CONFIRMED

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

INTERIM BOARD OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

MEETING 05/07

A meeting of the Interim Board of Undergraduate Studies was held at 2.15pm on **Friday 9 March 2007** in the **Jim Potter Conference Room, Old Physics, University of Melbourne.**

Secretary: Dr George Duke
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(8344 6147)

Present: Professor Loane Skene (Chair), Professor James Angus, Professor Ruth Fincher, Professor Philip Goad, Professor Bruce Grundy, Professor Mark Hargreaves, Associate Professor Steve James, Associate Professor Michelle Livett, Ms Gillian Luck, Associate Professor Ian Malkin, Professor Iven Mareels, Ms Carmel Murphy (observer), Ms Linda O'Brien, Associate Professor Bruce Parry, Professor Pip Pattison, Professor Peter Rathjen, Ms Joan Reese, Professor Richard Roush, Professor Ron Slocombe, Professor Jonty Stockdale, Associate Professor Christine Ure and Professor Greg Whitwell.

In attendance: Dr George Duke (Secretary) and Ms Karen Cairns (Melbourne Model Implementation).

MINUTES

1. Formal Matters

1.1 Apologies

The Interim BUGS received apologies from Professor Margaret Abernethy, Ms Bree Ahrens, Professor Glenn Browning, Professor Cathy Falk, Dr Pat Mclean, Professor Belinda Probert and Professor Field Rickards.

1.2 Welcome

The Chair welcomed Professor Greg Whitwell to the Interim BUGS as the newly appointed Chair of the Bachelor of Commerce Course Standing Committee (CSC).

2. Minutes and Action Sheet

2.1 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2007 (04/07) were confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

2.2 Action sheet

The action sheet was received.

3. Business arising

The Chair noted that the new generation undergraduate degree course proposals have been submitted to the Undergraduate Programs Committee (UGPC) and are currently being considered by the shepherds. The Course Standing Committees (CSCs) will respond to any comments from shepherds before UGPC meets on 15 March and there will also be time for final adjustments before Academic Board considers the course proposals on 22 March.

The Chair spoke to a paper she had prepared summarising the key decisions that would need to be made by the Interim BUGS prior to the Melbourne Model Launch.

3.1 Sequential Degrees

The Chair informed Interim BUGS members that students who have completed one new generation degree will receive 100 points of credit towards a second new generation degree. Credit of up to 100 points may also be given for another undergraduate degree from the University of Melbourne or another institution. New generation degree students will be able to apply directly through the University. Students from other institutions wishing to undertake a new generation degree as a second degree will apply in the usual manner and decisions on the appropriate credit to be given will be made case by case.

3.2 Biotechnology Major

The Chair of the Bachelor of Biomedicine (BBioMed) Course Standing Committee (CSC) confirmed that there will be a biotechnology major in both the Bachelor of Biomedicine and the Bachelor of Science.

3.3 Articulation into Veterinary Science degree

Interim BUGS members noted that it is still uncertain whether Veterinary Science will be moving to a professional postgraduate program and the timing of such a move. Questions were raised regarding articulation arrangements from the Bachelor of Science into veterinary science.

3.4 Articulation into Biomedical Engineering degree

Board members endorsed a proposal that BBioMed students be able to articulate into the Master of Biomedical Engineering (MBioMedEng) on the condition that they have selected appropriate quantitative subjects.

3.5 Pathways to Research Higher Degrees (RHDs)

Interim BUGS members discussed the appropriate wording for statements on pathways out of new generation undergraduate degrees into RHDs. Following extensive discussion, the following statements, applicable to all of the new generation degrees, were agreed upon:

- All new generation degrees will have an honours year available.
- All new generation degrees will have pathways to RHDs and honours and masters streams will be available.

There was consensus on the need to clarify whether most majors would offer both honours and masters pathways out of new generation degrees, as was agreed by the Research and Research Training Committee and Planning and Budget Committee in late 2006, or whether it is only necessary for there to be either an honours or a masters pathway out. Clarity is also needed on whether the masters pathway in the above statement refers exclusively to research masters or also to coursework masters. Interim BUGS members agreed, however, that the Board was not necessarily the correct body to determine these policy decisions about research pathways.

3.6 Accredited Professional Postgraduate Programs

Board members discussed the appropriate wording for a statement on pathways into accredited professional postgraduate programs. The following statement, applicable to all new generation degrees, was agreed upon:

- All new generation undergraduate degrees will lead directly into accredited professional postgraduate programs.

3.7 Concurrent Diplomas

Board members received a proposal on Concurrent Diplomas from the Chairs of the Melbourne Model Taskforce. The paper proposes that, provided a student takes at least 50 credit points of additional subjects in addition to a new generation undergraduate degree, and completes a major in the discipline, a concurrent diploma may be awarded. It will therefore be possible for students enrolled in any of the new generation undergraduate degrees to obtain a concurrent diploma by completing at least 50 extra points of study in the area in which they have taken breadth subjects.

Some concern was expressed that the proposal could increase teaching workloads, particularly if students were encouraged to take languages and mathematics subjects in summer semester and thereby complete both a degree and a diploma in the space of three years. It was agreed that more research into teaching loads would be necessary before the University begins promoting the capacity of students to complete a degree and a diploma in three years.

Members agreed that the introduction of further diplomas in addition to those for languages and mathematics should be investigated.

Interim BUGS agreed to **recommend** the concurrent diploma proposal to the UGPC.

3.8 Bachelor of Biomedicine (BBioMed)

3.8.1 Size of Core BBioMed Program

The Chair of the BBioMed CSC reported on discussions at the BBioMed CSC regarding whether students should undertake 37.5 or 50 credit points of core study in second year of the degree. A vote held on the issue at the BBioMed CSC was evenly split.

The Chair of the BBioMed asked Board members to consider the issue, noting that he was of the opinion that requiring students to complete 50 credit points of core subjects at second-year was the better option as it would allow students to acquire essential foundational knowledge.

The Dean of the Faculty of Science noted that the Faculty of Science is of the view that 37.5 credit points of core subjects is preferable because it allows for greater flexibility in subject selection and is more in conformity with the intentions of the Melbourne Model.

Interim BUGS members agreed that the issue would require more consideration before a final decision could be made. The Chair undertook to follow-up the issue in conjunction with relevant parties subsequent to the meeting.

3.8.2 Psychology as Breadth in BBioMed

Interim BUGS members received a revised proposal from the BBioMed CSC outlining a sequence of psychology subjects for BBioMed students.

Interim BUGS members agreed to **recommend** the proposed breadth sequence of psychology subjects for the BBioMed to UGPC.

3.9 Information Systems Subjects in the Bachelor of Commerce (BCom)

Interim BUGS members noted that the development of a complementary sequence of Information Systems subjects for inclusion in groups B (breadth) and C (non-core) of the BCom has yet to be finalised.

4. Course Proposals

4.1 Bachelor of Arts (BA)

The Chair of the Bachelor of Arts (BA) CSC reported on the revised BA course proposal.

Under the revised proposal students undertaking psychology subjects within the BA will take 100 credit points of a 125 credit point major as core and 25 credit points as breadth.

The BA CSC has also agreed that the middle band stream should be removed from the entry requirements for the BA for 2009 entry.

Interim BUGS members agreed to **recommend** the revised BA proposal to UGPC.

4.2 Bachelor of Music

Interim BUGS members noted the revised BMus course proposal and agreed to **recommend** the revised proposal to UGPC.

5. Reports of activities relating to the Interim BUGS

None.

6. For information

None.

7. Date of Next Meeting

2.15pm, Friday 23rd March 2007 in the Jim Potter Conference Room, Old Physics, University of Melbourne.

The meeting closed at 4.40pm

Distribution
Professor Loane Skene, Melbourne Law School (Chair)
Ms Joan Reese, Director, Melbourne Model Implementation
Professor Pip Pattison, President (Academic Board)
Ms Gillian Luck, Vice-Principal and Academic Registrar
Ms Linda O'Brien, Vice-Principal (Information Services)
Professor Philip Goad, Nominee of the Dean, Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning
Professor Iven Mareels, Faculty of Engineering
Professor Belinda Probert, Dean, Faculty of Arts
Professor Margaret Abernethy, Dean, Faculty of Economics and Commerce

Professor Field Rickards, Dean, Faculty of Education
Professor Richard Roush, Dean, Faculty of Land and Food Resources
Professor Michael Crommelin, Dean, Faculty of Law
Associate Professor Ian Malkin, Associate Dean (Undergraduate), Faculty of Law
Professor James Angus, Dean, Faculty of MDHS
Professor Cathy Falk, Dean, Faculty of Music and Chair, Bachelor of Music Standing Committee
Professor Peter Rathjen, Dean, Faculty of Science
Professor Glenn Browning, Acting Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Science
Professor Jonty Stockdale, Head, School of Music, Victorian College of the Arts
Associate Professor Steve James, Chair, Bachelor or Arts Standing Committee
Professor Greg Whitwell, Chair, Bachelor of Commerce Standing Committee
Professor Ruth Fincher, Chair, Bachelor of Environments Standing Committee
Associate Professor Michelle Livett, Chair, Bachelor of Science Standing Committee
Professor Mark Hargreaves, Chair, Bachelor of Bioscience Standing Committee
Associate Professor Christine Ure, Associate Dean (Teacher Education), Faculty of Education
Ms Bree Ahrens, President, University of Melbourne Student Union
Ms Carmel Murphy, Director of Academic Programs (Student Access) (observer)
Dr Pat McLean, Manager, Growing Esteem Strategy Office (observer)

For Information
Professor Bruce Grundy, Deputy-Dean, Faculty of Economics and Commerce
Professor David Smith, Associate Dean (Academic), Faculty of Engineering
Professor David Chapman, Faculty of Land and Food Resources
Professor Bruce Singh, Associate Dean (Planning), Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences
Associate Professor Ian Holtham, Faculty of Music
Professor Andrea Hull, Director, Victorian College of the Arts