

**Confirmed**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE**  
**SELECTION PROCEDURES COMMITTEE**

**MEETING 4/08**

Meeting 4/08 of the Selection Procedures Committee was held on Monday 7 July 2008 at 2.15pm in the Jim Potter Room, Old Physics Building.

**Present:** Associate Professor B Hughes (Chair), Associate Professor J Kinder, Associate Professor J Lewis, Ms C Murphy, Associate Professor J Robinson, Professor G Stevens, Professor D Thomas.

**In attendance:** Ms E Koch (Secretary).

**BUSINESS**

**1 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Professor J Camarkis, Ms E Capp, Associate Professor B Parry, Professor P Pattison, Professor R Pettman and Ms P Wang.

**2 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The Committee approved the agenda. Items 6.1a, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4 and 7.5 were additionally starred.

**3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Committee confirmed the minutes of meeting 3/08 as a true and accurate record.

**4 MATTERS ARISING**

(Not dealt with elsewhere)

**4.1 Action Sheet following meeting 3/08, 2 June 2008**

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The Chair noted that Item 1 of the Action sheet had been referred to SEPSC, confirmation had been sought that Item 2 was no longer active, and Item 6 was no longer active subsequent to a proposal that UGSSC become an autonomous committee reporting to the Academic Board rather than a subcommittee of SPC. The remaining items were in progress.

**4.2 SPC Meeting 3/08 Report to Academic Board**

The Committee noted the report to Academic Board.

## **5 REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

### **5.1 Guaranteed Entry to Master of Engineering**

The Chair reported that, due to time constraints and with his executive approval on behalf of SPC, SEPSC had made a recommendation directly to the Academic Board regarding guaranteed entry to the Master of Engineering, the new-generation postgraduate engineering degree that will replace the Bachelor of Engineering, which has its last intake in 2010.

He noted the importance of a guaranteed pathway to a postgraduate engineering degree in attracting to the University of Melbourne both high-achieving students seeking Commonwealth-supported Places and suitably qualified international students. The four feeder new-generation degrees for postgraduate engineering are Biomedicine, Commerce, Environments and Science. The Board has approved guaranteed CSP places in the Master of Engineering for CSP-eligible students with ENTER 95 or greater who enrol in one of the four feeder degrees, take appropriate subjects within those degrees, and achieve an average performance of 65% in the second and third years of the feeder degree. The Board has also approved guaranteed fee places in the Master of Engineering for any student (local or international) who successfully completes a feeder degree with the appropriate subjects included at an average performance of 65% in the second and third years.

Further discussion about strategies for inducing students to take VCE Specialist Mathematics at school before entering the feeder undergraduate degrees was required.

## **6 REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES**

### **6.1 Student Entry Pathways Sub-Committee**

The Committee received the minutes of the Student Entry Pathways Sub-committee meeting 4/08.

#### **6.1a Letter re. UMELBP Pathway**

The Chair reminded the Committee that the Hawthorn-Melbourne English-language business had been sold. The University had previously approved the Hawthorn–Melbourne English Language Bridging Program as a generic entry pathway for three years. Under these arrangements, which were on an opt-in basis, faculties seeking to use the pathway were simply required to notify the Committee. It was understood that subject to appropriate shepherding arrangements for quality assurance being maintained, the status of the English Language Bridging Program should not be affected by the sale.

The Chair referred Committee members to the benchmarking report submitted by Dr Kieran O’Loughlin (see Item 8), which evaluated the program’s success to date in identifying appropriate performance levels relative to IELTS qualifications, and suggested additional fine-tuning for further improvement.

The Committee was now invited to renew generic approval for a further three years. The Committee agreed to give its in-principle support for the pathway on an opt-in basis for a further three years. Course Standing Committees have been invited to consider whether the program is an appropriate pathway for individual new-generation degrees.

## **6.2 Access Programs Sub-Committee**

Nil.

## **7 NEW COURSES/AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING COURSES**

### **7.1 Master of International Politics**

The Committee noted that the word ‘cognate’ had been removed from the new entry requirements, thus making it possible for holders of any undergraduate degree to enter the Master of International Politics. Associate Professor Lewis informed the Committee that she understood that the intention had been to enable students of any discipline to enter the 200-point program, but suggested that the entry requirements for the 100-point program should stipulate a cognate degree. The Committee gave its **in-principle support** for the amended entry requirements on the basis of Associate Professor Lewis’s suggestion.

### **7.2 Master of Global Media Communication and Postgraduate Diploma in Global Media Communication**

The Chair informed the Committee that the faculty had advised that the postgraduate diploma would be available as an exit award only and as such would not be advertised to students. He noted that all references to the Graduate Certificate in Media and Communications should in fact read ‘Graduate Certificate in Arts (Media and Communications)’. The amended entry requirements provided a new pathway into the Master of Global Media Communications based on the Graduate Certificate in Arts (Media and Communications). The Committee **approved** the requested change to entry requirements.

### **7.3 Master of Arts Management and Postgraduate Diploma in Arts Management**

The Committee noted that the proposed entry requirements for the Postgraduate Diploma in Arts Management would match those of the Master of Arts Managements. The Committee **approved** the changes.

### **7.4 Specialist Certificate in Forensic Disability**

The Chair reported on the responses received to concerns raised by Committee members when the proposal was first put to SPC in April. Committee members noted the responses from Melbourne Consulting and Custom Programs and **approved** the proposal on the following conditions:

- the entry requirements be prescriptive of the types of health professionals eligible to undertake the specialist certificate (by the inclusion of the phrase ‘such as’ and a list of three or four appropriate disciplines);
- the second bullet point specify that applicants must hold an undergraduate degree;
- and the first bullet point be amended to say ‘or an allied health profession’ (rather than ‘and allied health profession’).

**7.5 Postgraduate Certificate in Educational Studies (TESOL),  
Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Studies (TESOL),  
Master of TESOL and  
Master of Education (Teaching Content through English)**

The Chair noted that more information, including an entry resolution for the Master of Education (Teaching Content Through English), was required from the Graduate School of Education and thus the Committee's discussion would be confined to the principles of the entry requirement. The proposal requested that the IELTS score required for entry into the Postgraduate Certificate in Educational Studies (TESOL), Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Studies (TESOL), Master of TESOL and Master of Education (Teaching Content through English) be changed from 7 to 6.5, thus bringing the entry requirements into line with those of comparative courses offered by the Faculty of Arts.

The Committee requested confirmation that the various TEOFL and TWE scores were concordant with the proposed IELTS score. Committee members agreed to approve the amended entry resolutions and authorised the Chair to determine the final wording of the entry requirements pending further information from the Graduate School of Education.

*[Secretarial note: Confirmation that the TEOFL and TWE scores were concordant with the proposed IELTS score was received subsequent to the meeting.]*

**8 BENCHMARKING THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ENGLISH LANGUAGE BRIDGING PROGRAM**

Refer item 6.1a.

**9 MATTERS APPROVED EXECUTIVELY**

The Committee noted the following matters approved by the Chair and the President of Academic Board since meeting 3/08:

- Master of Mining Engineering (School of Engineering)
- Master of Islamic Studies (Faculty of Arts)
- Master of Literacy Education (MCCP)
- Master of Animal Science (LFR)

**10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**11 NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Selection Procedures Committee is scheduled for Monday 4 August 2008 in the Jim Potter Room, Old Physics Building.

The meeting closed at 3.00pm.