THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

ACADEMIC BOARD   28 OCTOBER 2015

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**Minutes of the meeting of the Academic Board
held at 2.00pm on Wednesday 28 October 2015 in the Professorial Board Room**

There were present: the Chair (Associate Professor P McCallum) presiding; the Acting Vice-Chancellor and Principal (Professor S Houston); the Chairs of the Standing Committees (Associate Professor S Cattle, Professor J Hanrahan, Associate Professor T Masters and Associate Professor D Traini); Associate Professor T Ancev, Dr T Balle, Dr J Bloomfield, Professor B Buckley, Professor B Caine, Professor T Carlin, Mr L Carment, Dr B Church, Associate Professor W Davis, Dr J Gao, Associate Professor J Glister, Professor M Graeber, Mr T Greenwell, Associate Professor T Grewal, Dr J Gullick, Professor T Hambley, Professor A Johnston, Mr C Jones, Dr D Larkin, Professor D Lowe, Dr J Ma, Dr S Matthew, Ms E May, Professor E Mpofu, Associate Professor L Nicholson, Dr C Owens, Professor P Pattison, Professor K Refshauge, Professor C Rhodes, Ms A Rose, Dr J Saleeba, Professor J Shields, Professor R Stancliffe, Associate Professor C Taylor, Professor G Tolhurst, Ms S Vimalarajah, Associate Professor R Walker, Associate Professor G White and Associate Professor T Wilkinson.

Present as observers: Ms C Angeloni (SRC), Associate Professor J Barrett, Professor A Fekete (EIT), Mr D Pacey (Secretary to Senate), Ms L Rose (Office of the Provost), Mr T Smithers (SAS Project), Ms D Thai (ADP) and Ms L Webster.

In attendance: Mr M Charet (Committee Officer, University Secretariat).

☆ 1.   Apologies
Apologies have been received from: Associate Professor J Anderson, Associate Professor S Barrie, Dr R Bathgate, Ms A Bell, Dr T Bell, Mr K Blakeney, Ms T Clement, Professor M Crock, Dr D Easdown, Ms C Fahd, Professor S Garton, Professor N Gurran, Ms A Irish, Professor D Ivison, Dr N Jarkey, Professor Y-H Jeon, Dr D Larkin, Professor P Leong, Professor D Mayer, Associate Professor S McGrath-Champ, Professor C Peck, Associate Professor N Peres da Costa, Professor I Ramzan, Professor K Refshauge, Professor A Reid, Professor J Riley, Professor L Rivory, Professor B Robinson, Associate Professor P Seltsikas, Ms J Smith, Associate Professor C Sutton-Brady, Mr J Tong, Dr S van der Laan, Professor D Waters, Professor G Whitwell and Dr P White.

☆ 2.   Arrangement of agenda
2.1   Starring of items
The following items were starred: 12.2.2, 13.2.

2.2   Adoption of unstarred items

Resolution AB_7_236/15
That the Academic Board resolved as recommended with respect to all unstarred items.

3. **Minutes of previous meeting**

    Resolution AB_7_237/15
    That the Academic Board adopted the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16 September 2015 as a true record.

4. **Business arising from Minutes** (not dealt with elsewhere in the Agenda)

☆ 5. **Presentation: Vice-Chancellor's Taskforce on Academic Misconduct and Plagiarism**
    The Chair advised that the Vice-Chancellor had called for the establishment of a taskforce in 2014 to address the University's responsibility to maintain standards of academic honesty and to defend the legitimacy of ownership and authorship of the work produced at the institution. The matter was brought into the public spotlight by media attention that risked the eroding public confidence in the ability of universities to ensure fairness and academic integrity in the face of industrial-scale essay mills and new technology, leading to a further risk to public perceptions of the integrity of university qualifications over time.

    The aims of the taskforce were: to cultivate a strong culture of academic integrity shared by all staff and students; to provide a comprehensive education for all students; to encourage appropriate assessment that encourages originality of thought; to develop mechanisms for the effective detection of academic dishonesty and ensure that records are kept; to identify problems and trends in infringement and act on them; and to provide staff support to facilitate these outcomes. The desired outcome of these measures is to see low and declining levels of breach over time.

    The taskforce has produced two reports. The first of these focusses on prevention and detection of academic dishonesty and recommends a number of measures to ensure that all students entering a degree program receive instruction in the principles of academic honesty. From Semester 1 2016, this will occur via completion of mandatory cross-University online modules and discipline-specific discussion in small-group activities within units of study. Alongside this, the report recommends the mandatory use of Turnitin for all text-based written assignments (necessitating online submission and the creation of LMS sites for every unit of study). Strategies to prevent ghostwriting are advocated such as requiring drafts of work in progress, as is ongoing review of assessment activities to address factors contributing to previous breaches. Reuse of previous assessment exercises is prohibited where such reuse may give those with knowledge of them (from an online source, for example) an unfair advantage. The University-wide adoption of an online reporting tool, currently in use in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, is also in progress to simplify reporting for academic staff and facilitate data extraction. The first report also advocates the establishment of an Office of Educational Integrity within the portfolio of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education). The Office of Educational Integrity will have responsibility for the implementation of task force findings as well as provide a single point of contact for staff and students. Activities to support these recommendations are already underway for commencement in Semester 1 2016.

    The second report, included in the agenda for this meeting, focuses on support for academic and professional staff, as well as introducing processes to encourage academic honesty by research students. These include introducing an integrity check at point of thesis submission via text or code matching software; amalgamating the Research Code of Conduct and Academic Honesty requirements into single Procedure; implementing integrity checks at candidature milestones; and developing local data management procedures (including governance for LabArchives). The report also suggests the removal of Chapter 8 from the By-Law and its replacement by a Rule of Senate to remove double-processing and streamline administration, with less involvement of the Vice-Chancellor's Office. Finally, the paper calls for a culture of communication and openness.

    Underpinning the implementation of the recommendations of the task force is a new Academic Honesty in Coursework Policy (included in the agenda as Item 13.2.2). The primary innovations of this policy include the option of providing further education prior to investigation or finding; creation of the role of an Academic Integrity Coordinator for each faculty to coordinate nominated academics as well as setting out the roles and responsibilities of all parties; removal of the need to determine whether plagiarism is negligent or dishonest; and setting out assessment requirements and policy on education relating to academic integrity.

In discussion, the Chair advised that existing students would be able to participate in the online training module and could take advantage of other resources but their participation would not be mandated or tracked by the Office of Educational Integrity, as will be the case with students new to a degree program. It was suggested that mandatory participation could be enforced via completion of the module as an assessment activity that does not contribute to a unit of study result so a student will not pass a unit of study until the module has been completed. The Board noted that this strategy has been utilised successfully in the Business School. The Chair emphasised that Turnitin is a tool to facilitate identification of potential misconduct but that academic judgement will still be required to identify policy breaches. The Board was also advised that students may use Turnitin themselves to pre-check assessment tasks prior to lodgement but that the University will only mandate use of Turnitin for final submission.

Resolution AB_7_238/15
That the Academic Board note the presentation from the Chair on the Vice-Chancellor's Taskforce on Academic Misconduct and Plagiarism.

6. **Report of the Chair**
    6.1   **Report on Senate Matters**
        6.1.1   **Report of the Senate meeting held on 28 September 2015**
            The Academic Board noted this report.

            Resolution AB_7_239/15
            That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board on academic matters considered by Senate at its meeting of 28 September 2015.

    6.2   **Honours and Distinctions**
        The Board noted and congratulated by acclamation the recipients of honours and distinctions, as set out in the agenda and the supplementary agenda.

        Resolution AB_7_240/15
        That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board on the honours and distinctions and congratulate the recipients, as set out in the report presented.

    Action: Chair of the Academic Board to write to recipients congratulating them on their honours and distinctions.

    6.3   **General Report**
        6.3.1   **2015 Academic Board elections**
            The Chair reported on results thus far in the filling of positions for the 2016-2017 term.

            6.3.1.1 **Academic Staff elections**
                Results of the elections completed thus far were reported in the supplementary agenda, with a number of vacancies filled on nomination by deans and a number of positions remaining to be filled. The Board noted that the results of the Faculty of Science election have yet to be determined and will be advised to the Board when available.

                Resolution AB_7_241/15
                That the Academic Board:
                (1)   appoint the academic staff members nominated by their deans to fill casual vacancies for the term 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2017; and
                (2)   note the report on the 2015 Academic Board elections
                as set out in the report presented.

            Action: Executive Officer to update membership list.

6.3.1.2 Student elections
Results to date of student elections to the Board were advised in the supplementary agenda, with four faculties holding elections the results of which will be advised to the Board once available.

Resolution AB_7_242/15
That the Academic Board note the report on the 2015 Academic Board elections for student members as set out in the report presented.

Action: Executive Officer to update membership list.

6.3.1.3 Election of Chair of Academic Board
The Chair advised that the call for nominations for election to the Chair of the Board has closed, and that three valid nominations have been received. The Secretary advised that ballot papers would be distributed to eligible voters on 9 November, with the ballot taking place on 24 November. The new Chair would be announced shortly thereafter.

Resolution AB_7_243/15
That the Academic Board note the report on the 2015 Academic Board elections for the Chair of the Academic Board.

6.3.2 OLT grant application "Institutional strategies for academic integrity in the digital age"
In addition to the written report, the Chair advised that the application had arisen as a result of discussions at a national conference in Melbourne earlier in the year. The project involves 25 institutions each of which is contributing funds to set up a national network and coordinate collective action regarding legislation and resources. If the grant application is not successful, the participants nevertheless intend to proceed.

Resolution AB_7_244/15
That the Academic Board note the Chair's report on the proposed OLT grant application "Institutional strategies for academic integrity in the digital age".

6.3.3 2016 Academic Board meeting dates
Members noted the schedule.

Resolution AB_7_245/15
That the Academic Board note the schedule of meeting dates for 2016 as presented.

6.3.4 End-of-year Celebrations
The Board supported in intent the inclusion of a charitable collection as part of the end-of-year celebrations, with the Malala Fund and Katrina Dawson Foundation suggested as possible beneficiaries.

Resolution AB_7_246/15
That the Academic Board endorse a charitable collection to be run as part of the end-of-year celebrations following the Board's final meeting for the year on 2 December 2015.

6.3.5 Correspondence Register
Members noted the report.

Resolution AB_7_247/15
That the Academic Board note the register of correspondence, as set out in the report presented.

✫ **7. Report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal**

    7.1 Report on Senate Matters

        7.1.1 Report of the Senate meeting held on 28 September 2015
The Academic Board noted this report.

Resolution AB_7_248/15
That the Academic Board note the report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal on matters considered by Senate at its meeting of 28 September 2015.

    7.2 General report
The Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Shane Houston, advised members of the Culture Leaders Forum scheduled for 19 November 2015, invitations for which are to be distributed shortly. The Forum is intended to address issues raised in the Culture strategy paper, as well as develop a financial model and 2016 implementation plan for presentation to Senate in April.

Resolution AB_7_249/15
That the Academic Board note the report presented by the Acting Vice-Chancellor.

✫ **8. Question time**
There were no further questions for the Chair or the Acting Vice-Chancellor.

Resolution AB_7_250/15
That the Academic Board note the responses to the questions raised.

9. Reports of the Faculties

    9.1 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: Amendment to Faculty Constitution

Resolution AB_7_251/15
That the Academic Board recommend that Senate approve the amendments to the Senate Resolutions relating to the Constitution of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences with immediate effect, as set out in the report presented.

Action: Chair to recommend that Senate approve amendments to the Resolutions of Senate related to the Constitution of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Resolutions of Senate related to the Constitution of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

    9.2 2016 Semester Dates

        9.2.1 Faculty of Education and Social Work

Resolution AB_7_252/15
That the Academic Board approve the request from the Faculty of Education and Social Work to amend its semester dates for 2016 with immediate effect, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Education and Social Work, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend its semester dates for 2016.

        9.2.2 Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery

Resolution AB_7_253/15
That the Academic Board approve the request from the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery to amend its semester dates for 2016 with immediate effect, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend its semester dates for 2016.

9.2.3 Faculty of Veterinary Science

Resolution AB_7_254/15
That the Academic Board approve the request from the Faculty of Veterinary Science to amend its semester dates for 2016 with immediate effect, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Veterinary Science, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend its semester dates for 2016.

10. Report of the Admissions Committee

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10.1 Oral report of the Chair
Professor Hanrahan advised that she had nothing further to add to the written report.

Resolution AB_7_255/15
That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Admissions Committee.

10.2 Report of the meeting held on 29 September 2015
10.2.1 Amended Terms of Reference

Resolution AB_7_256/15
That the Academic Board approve the proposed amendment to the Terms of Reference, with immediate effect, as presented.

Action: Executive Officer to update the terms of reference for the Admissions Committee.

10.2.2 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education

Resolution AB_7_257/15
That the Academic Board approve a revised schedule for the recognition of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) as an entry pathway to the University, with immediate effect, as set out in the report presented.

Action: Director, Admissions to note the Academic Board's approval of a revised schedule recognising the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) as an entry pathway to the University.

10.2.3 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution AB_7_258/15
That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Admissions Committee meeting held on 29 September 2015, as set out in the report presented.

11. Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee

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11.1 Oral report of the Chair
Associate Professor Cattle advised that he had nothing further to add to the written report.

Resolution AB_7_259/15
That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee.

11.2 Report of the meeting held on 14 October 2015
11.2.1 Minor course amendment proposals
11.2.1.1 University of Sydney Business School: Faculty Resolutions

Resolution AB_7_260/15
That the Academic Board:

(1)   approve the proposal from the University of Sydney Business School to amend sections of its Faculty Resolutions; and

(2)   approve the amendment of the Faculty Resolutions arising from this proposal

with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, University of Sydney Business School, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend sections of its Faculty Resolutions and amend the resolutions in CMS.

11.2.1.2 Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies: Bachelor of Engineering Honours (Civil) / Bachelor of Design in Architecture

Resolution AB_7_261/15

That the Academic Board:

(1)   approve the proposal from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to approve a change to the Bachelor of Engineering Honours Combined Degree Resolutions to clarify the requirements for the Architecture component of the Bachelor of Engineering Honours (Civil) / Bachelor of Design in Architecture; and

(2)   approve the amendment of the course resolutions arising from this proposal

with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Bachelor of Engineering Honours Combined Degree Resolutions to clarify the requirements for the Architecture component of the Bachelor of Engineering Honours (Civil) / Bachelor of Design in Architecture and amend the resolutions in CMS.

11.2.1.3 Faculty of Health Sciences: Bachelor Applied Science (Physiotherapy)/ Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy)

Resolution AB_7_262/15

That the Academic Board:

(1)   approve the proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to amend the Undergraduate English Language Requirements for the Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) and Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy; and

(2)   approve the amendment of the schedule of approved Faculty variations above the University minimum requirements in the Undergraduate English Language Requirements (as referenced in clause 21(3) of the Coursework Policy 2014)

with effect from 1 January 2017, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Health Sciences, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Undergraduate English Language Requirements for the Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) and Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy.

Executive Officer to amend the schedule of faculty variations to Undergraduate English Language Requirements.

11.2.1.4 Faculty of Law: Bachelor of Laws

Resolution AB_7_263/15
That the Academic Board:
(1)   approve the proposal from the Faculty of Law to amend the names of the existing units of study in the Bachelor of Laws; and
(2)   approve the amendment of the table of units of study arising from this proposal
with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Law, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the names of the existing units of study in the Bachelor of Laws.

11.2.1.5 Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery: Bachelor of Nursing (Honours)

Resolution AB_7_264/15
That the Academic Board:
(1)   approve the proposal from the Sydney Nursing School to amend the Bachelor of Nursing (Honours); and
(2)   approve the amendment of the course resolutions arising from this proposal
with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Bachelor of Nursing (Honours) and amend the resolutions in CMS.

11.2.1.6 Sydney College of the Arts: Bachelor of Visual Arts (Honours)

Resolution AB_7_265/15
That the Academic Board:
(1)   approve the proposal from the Sydney College of the Arts to amend the Bachelor of Visual Arts (Honours); and
(2)   approve the amendments to the course resolutions arising from this proposal
with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Sydney College of the Arts, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Bachelor of Visual Arts (Honours) and amend the resolutions in CMS.

11.2.2 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution AB_7_266/15
That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Admissions Committee meeting held on 14 October 2015, as set out in the report presented.

12.   Report of the Graduate Studies Committee
12.1   Oral report of the Chair
Associate Professor Masters advised that he had nothing further to add to the written report.

Resolution AB_7_267/15
That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee.

12.2   Report of the meeting held on 14 October 2015
    12.2.1   Progress Planning and Review for Higher Degree by Research Students Policy and Procedures 2015

Resolution AB_7_268/15
That the Academic Board approve the Progress Planning and Review for Higher Degree by Research Students Policy and Procedures 2015 with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: Executive Officer to register the Progress Planning and Review for Higher Degree by Research Students Policy and Procedures 2015 on the Policy Register.

☆   **12.2.2   Thesis and Examination of Higher Degree by Research Policy and Procedures 2015**
This item was starred for discussion by the Chair, who advised that a number of additional amendments have been suggested by the PhD Award Sub-Committee and by SUPRA. The SUPRA amendments were incorporated into the version of the policy and procedures circulated with the supplementary agenda and the PhD Award Sub-Committee's amendments were tabled at the meeting. The Board approved the adoption of all amendments as presented.

Resolution AB_7_269/15
That the Academic Board approve the amendments to the Thesis and Examination of Higher Degree by Research Policy and Procedures 2015 with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: Executive Officer to register the amended Thesis and Examination of Higher Degree by Research Policy and Procedures 2015 on the Policy Register.

    12.2.3   Proposals for new and amended postgraduate courses
        12.2.3.1   Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning: Master of Urban Design, Graduate Diploma in Urban Design, Graduate Certificate in Urban Design

Resolution AB_7_270/15
That the Academic Board:
(1)   approve the proposal from the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to delete the streams in Architectural and Urban Design and Urban Design and Planning from the Master of Urban Design;
(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 Certificate in the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning; and
(3)   approve the amendment of the course resolutions arising from this proposal
with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: Chair to recommend that Senate note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal from the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to delete the streams in Architectural and Urban Design and Urban Design and Planning from the Master of Urban Design and approve amendments to the Resolutions of Senate related to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificate in the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning.

The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to delete the streams in Architectural and Urban Design and Urban Design and Planning from the Master of Urban Design and amend the resolutions in CMS.

12.2.4 Minor course amendment proposals
12.2.4.1 Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning
(1) Master of Heritage Conservation, Graduate Diploma in Heritage Conservation

Resolution AB_7_271/15
That the Academic Board:
(1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to amend the elective units of study for the Master of Heritage Conservation and Graduate Diploma in Heritage Conservation; and
(2) approve the amendment of the table of units of study arising from this proposal
with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the elective units of study for the Master of Heritage Conservation and Graduate Diploma in Heritage Conservation.

(2) Master of Philosophy

Resolution AB_7_272/15
That the Academic Board:
(1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning to amend the Master of Philosophy; and
(2) approve the amendment of the course resolutions arising from this proposal
with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Master of Philosophy and amend the resolutions in CMS.

12.2.4.2 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: Master of Creative Writing

Resolution AB_7_273/15
That the Academic Board:
(1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to amend the Master of Creative Writing; and
(2) approve the amendment of the course resolutions arising from this proposal
with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Arts and Social Work, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Master of Creative Writing and amend the resolutions in CMS.

12.2.4.3 University of Sydney Business School: Faculty Resolutions
Members noted that this item was dealt with under item 11.2.1.1.

12.2.4.4 Faculty of Dentistry: Doctor of Clinical Dentistry

Resolution AB_7_274/15
That the Academic Board:
(1)   approve the proposal from the Faculty of Dentistry to amend the Doctor of Clinical Dentistry;
(2)   approve the amendment of the course resolutions arising from this proposal; and
(3)   approve the amendment of the schedule of postgraduate English language requirements arising from the proposal
with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Dentistry, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Doctor of Clinical Dentistry and amend the postgraduate English language requirements for admission to the course and amend the resolutions in CMS.

Executive Officer to amend the schedule of faculty variations to Postgraduate English Language Requirements.

12.2.4.5 Faculty of Health Sciences: Master of Physiotherapy, Master of Occupational Therapy

Resolution AB_7_275/15
That the Academic Board:
(1)   approve the proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to amend the English language requirements for admission to the Master of Physiotherapy and Master of Occupational Therapy; and
(2)   approve the amendment of the schedule of Postgraduate English Language Requirements arising from this proposal
with effect from 1 January 2017, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Health Sciences, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the English language requirements for admission to the Master of Physiotherapy and Master of Occupational Therapy.

Executive Officer to amend the schedule of faculty variations to Postgraduate English Language Requirements.

12.2.4.6 Faculty of Law: Changes to units of study

Resolution AB_7_276/15
That the Academic Board:
(1)   approve the proposal from the Faculty of Law to amend various units of study; and
(2)   approve the amendment of the table of units of study arising from this proposal
with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Law, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend various units of study.

12.2.4.7 Faculty of Medicine: 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, Graduate Certificate in Science in Medicine

Resolution AB_7_277/15

That the Academic Board:
(1)   approve the proposal from the Faculty of Medicine 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; and
(2)   approve the amendment of the table of units of study arising from this proposal
with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Medicine, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal 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.

12.2.4.8 Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery: 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, Graduate Diploma in Primary Health Care Nursing

Resolution AB_7_278/15

That the Academic Board:
(1)   approve the proposal from the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery 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)   approve the amendment of the course resolutions arising from this proposal
with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal 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 amend the resolutions in CMS.

12.2.4.9 Sydney College of the Arts: Master of Fine Arts

Resolution AB_7_279/15

That the Academic Board:
(1)   approve the proposal from the Sydney College of the Arts to amend the Master of Fine Arts; and
(2)   approve the amendment of the course resolutions arising from this proposal

with effect from 1 January 2016, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Dean and Faculty Manager, Sydney College of the Arts, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Master of Fine Arts and amend the resolutions in CMS.

12.2.5 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution AB_7_280/15

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Graduate Studies Committee meeting held on 14 October 2015, as set out in the report presented.

13.   Report of the Academic Standards and Policy Committee
13.1   Oral report of the Chair

Associate Professor Traini advised that she had nothing further to add to the written report.

Resolution AB_7_281/15

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Standards and Policy Committee.

13.2   Report of the meeting held on 30 September 2015
13.2.1 Academic Misconduct and Plagiarism Taskforce 2nd report

The Board noted that this item was addressed by the Chair as Item 5 on the agenda. Further to this, the Board was advised that a Procedure document to accompany the Academic Honesty in Coursework Policy 2016 is in preparation and will be circulated for consultation, noting that finalisation of the procedures is attendant on the prior approval of the policy. The Board resolved as recommended.

Resolution AB_7_282/15

That the Academic Board:
(1) note the second report of the Academic Misconduct and Plagiarism Taskforce;
(2) endorse in principle all four further Taskforce recommendations with a view to implementation by the start of 2017;
(3) approve for implementation:
  (a) the introduction of integrity checks for HDR student work at the first milestone during candidacy, to be part of the development of processes around the Progress Planning and Review Policy, and as part of the centralised submission process
  (b) removal of the student discipline procedures from the University of Sydney By-law and development of a new Rule of Senate; and
  (c) expansion of the TRIM workflow system to handle all student misconduct matters;

(4) join the Taskforce in recommending immediate action by faculties on the development of local provisions to give effect to the Research Data Management Policy; and

(5) note the next steps in relation to the other recommendations of the Taskforce.

13.2.2 Academic Honesty in Coursework Policy 2016

The Board discussed further amendments to the policy circulated with the agenda. Associate Professor Saleeba suggested that 21(2)(e) be amended to provide opportunity for alternative assessment to be made available if a repeat attempt at the original assessment was unfeasible. It was agreed to amend this clause to read: "permit the student to resubmit the work for reassessment of undertake alternative assessment, within a specified period of time and for a specified maximum possible mark, provided that the student receives no unfair advantage". A similar adjustment regarding "unfair advantage" was endorsed for clauses 12(4), 17(3) and 21(5)(a). The Board provided in principle support for the policy as amended, noting that a final version would be presented to the December meeting for approval with the Procedures.

Resolution AB_7_283/15
That the Academic Board approve the Academic Honesty in Coursework Policy 2016 in principle for introduction in 2016, noting that the final version of the policy together with the associated procedures will be submitted to the December 2015 meeting of the Academic Board.

13.2.3 Student Placement Policy 2015

Resolution AB_7_284/15
That the Academic Board endorse the draft Student Placement Policy 2015.

Action: Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education), to note the Academic Board's endorsement of the Student Placement Policy 2015.

13.2.4 Academic Board/SEG Faculty Reviews: Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery

Resolution AB_7_285/15
That the Academic Board approve the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery Review and advise SEG of its decision.

Action: Chair, Academic Board, to advise SEG that the Academic Board has approved the report of the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery Review.

13.2.5 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution AB_7_286/15
That the Academic Board note the proceeding of the Academic Standards and Policy Committee meeting held on 30 September 2015, as set out in the report presented.

14. General Business

There was no general business.

The meeting finished at 4:03pm.

Signed as a correct record

Chair

Date