposal, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.13 Faculty of Science: Bachelor of Science, Psychology major – Amendment to UoS table

Resolution UGSC2016/6-17
That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that Academic Board approve:

1) the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Bachelor of Science; and
2) the amendment of the table of Units of Study arising from the proposal, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.14 Faculty of Science: Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/Doctor of Veterinary Medicine – Amendment to UoS table and course resolutions

Resolution UGSC2016/18
That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board approve:

1) The proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/Doctor of Veterinary Medicine; and
2) the amendment of the course resolutions and degree table arising from the proposal, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.15 Faculty of Science: Faculty Resolutions minor amendment – Amendment to Faculty Resolutions

Resolution UGSC2016/19
That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend Academic Board approve:

1) the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the resolutions of the Faculty of Science, effective from 1 January 2017.

4.16 Faculty of Science: Bachelor of Science/Master of Nutrition and Dietetics – Amendment to UoS table and course resolutions

Resolution UGSC2016/6-20
That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend Academic Board approve:

1) the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Bachelor of Science/Master of Nutrition and Dietetics;
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 January 1, 2017.

4.17 Faculty of Science: Bachelor of Science Table 1 Majors: Changes to Year 1 Biology Units – Amendment to UoS table

Resolution UGSC2016/6-21
That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend Academic Board approve:

1) the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Bachelor of Science; and
2) the amendment of the table of Units of Study arising from the proposal, with effect from 1 January 2017.

4.18 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: Amendment to UoS tables

Resolution UGSC2016/6-22
That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that Academic Board approve:

1) the amendment of the table of Units of Study arising from the proposal, with effect from 1
January 2017

5  ITEMS FOR NOTING

6  OTHER BUSINESS

Next meeting
10:00am-1:00pm, Wednesday 16 November 2016, Senate Room, Quadrangle