
UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

10:00am – 12:00pm, Tuesday 30 October 2018

Level 5 Function Room, Administration Building (F23)

Members Present: Dr Melissa Hardie (Chair); Dr Stephen Carter (Pharmacy); Dr Anthony Dracopoulos (Arts and Social Sciences); Dr Kate Edwards (Health Sciences); Denzel Florez (Academic Board Student Representative); Imogen Grant (President, Student Representative Council); Edwina Grose (Deputy Registrar Nominee); Associate Professor Catherine Hardy (Business); Associate Professor Tony Masters (Chair of Academic Board); Dr Kimberly Mathieu Coulton (Dentistry); Dr Gary Muscatello (Science); Adrienne Sach (for Dr James Humberstone, Sydney Conservatorium of Music); Associate Professor Marjorie Valix (Engineering and Information Technologies); Dr Kevin Walton (Sydney Law School).

Attendees: Dr Matthew Charet (Executive Officer to Academic Board); Dr Glenys Eddy (Committee Officer); Charlie Foxlee (Manager, Academic Model Team); Associate Professor Peter McCallum (Director, Education Strategy); Georgina Wheadon (DVC Education Portfolio).

Apologies: Dr Ross Anderson (Architecture, Design and Planning); Dr Lisa Conlon (Nursing and Midwifery); Associate Professor Tina Hinton (Medicine); Dr James Humberstone (Sydney Conservatorium of Music); Dr Fernanda Penalzoza (Nominee of Academic Board); Associate Professor Nial Wheate (Nominee of Academic Board); Associate Professor Tim Wilkinson (Chair, Admissions Sub-committee); Associate Professor Bronwyn Winter (Nominee of Academic Board).

2018/8

MINUTES

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed members and attendees to the meeting, and noted the apologies received.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-1

The Undergraduate Studies Committee resolved to accept the apologies received as recorded above.

2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

2.1 Minutes of Previous Meeting 2018/7, 23 October 2018

Three points were raised for correction in the minutes of the previous meeting:

- the graduate outcome 'cultural competence' was discussed in the context of the submission from Business as a whole, and not in the specific context of the Bachelor of Commerce;
- Associate Professor Hardy asked for clarification concerning comments related to the Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Laws, which had been made after her departure. Associate Professor McCallum had commented, that as a principle, a combined degree needed to meet the learning outcomes of both component degrees. He had also stated that Law had the responsibility to articulate why Law students were required to have a partner discipline, and had suggested that this be executed through the interdisciplinary effectiveness graduate quality, noting that this was more the responsibility of Law than Commerce.
- Law's UG learning outcome submission had been developed and reviewed by a small working group reporting to a teaching and curriculum committee, and not the School's standing Curriculum Committee.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 October 2018 were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-2

The Undergraduate Studies Committee resolved that the minutes of meeting 2018/7 on 23 October 2018 be confirmed as a true record of that meeting, conditional upon the corrections outlined having been made.

2.2 Actions Arising

No comment was offered on the actions arising.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-3

The Undergraduate Studies Committee noted the updates provided on outstanding actions from the previous meeting.

3 STANDING ITEMS

3.1 Report of the Chair

No report was submitted by the Chair.

3.2 Report of the Academic Board

A/Prof. Masters had nothing to add to his reported as submitted.

Resolution UGSC2018/6-4

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee resolved to note the report of the Academic Board meeting of 2 October 2018.

4 ITEMS FOR ACTION

MAJOR COURSE PROPOSALS

4.1 Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Advanced Studies (Languages)

Dr Dracopoulos presented the proposal to the Committee, which was endorsed by the UE CCPC on 22 October. The proposal consists of adding a Languages stream similar to the former Bachelor of Arts (Languages) to the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Advanced Studies. This new structure aims to appeal to the market for graduates desiring multi-lingual skills, and consists of 192 credit points, including two majors in two different languages for which 24 credit points of units are specific to the major, gave the levels of the units. The real-world application is taught through a multi-lingual translation project in Year 4.

With the raising of the ATAR from 90 to 95 on the advice of the CCPC, the possibility of imposing a quota was raised. Dr Dracopoulos reported that discussion about this between the School of Languages and Cultures and the Recruitment office resulted in a compromise between the previous degree's high ATAR and the new, originally set at 90, which was seen as harder with the requirement of studying two languages;

Dr Dracopoulos noted that students in this degree cannot take Honours in the Advanced stream as the fourth year is embedded in the degree structure. The Chair noted the need to resolve the matter of high ATAR students prohibited from taking Honours as it is counter-intuitive to prohibit these good students from taking Honours. It was suggested that the Master of Advanced Studies might be appropriate for this cohort; these students must otherwise transfer to the BA/BAS and take Honours in a language instead.

The question was raised concerning what will appear on the testamur for graduates of this degree, specifically, whether it will be limited to the degree title, whether it will contain the stream, Languages, in brackets, and whether the titles of the two language majors will be included. Advice from Edwina Grose and Associate Professor Peter McCallum was that according to policy, testamurs contain only one set of brackets after the award course title, containing the stream, and if there is no stream, then the major. It was also noted that the testamur reflects the satisfaction of the requirements for the degree. What else a student completes will be reflected in the transcript.

Curriculum Build

Edwina Grose observed that the build for the new curriculum had been predicated on there being no third major for this degree. She also discussed the difficulty of accommodating the Dalyell units for Dalyell scholars if they complete a third major.

It was confirmed that the Bachelor of Arts (Languages) will exist as an exit degree for those students still enrolled in and aiming to graduate from this degree.

Course Components: Expression in the Course Resolutions

It was noted that although the course components were outlined in Section 7.1, Course Structure (p. 31 of the agenda pack) of the proposal documentation, these needed to be clearly articulated in the course resolutions.

Credit for Previous Study

Associate Professor Masters, referring to the section on 'credit for previous study' (Section 14 of course resolutions) stated that with reference to barriers to giving credit for previous study for certificates and diplomas, the Faculty needs to consider as a general principle, the new standards for the education framework.

Associate Professor Masters requested information concerning the number of students affected by discontinuing the existing program be included in the proposal before its submission to Academic Board.

The Committee endorsed the proposal, contingent upon the amendments discussed above having been made.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-4

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

- 1. approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to amend the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Advanced Studies (Languages); and*
- 2. approve the amendment to the Course Resolutions arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2020.*

MINOR COURSE PROPOSALS

4.2 Bachelor of Arts course resolution amendment

Dr Dracopoulos presented the proposal, stating its aim as to include the dual degree in the Bachelor of Arts resolutions.

Associate Professor McCallum observed that the existence of the dual pathway degree creates a category for which there is no definition currently. In the case of the dual degree students essentially complete two degrees together and receive two separate transcripts. The resolutions should list all of the dual degrees available.

It was noted that dual degrees with partners had not been incorporated into the new curriculum structure and had not been rebuilt as part of the Bachelor of Arts under the new curriculum. Edwina Grose confirmed that the rebuild could not be done in time for a 2019 implementation.

The Meeting decided that the following points needed more consideration:

- the lack of definition of dual pathway degrees needs to be addressed and related processes need clarification, for instance those related to appeal rights for students enrolled in dual degrees
- the University Policy Manager should be involved in discussions concerning policy needs around dual degrees. This is timely given that TEQSA is taking a strong interest in Third party agreements
- there needs to be a clear exit strategy for students if they fail progression; in this context will the BA function as exit degree?
- the Resolutions need to be amended to state the dual degrees available.

The Committee agreed to Associate Professor Peter McCallum's suggestion of convening a meeting to discuss the matters raised with respect to the two proposals concerning dual pathways, Items 4.2 and 4.6.

The Committee endorsed the proposals considered under Items 4.2 and 4.6, conditional upon the matters raised being resolved, but noting that a 2019 implementation was highly unlikely.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-5

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee endorse the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to amend the Bachelor of Arts conditional upon the matters raised during discussion being resolved and an amended proposal having been submitted to the Committee.

4.3 Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Advanced Studies (Media and Communications) minor course amendment

Dr Dracopoulos outlined the proposed changes to this degree: the credit-point value is changing from 96 to 102 to provide room for a second major, a 4000-level project unit is being added, and material is being removed from the core.

The Committee endorsed the proposal as presented for submission to Academic Board.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-6

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

- 1. approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to amend the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Advanced Studies (Media and Communications);*
- 2. approve the implementation of the Course Resolution amendments arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2020; and*
- 3. approve the implementation of the degree table amendments arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2020.*

4.4 Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Advanced Studies (International and Global Studies) Honours course table

The Committee endorsed the proposal as presented for submission to Academic Board.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-7

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

- 1. approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to amend the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Advanced Studies (Media and Communications); and*
- 2. approve the implementation of the degree table amendments arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2020.*

4.5 Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Social Work course resolution amendment

Dr Dracopoulos presented the proposal, which stipulates the requirement for students to complete two new Year 1 compulsory units, which will work to provide students with the opportunity to engage in social work studies earlier in their degree. The Committee endorsed the proposal as presented for submission to Academic Board.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-8

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

- 1. approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to amend the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Social Work; and*
- 2. approve the implementation of the Course Resolution amendments arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2020.*

4.6 Bachelor of Economics; Bachelor of Economics and Bachelor of Advanced Studies course resolution amendment

Discussion of item 4.2 was held to apply to this degree also, and accordingly this proposal was endorsed for submission to Academic Board, conditional upon the matters raised during

discussion having been resolved and an amended proposal having been submitted to the Committee.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-9

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee endorse the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to amend the Bachelor of Economics; Bachelor of Economics/Bachelor of Advanced Studies conditional upon the matters raised during discussion being resolved and an amended proposal having been submitted to the Committee.

4.7 Bachelor of Economics; Bachelor of Economics and Bachelor of Advanced Studies minor course amendment: renaming of major

Dr Dracopoulos presented the proposal, to change the title of the current Agricultural and Resource Economics major to Environmental, Agricultural and Resource Economics, for a 2020 implementation. Edwina Grose confirmed that the implementation of the title change will involve treating it as a new major involving the creation of a new major pathway in Sydney Student.

The Committee endorsed the proposal as presented for submission to Academic Board.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-10

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

- 1. approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to amend the Bachelor of Economics; Bachelor of Economics/Bachelor of Advanced Studies;*
- 2. approve the amendments to the course resolutions arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2020; and*
- 3. approve the amendments to the degree table arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2020.*

4.8 Bachelor of Music minor course amendment: new minor in Community Music

Adrienne Sach presented the proposal on behalf of the Conservatorium, noting that a minor in Community Music will be relevant to many music students intending to work in schools and with community groups.

It was determined that OLE units cannot be included in the minor, and that the Conservatorium can offer 12 credit points of suitable units at 1000 level without the OLEs.

The Committee endorsed the proposal for submission to Academic Board, conditional upon the removal of the OLE units.

The Chair directed that the amended proposal be noted at the next USC meeting on 13 November.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-11

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

- 1. approve the amended proposal from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to amend the Bachelor of Music; and*
- 2. approve the amendments to the degree table arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2020.*

4.9 Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) minor course amendment

Dr Kate Edwards presented the proposals for the Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) and the Bachelor of Applied Science/Bachelor of Advanced Studies (Exercise and Sport Science) (Item 4.10) concurrently, outlining the key reasons for the proposed changes:

- to maintain alignment of teaching and learning between the Exercise Physiology and Exercise and Sport Science streams of the Bachelor of Applied Science
- to address revised accreditation criteria, to ensure continuing professional accreditation for graduates

- to ensure more elective choices for students
- to allow students to complete a Table S major while retaining their accreditation.

The Chair thanked everyone involved for their work on these two proposals.
The Committee endorsed the two proposals as presented for submission to Academic Board.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-12

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

1. *approve the proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to amend the Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) and the Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) Honours;*
2. *approve the amendments to the course resolutions arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2020; and*
3. *approve the amendments to the degree table arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2020.*

4.10 Bachelor of Applied Science/Bachelor of Advanced Studies (Exercise and Sport Science)

Please see Item 4.9, above.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-13

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

1. *approve the proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to amend the Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science);*
2. *approve the amendments to the course resolutions arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2020; and*
3. *approve the amendments to the degree table arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2020;*
4. *approve the proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to amend the Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science), and the Bachelor of Applied Science/Bachelor of Advanced Studies (Exercise and Sport Science);*
5. *approve the amendments to the course resolutions arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2020;*
6. *approve the amendments to the degree table arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2020; and*
7. *Note the Board of Interdisciplinary Studies endorsement of the proposal to include the Physical Activity and Health Major and Minor in the Shared Pool (Table S) for all Undergraduate degrees.*

4.11 Bachelor of Laws minor course amendment (to school and course resolutions)

Dr Walton presented the proposal, consisting of removing the teaching hours requirement from the course resolutions for the Bachelor of Laws, for the purpose of allowing students to obtain credit for coursework completed at another institution.

Associate Professor McCallum drew attention to the fact that whilst the proposal delegates authority to the Head of School and Dean, for the faculty and course resolutions to align with the University of Sydney Coursework Rule, the authority to rule on credit given for study at another institution should be delegated to the Associate Dean Education. He recommended that this change be made to the proposal before its submission to Academic Board.

The proposal was endorsed for submission to Academic Board, conditional upon the correction having been made.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-14

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

1. *approve the proposal from the Sydney Law School to amend the Bachelor Laws;*
and
2. *approve the amendments to the Faculty resolutions and course resolutions arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2019.*

4.12 Bachelor of Engineering Honours combined degree resolutions amendment

Associate Professor Valix outlined the purpose of the proposal: to amend the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) combined degree resolutions to include the requirement for Professional Engineering Practice (PEP) to align it with the course resolutions for the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours).

The proposal was endorsed for submission to Academic Board.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-15

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that Academic Board approve:

- 1. approve the proposal from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to amend the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) Combined Degrees; and*
- 2. approve the amendment to the resolutions for the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) Combined Degrees, with effect from Semester 1, 2019.*

4.13 Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences course resolution amendment

Dr Muscatello presented the proposal, consisting of an amendment to the course resolutions, to allow students to complete the accredited Psychology program, which is not facilitated under the new curriculum structure.

Edwina Grose observed that introducing a new structure to a degree involves a rebuild in Sydney Student, which at this late stage cannot be accommodated in time for a 2019 implementation. Dr Muscatello emphasised that the pathway is needed in order to future-proof accreditation in this area, but agreed to the 2020 implementation, noting that students can take 1000 and 2000 level units in 2019 and enrol in the program in 2020.

The Committee endorsed the proposal for submission to Academic Board, for approval for a 2020 implementation.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-16

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

- 1. approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Course Resolutions for the Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Science*
- 2. approve the amendment to the Course Resolutions arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2019.*

4.14 Bachelor of Advanced Studies course resolution amendment

Associate Professor McCallum presented the proposal for amendments to the Bachelor of Advanced Studies course resolutions. Considerable discussion concerned changes to Section 5, Admission to Candidature, in particular, the requirements relating to the completion of majors.

Associate Professor McCallum noted that although originally the resolutions required the student to complete two majors, proposed changes allow more latitude by not requiring students to complete a second major, which he also noted was in accord with the learning outcomes.

It was observed that within some streams of the Bachelor of Advanced Studies students can complete a second major in their Honours year, and the constraint is built in for students to complete Honours in 48 credit points rather than 36.

Associate Professor Masters observed that accepting students with a cognate degree into the Bachelor of Advanced Studies creates an inequality when compared with the decision not to admit students who have completed the University's degree under previous resolutions whereby a second major, if completed, was not recorded. He also cited the example of a student who abandons their degree at Sydney, obtains credit for a degree completed elsewhere, and enrolls in the Bachelor of Advanced Studies. Associate Professor McCallum considered the proposed changes to be in the service of this very principle. It was suggested that 5 (1) (C) be expressed in stronger terms, to draw faculties' attention to this point.

Dr Muscatello requested that the Science Education Committee be given the opportunity to review the proposal further.

The Chair recommended that the proposal revert to the alternative wording, put more strongly, "comparable", and the changes with respect to Psychology to revert to the original wording.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-17

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board:

1. *approve the proposal from the DVC Education Portfolio endorsed by the Board of Interdisciplinary Studies on 11 October 2019 to amend the Bachelor of Advanced Studies, conditional upon amendments discussed above having been made; and*
2. *approve the amendments to the Course Resolutions arising from the proposal with effect from 1 January 2020.*

5 STRATEGIC ITEMS

5.1 Assessment: Implementing a University-Wide Approach

Associate Professor McCallum reported on the work completed by the Assessment Working Group since the Academic Board reviewed its work in late 2017. The Group has reviewed the assessment framework within the undergraduate degrees and its alignment with the graduate qualities, reviewed the use of feedback on assessment tasks, and undertaken work on the implementation of more authentic assessment tasks. The Working Group has also overseen the development of the assessment rubrics which are not for endorsement at this stage. In 2019 the Working Group will oversee faculties' completion of assessment plans, and will complete the proof of concept work on software for providing feedback.

Denzel Florez enquired into the progress of the intention to include the graduate qualities achievement on transcripts, as discussed at an earlier USC meeting in 2018. Associate Professor McCallum affirmed that the intention is still for this to be done, but that a time had not yet been decided upon for implementation. More validation is needed. A supplement transcript containing the graduate qualities is being considered.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-18

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee resolved to:

1. *endorse the 2018 report of the Assessment Working Group including;*
2. *endorse the interim definitions of the University graduate qualities; and,*
3. *endorse the suite of nine common draft University rubrics for faculties to refer to in making disciplinary interpretations and developing assessment plans.*

5.2 2020 Curriculum Timelines

Georgie Wheadon presented the paper, written in consultation with Edwina Grose, which outlines possible curriculum change approval pathways and distinguishes between changes requiring a large amount of work by the Academic Model Team and those that do not.

Resolution UGSC2018/8-19

That the Undergraduate Studies Committee resolved to note the second update to the 2020 curriculum approvals timelines.

6 ITEMS FOR NOTING

No items for noting were submitted for this agenda.

7 OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance at the meeting. There being no other business, the Meeting closed at 11.53 am.

Date of next meeting

10:00am-12:00pm, Tuesday 13 November 2018, F23 Level 5 Function Room