MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY OF LIFE AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES

All members of the Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences are invited to attend the Full Faculty meeting of Life and Physical Sciences to be held in the Economics & Commerce conference room on Wednesday, 15th October 2008 at 2.30 pm.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A MEETING OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE FULL FACULTY. THE DEAN URGES MEMBERS TO ATTEND. A QUORUM IS ESSENTIAL.

Part 1 and Part 2 of the Agenda are to be dealt with en bloc by motion of the Chair. Part 3 is for discussion. A member may request the removal of an item from Part 1 and Part 2 to Part 3.

Imelda Ooi
Administrative Officer

AGENDA

1. MINUTES REF: F3059

Confirmation of Minutes of the Full Faculty meeting held on 18 September 2007.

2. DECLARATIONS OF POTENTIAL FOR CONFLICT OR PERCEIVED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Chair invites members to declare interests in relation to any items on the agenda.

PART 1

(Items for Communication to be dealt with en bloc)

3. GRADE FC (FAILED COMPONENT) REF: F1158

At the Board of Studies meeting held 3 June 2008, the issue of excluding students from examinations was considered, particularly those students who had not attended sufficient laboratories. In recognition of this, the Registrar’s Office has introduced a grade of FC (Failed Component). This means that students who have passed the unit overall, but failed a core component will have a grade of FC entered against the unit with a mark of 48%. In the case of units in which a supplementary examination is available, these students will be eligible for a supplementary examination and it will be up to Schools to ensure that the test applied to these students is appropriate for the failed component. FC will only be available if the assessment mechanism statement for the unit advises that there is core component which must be passed in order to pass the unit overall.

For noting

4. CHANGE IN NAME FOR THE UWA SCIENCE COMMUNICATION TRAVEL AWARD REF: 

The establishment of the UWA Science Communication Travel Award was recently approved by circulation to members. Since the approval, the donor has requested that the title of the Award be changed so that it be named after his mother. It will now be known as Elizabeth Anne Nichols (nee Troup) Travel Award. The amended version is attached (Attachment A).

For noting
PART 2
(Items for Decision to be dealt with en bloc)

5. PROPOSED STUDENT EXCHANGE WITH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF CHINA REF:

The Faculty proposes to establish a student exchange agreement with the University of Science and Technology of China (USTC). USTC is one of the top universities in China and has a high standard of teaching and research, as well as strongly developed international collaborations, having concluded agreements with about 100 universities and research institutions in more than 30 nations and regions throughout the world.

The School of Physics, in particular, is interested in participating in such an exchange, and in furthering links in the area of PhD student collaboration. The School proposes to set up a joint-double-badged PhD programme with USTC which was approved in principle recently by the Board of the Graduate Research School and Academic Council. Close collaborative links have been formed between the Gravity Wave group in the School of Physics and a group with similar interests in the Department of Astronomy and Applied Physics at USTC.

Approval of this Student Exchange Agreement will enable fees to be waived on a reciprocal basis, and the exchange of students at both undergraduate and postgraduate level to take place. The initial participating School will be the School of Physics but it is possible that future collaborative exchanges with USTC may involve other Schools within the Faculty.

A copy of the Exchange Agreement and a letter of support from the Head of the School of Physics are attached (Attachment B).

*The Dean recommends that the Faculty approve the proposed Student Exchange Agreement between the School of Physics and the Department of Astronomy and Applied Physics at the University of Science and Technology of China.*

PART 3
(Items for Discussion)

6. REVIEW OF COURSE STRUCTURES - RECOMMENDATIONS REF: F25045

As you will all be aware, the Report of the Review of Course Structures has been released on the web at: http://www.coursesstructuresreview.uwa.edu.au/documents. The Executive Summary is attached for information (Attachment C).

Deans have been asked to ensure that this Report is discussed widely in their faculties prior to the discussion at the November Academic Board (19 November). Professor Ian Reid, Senior Academic Reviewer, will be attending the meeting to answer any queries members may have in relation to the proposed structure.

7. DEAN’S REPORT REF: F1158

The Dean will report on current issues of interest to members including a financial overview of the Faculty and plans for 2009.

8. APPROVAL PROCESS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS REF: F1158

At a recent Scholarships meeting, it was noted that at present, Statute 31 allows for the approval of single faculty scholarships by the faculty board. For multi faculty scholarships, the Academic Board has delegated this responsibility to the Legislative Committee. It has been suggested by Governance Services that, rather then having straightforward scholarship conditions approved by faculty board, the group consider the possibility of the dean of the faculty approving straightforward scholarship conditions based on standard sample conditions on behalf of the faculty board. This would then be put forward for noting by board
members at the next available faculty board meeting. Complex scholarship conditions would still be approved by the relevant faculty board.

Faculties have been asked to discuss the issue of their faculty board delegating the responsibility of approving straightforward scholarship conditions to the Dean on behalf of faculty board.

9. PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF MASTER OF FORENSIC SCIENCE (RESEARCH) REF:

The Centre for Forensic Science is proposing to introduce a new research degree – Master of Forensic Science in 2009. This degree has evolved because the current Master of Forensic Science (thesis and coursework) is not deemed a research degree as some of the units are no longer recognised as research. This means that the total research for the degree is less than 66% and, therefore, will not be eligible for Research Training Scheme (RTS). The current degree will now be classified as coursework. Students wishing to complete a research degree in either a broad or specialist area of forensic science will enrol in the proposed Master of Forensic (research). It is proposed that this degree be administered by the Graduate Research School as is the case with all other research degrees in the Faculty.

A covering letter from the Director of the Centre for Forensic Science, checklists for the proposed new course and draft rules are attached (Attachment D).

10. OTHER BUSINESS
Elizabeth Anne Nichols (nee Troup) Travel Award * []

An asterisk (*) indicates that this award is governed by conditions. This award is governed by the General Conditions for Scholarships for Coursework Students except as set out in the conditions that follow.

A donation of $10,000 has been made to The University of Western Australia in honour of Mrs Elizabeth Anne Nichols (nee Troup) for the purpose of providing for two years, an annual travel award in Science Communication. The award is established and administered in accordance with the following conditions.

Title
1. The award is called the Elizabeth Anne Nichols (nee Troup) Travel Award.

Purpose
2. The purpose of the award is to assist a UWA student who is completing studies in science communication to pursue and benefit from travel experience and practical work experience in science reporting. To be eligible for the award, the student must be finishing one of the following:
   - Bachelor of Science (Science Communication),
   - Bachelor of Science with a major in Science Communication,
   - Honours in Science Communication,
   - Graduate Certificate (Science Communication)
   - Graduate Diploma (Science Communication),
   - Master of Science Communication,
   - Master of Science Communication and Education or
   - PhD in the Science Communication programme.

Value
3. (1) The annual value of the award is $5,000.

Eligibility Requirements
4. To be eligible for consideration an applicant must—
   (a) be a citizen or permanent resident of Australia;
   
   (b) be in the final stages of one of the science communication courses listed above;
   
   (c) have demonstrated:
      
      (i) an understanding of and enthusiasm for science communication;
      
      (ii) academic achievement in Science Communication; and
      
      (iii) an attitude which, in the opinion of the selection panel, embraces the purposes of the award.

Body Responsible for Selection
5. The selection panel for the award comprises:
   (a) the Dean of the Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences or nominee;
   
   (b) the Coordinator of the Science Communication Programme and
(c) the President of the Australian Science Communicators (WA Branch), or nominee.

Selection Criteria
6. The award is presented to the applicant who, among those eligible, in the opinion of the selection committee best demonstrates in their application and supporting documentation—
   (a) academic achievement in the higher level units of Science Communication as evidenced by their academic record;
   
   (b) an understanding of and enthusiasm for science communication and science reporting;
   
   (c) ability to use the opportunity to develop their career in science communication; and
   
   (c) an attitude which embraces the purposes of the award.

Selection Process
7. (1) Selection of the recipient is made by the selection committee having regard to the applicants' academic record, completed applications and supporting documentation.

    (2) Applicants are short-listed for interview by the selection panel and are required to present their folio of practical work at the interview.

Awarding Body
8. The travel award is awarded by the Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences, on the recommendation of the selection panel.

Method of Payment
9. (1) The travel award is paid as a lump sum on or before the commencement of travel.

    (2) A provisional budget of travel and living costs, along with quotes obtained, must be presented to the Coordinator of the Science Communication Programme prior to the release of funds.

Concurrent Awards
10. The travel award may be held concurrently with any other external or University award provided that the conditions of the concurrent award so permit.

Application Procedure
11. (1) Written applications for the travel award are called for annually and must be submitted to the Coordinator of the Science Communication programme no later than the advertised closing date.

    (2) Written applications must include:

        (a) a proposed programme for the use of the award indicating—

        (i) details of intended travel;
(ii) nature of proposed work experience; and

(iii) how this award could contribute to the career path of the recipient.

(b) time frame required to achieve the proposed programme if at variance with that noted under 13(1).

Administering Body
12. The travel award is administered and advertised by the Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences.

Other Conditions
13. (1) Unless otherwise agreed with the selection panel, the recipient of the travel award must commence the travel programme within six months of receiving the award.

(2) No later than three months after completing the internship, the recipient must share the benefits of the internship by way of a written report submitted to the Dean of Life and Physical Sciences.

(3) The recipient is encouraged to share with the profession the benefits of the programme by way of an illustrated presentation to students and staff of the Science Communication programme and members of the profession, at the discretion of the Dean of the Faculty.

(4) If, during the travel programme, the recipient finds a need to extend the nominated timeframe such extension is at the discretion of the Dean of the Faculty but no further funding is provided for any such extension.


Publications
14. Any thesis, dissertation or other academic publication resulting from research undertaken by the recipient while in receipt of the Travel Award in Science Communication must acknowledge the support of the award and carry the University by-line.

Intellectual Property
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

FOR A STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

BETWEEN

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

AND

UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF CHINA

The purpose of this Agreement is to establish a Student Exchange Programme between The University of Science and Technology of China (USTC) and The University of Western Australia (UWA). The relevant participants in this Student Exchange Programme are indicated in Schedule 3. The Programme seeks to broaden the scope of the academic curriculum and to provide a unique learning experience for students in an overseas environment, as well as to promote cooperation between the two institutions.

1. TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT

   The two institutions agree to enter into this Agreement commencing January 2009.

   At UWA the authority to operate this Agreement is vested in the International Centre. At USTC the authority to operate this Agreement is vested in the Foreign Affair Office.

2. ACADEMIC YEAR

   The academic calendar at UWA extends from March to June (Semester 1) and July to November (Semester 2). The academic calendar at USTC extends from September to January (Semester 1) and March to July (Semester 2). The participating students can enrol at the host institution for one or two semesters commencing in either semester, and may enrol over two academic years provided semesters of study are consecutive. One semester of study at UWA is equivalent to one semester of study at USTC. Research students including joint/double-badged PhD students may commence at any time by agreement between the host institution and the home institution.
3. NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

UWA will send up to one (1) exchange student to USTC each year and USTC will send up to one (1) exchange student to UWA each year for the duration of this Agreement, unless this number is varied by mutual agreement. One student for one year will be equivalent to two students for one semester. One research student for a period of up to six months will be equivalent to one student for one semester and one research student for a period of six to twelve months will be equivalent to one student for one year. Both institutions will review the programme annually for any imbalance in the number of exchange students and will adjust the number of exchange students over the term of the Agreement, as necessary, to maintain a reasonable balance in the exchange. In the review process balance will be sought on numbers across all faculties covered by the terms of this Agreement.

4. SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS

(i) The Student Exchange Programme will be open to undergraduate and postgraduate students, including research degree and joint/double-badged PhD students with the proviso that exchange students must have completed at least one year of continuous study at their home institution before the exchange year. The participation of students working for research degrees will be dependent upon the availability of appropriate supervision and facilities at the host institution.

(ii) The home institution will screen applicants from its university for exchange. The host institution will reserve the right to make final judgements on the admissibility of each student nominated for the exchange.

(iii) The following guidelines shall apply:

a. The exchange students must satisfy all admission requirements, including the language proficiency requirements (where applicable) of the host institution (see Schedule 1).

b. The exchange students may apply to any academic programme offered by the host institution as specified within the terms of this Agreement as non-degree students at a level determined by the host institution. The host institution reserves the right to exclude students from restricted enrolment programmes. Any academic credit earned at the host institution shall be transferred back to the home institution in accordance with procedures determined by the latter. Each
exchange student's in-country study programme must be full-time and must be such that, provided it is successfully completed, the equivalent of full credit for the period of study must be awarded by the student's home institution. For example, if one semester of full-time study load is completed at the host institution, the exchange student should receive credit equivalent to credit normally allocated for one semester of full-time study at the host institution; and if study is for two semesters of full-time study at the host institution, the exchange student should receive credit equivalent to credit normally allocated for two semesters of full-time study at the home institution.

c. Upon completion of the exchange programme at the host institution, the exchange students must return to the home institution. Any extension of stay must be approved by both institutions.

d. The exchange students must abide by all rules and regulations of the host institution. They will also have the same rights and privileges enjoyed by other students at the host institution. They will be subject to the same assessment procedures for the course in which they are enrolled as students of the host institution.

5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH INSTITUTION

Each institution will appoint an overall Coordinator to facilitate the exchange of students under the terms of this Agreement (see Schedule 2). The Coordinators will exchange all relevant information about the courses offered at their respective institutions (course description, timetable, admission requirements, etc).

In order to assist each other provide useful pre-enrolment information to prospective exchange students, the parties will visit each other on a regular basis to maintain personal contacts and provide face-to-face briefings as appropriate; provide sufficient supplies of accurate promotional material and information to each other for the purposes of this agreement; provide regular and accurate updates of information to each other about courses, fees, entry requirements, living conditions, legal or regulatory conditions for visa requirements, and other government regulations; allow the parties the right to use each other's name, logo, and associated trademark, in activities and in conjunction with the student Exchange Programme on terms approved by the parties during the term of this Agreement.
(i) Responsibilities of UWA

UWA agrees to accept the prescribed number of exchange students from USTC, to enrol them as full-time, non-degree students (with the exception of joint/double-badged PhD students who will enrol on a ‘for degree’ basis for the duration of their studies at UWA) for one or two regular semesters of the academic year, and to provide them with tuition fee waivers. Campus facilities and the appropriate student support including orientation and social programmes will be available to exchange students from USTC under the same conditions, and where applicable at the same incidental fees as those applying to UWA students. UWA will assist in finding housing in UWA residential colleges or other student accommodation. At the end of the semester, UWA will send an official academic transcript to USTC for each exchange student from USTC studying at UWA.

UWA agrees to monitor the success of the Programme by obtaining feedback from participating students, and to use this information, where necessary, to make improvements to the Student Exchange Programme, or as a basis for staff training and development.

(ii) Responsibilities of USTC

USTC agrees to accept the prescribed number of exchange students from UWA, to enrol them as full-time, non-degree students (with the exception of joint/double-badged PhD students who will enrol on a ‘for degree’ basis for the duration of their studies at USTC) for one or two regular semesters of the academic year, and to provide them with tuition fee waivers. Campus facilities and the appropriate student support including orientation and social programmes will be available to exchange students from UWA under the same conditions, and where applicable at the same incidental fees as those applying to students at USTC. USTC will assist in finding housing at USTC residential colleges or other student accommodation. At the end of the semester, USTC will send an official academic transcript to UWA for each exchange student from UWA studying at USTC.

USTC will provide to its students applying to UWA accurate information provided by UWA (including information provided electronically), about the campus, resources and facilities, teaching methods, assessment methods, subject content and duration, admission requirements at UWA; the local environment, accommodation (on-campus and off-campus) and cost of living in Perth at UWA; the application process and conditions of the Australian Student Visa; the application and admission process to UWA; any fees other than tuition payable at UWA [This information will be contained within the Letter of Offer issued by UWA.]. USTC will ensure that any requests for advice on Australian visa applications or migration law are referred to the Exchange
Coordinator at The University of Western Australia. USTC accepts that the provision of inaccurate and inappropriate advice on Australian visa applications or migration law may lead to termination of the Agreement.

USTC agrees to monitor the success of the Programme by obtaining feedback from participating students, and to use this information, where necessary, to make improvements to the Student Exchange Programme or as a basis for staff training and development.

(iii) **Student responsibilities**

All exchange students must register and pay tuition and other required fees at their home institution. Each host institution will provide tuition fee waivers for the exchange students. Exchange students will be responsible for personal health and medical insurance coverage. Exchange students at UWA will be required to register for Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC), as required by the Australian Government, and will be subject to the conditions of their student visas. The host institution will provide the necessary documents (where applicable) to enable the exchange student to obtain a student visa.

The exchange students will be responsible for the following:

a. Transportation to and from the host institution
b. Room and board expenses
c. Medical insurance
d. Student Union fees, if applicable
e. Textbooks, clothing and personal expenses
f. Passport and visa costs
g. All other debts and incidental expenses incurred during the course of the exchange period.
6. RENEWAL, TERMINATION AND AMENDMENT

This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of five years from the date of the last signature, with the understanding that it may be terminated by either party giving six months' prior notice to the other party in writing. The Agreement may be extended by mutual written consent of the two institutions.

This Agreement may be amended by the exchange of letters between the two institutions. Such amendments once approved by both institutions, will become part of this Memorandum of Agreement.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties hereto have offered their signatures:

For The University of Western Australia For University of Science & Technology of China

Professor Alan Robson AM Rector/Vice Chancellor/President
Vice-Chancellor

Date Date
Schedule 1

1. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (UWA)

   (i) Undergraduate and Postgraduate students (excluding joint/double-badged PhD students)
   Candidates must normally have completed at least one year of university study at the time of application to UWA and hold the equivalent of an overall weighted average of 65% on a UWA scale. Those applying to complete a second semester must be in good standing (weighted average of at least 50% with no fail grades) upon completion of their first semester. Students who fail to achieve this may be asked to return to their home university. Postgraduate (coursework) students must have completed a recognised bachelor's degree. Research students must have completed a recognised bachelor's degree and have previously undertaken work at a high enough standard towards a Masters or PhD degree at an approved institution.

   (ii) Joint/double-badged PhD students
   Candidates for the Joint PhD exchange must be eligible for acceptance as a PhD student.

   At UWA the grading scale is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HD (Higher Distinction)</td>
<td>80-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D (Distinction)</td>
<td>70-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CR (Credit Pass)</td>
<td>60-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P (Pass)</td>
<td>50-59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N+ (Fail)</td>
<td>45-49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N (Fail)</td>
<td>0-44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UP (Ungrade Pass)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P+ (Pass)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>UF (Ungraded Fail)</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
At USTC the grading scale is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HD(Higher Distinction)</td>
<td>85-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D(Good)</td>
<td>75-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CR (Credit Pass)</td>
<td>74-60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N(Fail)</td>
<td>59-0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(iii) Language Proficiency

Candidates for the Student Exchange Programme, including the joint/double-badged PhD, must satisfy one of the English Language proficiency requirements set out below, or such other language proficiency requirements as the parties agree from time to time:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Minimum Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GCE Ordinary Level English</td>
<td>C6 or higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOEFL (paper-based total)</td>
<td>570 plus and Essay Rating/TWE of 4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOEFL (computer-based total)</td>
<td>230 and Essay Rating/TWE of 4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Next Generation TOEFL - Internet-based Test (iBT)</td>
<td>An overall score of 90 with a minimum score of 22 in the Writing section, and no less than 20 in the other sections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IELTS</td>
<td>6.5 (no individual band less than 6.0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other international qualifications can be found at
http://www.uwa.edu.au/prospective/undergrad/requirements/english

2. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF CHINA

(i) Undergraduate and Postgraduate (excluding joint/double-badged PhD students)

UWA candidates for the Student Exchange Programme must normally have completed at least one year of study at UWA and have an overall weighted average of 65% with no fail grades. Postgraduate students must have completed a recognised bachelor’s degree and achieved a minimum average of 65% in the final two years of their degree.
(ii) Candidates for the joint/double-badged PhD exchange must be eligible for acceptance as a PhD student.

(iii) Language Proficiency

UWA candidates for the Student Exchange Programme at USTC will satisfy the language requirements at USTC which are:

Undergraduate students
Basic reading and speaking Chinese skills, equivalent to basic level of Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi (HSK).

Postgraduate students
The working language can be English.

USTC can also provide some intensive basic Chinese language training when necessary for exchange students.
Schedule 2

**EXCHANGE COORDINATORS**

Each institution agrees to appoint an overall Coordinator for the administration of this Agreement. The Coordinator will serve as the contact person on campus, being responsible for arrangements associated with the exchange of students, the general welfare of the exchange students, and ensuring that the necessary approvals are in place.

The Coordinators are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For The University of Western Australia</th>
<th>Name: Milly Ingate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title: Manager, Student Exchange/Study Abroad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address: International Centre, UWA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone: +61 6488 3537</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: +61 9382 4071</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:milly.ingate@uwa.edu.au">milly.ingate@uwa.edu.au</a></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For University of Science and Technology, China</th>
<th>Name: Professor Yang Zhang</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title: USTC Academic Coordinator</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address: Department of Astronomy and Applied Physics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone: 86-0551-3606843</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 86-0551-3606941</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:yzh@ustc.edu.cn">yzh@ustc.edu.cn</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Schedule 3

A. The participating party at The University of Western Australia is:
   The School of Physics within the Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences

B. The participating party at the University of Science and Technology of China is:
   The Department of Astronomy and Applied Physics
8 October 2008

HAND DELIVERED

Ms Judy Fetherston
Development Officer
Faculty of Life & Physical Sciences

Dear Judy,

**RE: Student Exchange Agreement with the University of Science & Technology of China (USTC)**

The School is wholly supportive of the proposal to set-up for a student exchange agreement with the University of Science & Technology of China (USTC).

In line with the University of WA's Operations Priority Plan (OPP), the student exchange agreement will significantly enhance future international collaborations with China. I refer you to their website for more information [http://www.ustc.edu.cn/en/](http://www.ustc.edu.cn/en/)

Yours sincerely,

Assoc. Professor Ian McArthur
Head

Cricos Provider 0126G
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

If the University accepts the recommendations in this report, its future course structures will have the following salient features:

1. Every undergraduate student will be enrolled in one of six courses, superseding the present array of more than 70. Except for the Bachelor of Philosophy (a new four-year Honours degree), each of these new courses will be of three years’ duration, with a fourth year available for those students who qualify to proceed to an Honours course. The three-year Bachelor degrees will be in Arts, Science, Commerce, Design and Health. Each corresponds to an “area of knowledge” – a basic cluster of associated disciplinary fields.

2. Each three-year undergraduate course will require a student to complete 24 units, of which no more than twelve will be at Level 1 and at least four will be at Level 3. It will also include a “degree-specific major”, consisting of 8 units (two at Level 1, two at Level 2, and four at Level 3), which provides the rationale for the nomenclature of the degree – for example, in order to be awarded a BA, a student must have completed a major from a list of approved majors for the BA, along with complementary units (to a maximum of four) taken from within that same area of knowledge.

3. Undergraduate courses will also include the following components:
   - Four “broadening units” taught within an area (or areas) of knowledge other than the one in which the student’s degree-specific major is taught. This includes a requirement to study aspects of the globalised and culturally diverse environment in which graduates will live and work.
   - A demonstrable emphasis on inquiry-based learning and research skill development, introducing students directly to the research culture of the relevant discipline and fostering independent study.
   - At least one unit that focuses explicitly on oral and written communication skills.
   - Community engagement through a structured “service learning” experience with a not-for-profit organisation.

4. The Bachelor of Philosophy will be available to outstanding students in any discipline. It will include an especially intensive research focus, and provide support arrangements for a Study Abroad experience.

5. Courses designed to meet professional accreditation requirements will normally be offered only at the postgraduate level.

6. Combined first-cycle courses leading to two Bachelor degrees will be discontinued. Instead, the University will provide sequential pathways for undergraduate and postgraduate course combinations in professional fields (e.g. Law, Medicine, Engineering). This will enable suitably qualified applicants, at the point of initial undergraduate enrolment, to be offered assured entry into the postgraduate professional course after the first-cycle degree, subject to meeting course and progression requirements. Other places will be available to students who compete for them after the first-cycle degree.

The report contains many more detailed recommendations, along with supporting arguments, supplementary information, and remarks on the resource implications of what it proposes.
11 September 2008

Professor George Stewart  
Dean  
Faculty of Life & Physical Sciences.  
MBDP: M011

Dear George,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that we have put forward a proposal to introduce a new research degree; Master of Forensic Science.

This degree has evolved because the Master of Forensic Science (coursework and thesis) programme is no longer deemed a research degree and no RTS places can be offered to students. This degree is intended for student’s wishing to undertake advanced studies by research in either a broad or specialist area of forensic science. There is considerable diversity of research related to the forensic sciences.

The application procedure requires us to consult with heads of disciplines in cognate areas especially since your school does supervise some of the Forensic Master students. I have detailed the proposed course outline below; the new programme will be coordinated by myself (please see http://rules.handbooks.uwa.edu.au/rules/sciences/part6 for the tables cited). Attached is the Proposal for New Courses or Programmes.

The course by thesis is 48 points comprising—

one of the following:

FNSC9XXX  Forensic Science Thesis (full-time) (48 points)
FNSC9XXX  Forensic Science Thesis (part-time) (48 points)

If you have any comments about the proposed course please contact the faculty manager directly.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Ian Dadour
PROPOSALS FOR NEW COURSES OR PROGRAMMES

New courses are new degree, diploma or certificate courses, including new honours degree courses. New programmes are new programmes within existing degrees, which are to be formally recognised through the use of a differentiated version of the existing course title e.g. BSc(Marine Science). For a new combined course leading to two degrees, use the form "Proposals for a new combined course leading to two degrees" at: http://www.secretariat.uwa.edu.au/home/policies/courseunit/proposals.

For transnational programmes, it is essential that the Checklist for Approval of Transnational Programmes is also completed - see http://www.secretariat.uwa.edu.au/home/policies/InternationalProgrammes.

CORE QUESTIONS FOR CHECKLISTS USED BY FACULTIES

All faculties should use the questions below in their checklists for proposals for new courses and new programmes in existing courses. Faculties may add other questions as they see fit.

1. Course Details
   (1) Please provide the following information:
      (a) the proposed name of the course or programme: Master of Forensic Science
      (b) the proposed abbreviated form of the course or programme name (see http://www.secretariat.uwa.edu.au/home/policies/degree abbrev for policy on Degree Abbreviations): MForSci
      (c) the proposed annual intake to the course or programme (in student numbers): 12-15
      (d) the proposed colour(s) of the silk linings and facings of the academic dress (for publishing in University General Rule 1.5.2.1): Emerald Green
      (e) for Master's degrees and Doctorates only, state whether the course will be undertaken by way of:
         (i) Research (by thesis) where the research represents 100% of the course requirements
            YES
         (f) entry requirements: Graduate Diploma in Forensic Science, Honours 2nd Class has a bachelor's degree with Honours in a relevant subject area, or equivalent as recognised by Faculty; or has completed the combined course for the degrees of Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Science at this University, or equivalent as recognised by the Faculty; or has completed a Graduate Diploma in Forensic Science within the past 4 years with an average mark of at least 70 per cent, or equivalent as recognised by the Faculty. Within the Graduate Diploma 21 points are considered research units.
      (g) total number of points required for completion: 48
      (h) expected completion time for full-time student taking standard load: 1 year
         (i) delivery mode (ie. Internal, external, multi-mode, online-only). Internal and external
            (ii) are any units taught by any kind of non face-to-face instruction? No
               (Note: Where a course is delivered less than 75% face-to-face (ie more than 25% by distance learning or similar), there may be implications for international student visas. Please contact the International Centre for more information.)
      (j) is any part of the course taught away from the Crawley campus? Some research is done offsite or in other laboratories but is project dependent
      (k) is any part of the course delivered by or taught in collaboration with another organisation? If yes, please state the name and address of the other organisation.
         No
      (l) is honours available in this course? If yes, please explain how students undertake honours study. Is study towards honours open to international students? No

(2) Please give a succinct summary of the academic objectives of the proposed new course/programme. To train students in the theoretical and practical research techniques necessary for them to specialise in a focused discipline in Forensic Science. UWA is the only GO8 university conducting the masters degree by coursework, which provides excellent training for students wishing to pursue research in forensic science.
To promote original research of relevance to the various disciplines incorporated in Forensic Science.

(3) Please summarise what teaching and learning practices will be used to realise the academic objectives. **Students will be required to complete a thesis over a 1 year period in any discipline that falls under the Forensic Science umbrella**

(4) Please advise what technologies (if any) will be required to support the teaching and learning practices. The technologies required will be project dependent. **At present in the current Master of Forensic Science research is conducted in 23 disciplines**

(5) Please outline what steps have been taken to ensure that any technologies to be used are readily available to staff and students. **As students develop projects staff members will be consulted as to the supervisory opportunities**

(6) Please indicate whether the proposal is the outcome of a school, course or other review. This proposal is because the existing Master of Forensic Science by way of thesis and coursework comprised a graduate diploma programme in the first year which articulated into the Master of Forensic Science Programme which was previously defined as a research degree is now deemed to have less than 66% research and as a result has been converted to 'coursework' degree. The change in classification was due to some units, which had previously classified as being ‘research’ no longer being recognised as such and being classified as 'coursework'.

(7) Does this course complement any major research activities and/or centres?  × Yes  □ No (If yes, please elaborate) **The new Master programme complements the existing Master of Forensic Science programmes which was the end degree with most students articulating from the Graduate Diploma. The new Master allows students to undertake a research intensive year**

2. **Demand**

**Notes:**
(i) The Chair of the Admissions Committee and the Manager, Admissions Centre are available to offer advice on estimating student numbers. (Please note that decisions on any quotas applicable to this course will be made by the Working Party on the Admission and Quota Policy.)

(ii) For new undergraduate courses to be listed in the TISC Guide, they need to be approved by Academic Council by May at the latest. Please advise the Executive Officer, Admissions Committee, as early as possible, of proposed new undergraduate courses.

(1) Estimate the annual number of sufficiently qualified applications expected for this course. Please state the number of Australian and international student admissions separately. **8-10 students per annum. 50% international students.**

(2) What is the expected impact on applications for admission to other courses? Please provide separate figures for Australian and international students. **There is no impact except the impact of locating sufficient supervisors for the students**

3. **Employment Outcomes**

What do you believe will be the principal employment destinations for graduates and on what basis have you estimated this? **At present 35% of the student cohort is international and most return to their countries of origin. Of the 23 Master of Forensic Science completions all have jobs. The institutes that employ our graduates are local and national police services both in Australia and New Zealand, Universities in UK and US, teaching and laboratories including private and Government.**

4. **Consultation**

(1) Please provide details of consultations you have had with various groups and individuals during the development of this proposal, including the following:

(a) other schools of the University which may have an interest in the course, including relevant academic staff; **ANHB and BBCS**

(b) students and graduates; **We have consulted at length with current students and graduates about developing this course – the suggestions are all positive and have been incorporated.**

(c) employers and/or employer groups, and professional bodies; **We have previously consulted extensively with all facets of the forensic community in Western Australia, Nationally and internationally.**

(d) other universities in WA which offer courses in similar fields; **There are no other universities that teach similar courses within Western Australia**
(e) leading universities in Australia and overseas which offer courses in similar fields; We have previously consulted with various universities both in Australia and overseas (UTK; Perdue, Michigan State, BU).

(2) If you are proposing a completely new course, have you given consideration to the alternative of introducing a new programme/major within an existing course? Please elaborate. This is not a new course but change of an existing course with the addition of a research option

(3) If the proposal is similar to offerings in other institutions in WA, have you considered whether there is scope for a co-operative/collaborative approach? Please elaborate. N/A

5. Fees

Note: Courses must not be offered or advertised in any way to international students until the courses have been registered through the International Centre with CRICOS. (This does not occur until the introduction of the course has been approved by Senate.) Please ensure that you consult with the Director, International Centre about the suitability of a course for international students, proposed fees and any conditions that may be required.

(1) (a) Is the course to be registered on CRICOS as available to international fee-paying students on Student Visas?
   YES
   Is the course to be offered to international fee-paying students on other visas?
   YES
   (b) What fee per annum is proposed for international fee-paying students? $26200
       $25000 for 2009

(2) For Postgraduate coursework degrees/diplomas/certificates only

(a) Is the course to be registered with DEEWR as available on a fee-paying basis to local students? NO as this is a pure research stream and should be covered by the RTS Scheme.

(b) If so, what fee is proposed? Please state: fee per annum, the total number of points and the fee per point.

(c) Please comment on consultations you have had with other institutions, both national and local, in determining that fee.

6. Explanation of how the proposed course fits with the University’s and the Faculty’s Strategic and Operational Priorities Plans

An explanation as to how the proposed course fits with the University’s and the Faculty’s Strategic and Operational Priorities Plans must be attached to this checklist. The maximum length of the explanation is one A4 page.

The Faculty’s Strategic Plan:

- Connectivity and Integration – Collaborating with other groups externally is a component of this course and assists with the ability to provide services in the community. This course will also be offered to International students, complimenting the goal of international collaboration;
- The initiation of this Master degree fits with the theme of ‘demonstrating flexibility by developing new and innovative courses’;
- Promote our uniqueness – we are the only Australian university offering a Master degree specialising in forensic science. Provision of this degree will not diminish the attraction of local, national and international students.

The Faculty’s Operational Priorities Plan reflects the missions of the University:

- Internationalisation – The degree is designed with the intention that International students from Europe, north America and especially those living in South East Asia and the Middle East, will apply;
- Teaching and Learning – The thesis course offered incorporate the teaching/research nexus. The proposed Master degree also fully supports the University’s vision to advance, transmit and sustain knowledge and understanding through the conduct of teaching, research and scholarship at the highest international standards for the benefit of the Western Australia, Australian and international communities.
- Research and Training – The new degree has the potential to (and already does) increase the number of higher degree students as well as promoting research in an area of community need with high social impact;
- Resource and Management – Increasing student numbers. Building further effective, strategic partnerships and alliances.
Information Flow

Please confirm by ticking the boxes and entering the date of action, that you have forwarded a copy of this proposal, either in hard copy, or electronically, to:

External to the Faculty

- The Deans of all faculties which resource schools responsible for teaching units in the course/programme.

  Faculty of ___Natural and Agricultural Sciences___
  Faculty of ___
  Faculty of ___

- The Head and relevant academic staff of any school which will be teaching in the course/programme.

  School of ___
  School of ___
  School of ___

- The Head and relevant academic staff of any school which is not involved in the course/programme, but which teaches in a cognate area. N/A

  School of ___
  School of ___
  School of ___

- The Librarian

  Date 01/09/0

- Where the course proposed involves indigenous issues, the Dean of the School of Indigenous Studies

  N/A Date _____________

- Where the course proposed is postgraduate and includes 66.6% or more research, the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Research Training)

  N/A Date _____________

- Executive Officer, Admissions Committee
  (for new undergraduate courses only)

  N/A Date _____________

- Where the course proposed is to be available to international students, the Director, International Centre

  Date _____________

Internal to the Faculty

- The Head and relevant academic staff of any school which will be teaching in the course/programme:

  School of ___Anatomy and Human Biology___
  School of ___Biomedical, Biomolecular and Chemical Sciences___
  School of ___

- The Head and relevant academic staff of any school which is not involved in the course/programme, but which teaches in a cognate area.

  School of ___
  School of ___
  School of ___
(2) Please confirm, by ticking the box, that you have completed a Faculty Checklist for each new unit introduced as a result of this proposal.  NA

(3) Please confirm, by ticking the box, that the proposed course rules are attached.  √

(4) Please confirm, by ticking the box, that you have sent a course overview to Publications.  NA

(5) Please confirm, by ticking the box, that you have consulted with Student Administration about the degree abbreviation.  NA

Signature of Dean
Faculty of  
Life and Physical Sciences

8. **All courses – confirmation by Dean**

I confirm that the process leading to the proposal for the introduction of the following course/programme

Name of course/programme  
Master of Forensic Science (research)

has included appropriate consultation with all other faculties with a potential interest in the proposed course and that the course will not overlap significantly with any existing course.

Have any objections to this proposal been raised during the consultation process?  □ Yes  □ No
(If yes, please attach details of objection and response)

Signature of Dean
Faculty of  
Life and Physical Sciences

9. **Confirmation by Dean of the School of Indigenous Studies**

Where the course proposed involves indigenous issues, the Dean of the School of Indigenous Studies must confirm the school's support.

I confirm that the indigenous issues involved in the proposal for the following course/programme:

Name of course/programme  

have been discussed with me and I confirm the support of the School of Indigenous Studies for the introduction of this course/programme.

Signature of Dean of the School of Indigenous Studies

10. **Certification that the proposal is acceptable to the International Centre**

Where it is proposed to offer the course to international or offshore students, the Director, International Centre (or delegate) must confirm the proposal is acceptable to the International Centre.

I confirm that the International Centre has been consulted on the introduction of this course/programme, and is satisfied that the fee proposed to be charged to international/offshore students is appropriate.

Name of course/programme

Signature of Director, International Centre (or delegate)
10.1.8A MASTER OF FORENSIC SCIENCE (50XXX)

Applicability of the University General Rules for Academic Courses

10.1.8A.1 The rules in 1.1 and 1.3 of the University General Rules for Academic Courses in this handbook apply to the Master of Science Education except as set out in the rules which follow.

Admission

10.1.8A.2 The Board may accept into the course for the Master of Forensic Science an applicant who—

(a) has completed a Bachelor of Science with Honours of 2A and above from this University, or equivalent as recognised by the Faculty;

and

(b) has completed the Graduate Diploma in Forensic Science with an average mark of 70% from this University, or equivalent as recognised by the Faculty;