MINUTES OF THE FACULTY OF LIFE AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES BOARD MEETING HELD IN THE ECONOMICS & COMMERCE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THURSDAY 22ND MAY 2008

PRESENT: Professor Bob Grove (Chair), Professor Bruce Elliott, Dr Jane Emberson, Ms Jenny Gamble, Dr Silvana Gaudieri, Professor Geoff Hammond, Mr Hubert Jurkiewicz, Associate Professor Dave Morrison, Associate Professor Ian McArthur, Ms Heather Morton, Professor Linc Schmitt, Professor Geoff Stewart, Associate Professor Michael Wise

APOLOGIES: Associate Professor Ian Dadour, Dr John Henderson, Dr Linda Jeffery, Dr Thelma Koppi, Mrs Jennifer Stevenson, Dr Angus Tavner, Associate Professor Michael Wise

Ms Imelda Ooi, Secretary

1. MINUTES REF: F3059

RESOLVED – 26 that the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 April 2008 be confirmed, subject to Dr Linda Jeffery being recorded as present.

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

The Chair invited members to declare interests in relation to any items on the agenda. No such conflicts were declared.

ITEMS FOR THE ATTENTION OF ACADEMIC SECRETARIAT

3. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD OF STUDIES MEETING HELD ON 6 MAY 2008

The following items were endorsed by the Board of Studies at its meeting held on 6 May 2008 –

a. PROPOSED CHANGE OF UNIT NAMES FOR HMES2270 AND HMES3385 REF: F5075

The School of Sport Science, Exercise and Health requested that the names of the following units be modified:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HMES2270 Psychosocial Aspects of HMES</td>
<td>HMES2270 Psychosocial Aspects of Exercise Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMES3385 Human Movement and Disability</td>
<td>HMES3385 Exercise Science and Disability</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESOLVED – 27 that the modification to the unit title of HMES2270 Psychosocial Aspects of HMES to HMES2270 Psychosocial Aspects of Exercise Science; and HMES3385 Human Movement and Disability to HMES3385 Exercise Science and Disability, be approved.
b. PROPOSED CHANGES TO PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAMS  REF: F5075, F4993

Members of the Board of Studies had before them a proposal from the Head of the School of Psychology for changes to its undergraduate program for 2009. Speaking to the item, Associate Professor Dave Morrison had stated that the proposed changes arose from a review by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC). In response to recommendations from the professional body, the School had reviewed its course offerings and units in order to meet the accreditation requirements of this body. To this end, the School wished to restructure its honours program to incorporate a couple of elective units as core units in the program and changing the points value (and assessment) of the honours research project from 24 points to 30 points. The School had also proposed that the Bachelor of Psychology be listed as not available in 2009 based on the recommendation from the review that the degree be conditionally accredited to the end of 2008 only, after which it may be disestablished.

RESOLVED – 28
that the following be endorsed from 2009 onwards:

(i) the structure of its honours program be amended as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC7421 – Psychology Honours Research Project Part 1 (12 points)</td>
<td>PSYC7422 – Psychology Honours Research Project Part 2 (18 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC7416 – Psychological Approaches to Understanding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC7418 Psychological Methods 1: Analysis of Complex Data OR</td>
<td>PSYC7419 Psychological Methods 2: Specialist Research Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC7412 Psychology as a Profession I: Assessment of Individuals and Systems OR</td>
<td>PSYC7413 Psychology as a Profession II: Effecting Change</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(ii) suppression of PSYC7417 Psychological Approaches to Understanding 2: Self and Society (currently offered as a core unit);

(iii) renaming of PSYC7416 Psychological Approaches to Understanding 1: Brain and Cognition to “Psychological Approaches to Understanding” to reflect the fact that its content will be more diverse, covering elements of both PSYC7416 and PSYC7417; and

(iv) increasing the value of the honours research project from 24 points to 30 points. Currently, the research project comprises PSYC7421 Psychology Honours Research Project Part 1 (12 points) and PSYC7422 Psychology Honours Research Project Part 2 (12 points). The School is proposing that PSYC7422 be increased to 18 points in order to better recognize the high quality and associated time commitment of students for this unit.

(v) The Bachelor of Psychology, along with its core units, PSYC7461 Psychological Research in Applied Settings (Part 1) and PSYC7460 Psychological Research in Applied Settings (Part 2), be listed as not available.

c. PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF COMBINED COURSE – BACHELOR OF SCIENCE/MASTER OF TEACHING (PRIMARY)  REF:

Members of the Board of Studies had before them a proposal from the Graduate School of Education to introduce the combined Bachelor of Science/Master of Teaching (Primary) in 2009. This was a new initiative as it combined a bachelor's degree with a postgraduate course. Dr Sandy Helsinger (Course Coordinator), Dr Di Gardiner and Professor Grady Venville had attended the meeting for the item. Dr Helsinger had stated that there were concerns about the quality of students going into teaching. Entry qualifications for primary teaching had dropped significantly in the last few years to the current situation where students could enter primary teaching without having passed TEE. Primary school teaching had been previously taught at UWA, but had been dropped more than 20 years ago. UWA recruited high quality students into its secondary education program and it was felt that this should be extended to primary school teaching. Primary school teachers need a broader base of teaching skills than secondary school teachers and this meant that it could not be accommodated within the current combined course for BSc/BEd (secondary teaching). It had been proposed that primary school teaching be introduced as a master’s degree as it would be a two year program rather than the current one year program. The combination of master's degree with a bachelor’s degree had received ‘in principle’ approval from the Vice-Chancellor.
The following points were noted at the Board of Studies meeting:

- Marketing the combined course as a 5.125 – 5.375 year degree would not be attractive to students. One member suggested that it would be better to shape the course into a five-year degree by making adjustment to the content of the Bachelor of Science component perhaps. Dr Gardiner responded that it would be impossible to incorporate all the components of the course in a shorter time frame as more contact time was required for the training of primary teachers. Another member felt that it should be up to Education to market the course as they see fit.

- It may be more appropriate to enrol commencing students in the Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Education and subsequently convert them to the Master of Teaching if they continue to the final year. Dr Gardiner responded that this was not feasible as there was no guarantee that students would stay on after four years of study.

- Modifying the Bachelor of Education to fit in with the needs of the teaching profession was more logical than the introduction of the Master of Teaching. Dr Gardiner stated that in the combined Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Education, it was difficult to front load the teaching material earlier in the course as Bachelor of Science students would be busy with laboratory work and assignments. Moreover, the single Bachelor of Education would not provide sufficient preparation for primary teaching.

- Students would have the option of exiting the course after three years with a Bachelor of Science, if they did not wish to progress to the Master of Teaching.

- The second year of the Bachelor of Science component leaned heavily towards the physical sciences. It was queried whether this could be changed to a broader focus. The Graduate School of Education stated that it was happy for Science to have a broad choice of units for students as it would give them more breadth in their preparation. However, the focus on physical sciences was highly desirable as units such as mathematics, chemistry and physics provided the necessary skills for teaching science.

**RESOLVED – 29**

to recommend to Academic Council that the proposal to introduce a combined Bachelor of Science/Master of Teaching in 2009 be endorsed in principle, subject to the issues raised by the Academic Student Adviser below being addressed by the Graduate School of Education.

*(Secretary's Note: Following the Board of Studies meeting, the Graduate School of Education made some changes to the Rules arising from discussions with Professor David Pellowman. The Academic Student Adviser, Dr Jane Emberson, noted that in the revised version (which was submitted to the Faculty office on the day of its Faculty Board meeting), the School had removed the education units in years 1-3 from the Master of Teaching and reclassified them as science units, leaving only the final two years (after completion of the BSc) in the Master of Teaching. This was a significant change to the original proposal. She also pointed out the following in an email to the School:)*

- if the proposal were to go ahead there would be no point in having a combined course! Students would simply apply for the two-year Master of Teaching after completing the BSc.
- the Faculty cannot have 36 points of education units in the BSc, as that exceeds its limit for non-science units. Moreover, the BSc requires a minimum of 144 points, not a minimum of 150.
- if the combined course were to go ahead, the School would need to classify these education units as part of the Education component.
- a minimum of 114 points of science units would be required, as in the current Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Education and the previous draft of the Bachelor of Science/Master of Teaching, to comply with the University's rules on cross-credit.
- the current Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Education is normally taken with a considerable overload in the final year, corresponding to the Graduate Diploma in Education. The proposal for the Bachelor of Science/Master of Teaching did not have any overloads in the final two years, after completion of the Bachelor of Science component. To shift any overload from the first three years to the final two years, Dr Emberson suggested that EDUC3305 or 3304 could perhaps be taken in the fourth year).
d. **PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF NEW UNIT – 3ALG: RINGS, FIELDS AND MATRIX ALGEBRAS** REF: F5075

The Board of Studies members had before them a proposal from the School of Mathematics and Statistics to introduce a new unit – 3ALG: Rings, Fields and Matrix Algebras. Speaking to the item, Dr Robin Milne had stated that with the introduction of the new unit, the School planned to discontinue MATH3380 3GG: Graphs and Geometry with Applications to Networks and Computer Vision as the unit was no longer useful to students. The proposed unit would provide adequate background for further studies in algebra and would have the same prerequisites as MATH3335 3P5: Groups and Symmetry i.e. MATH2020: Multivariable Calculus & Linear Algebra.

**RESOLVED – 30**
that from 2009:

(i) the new unit – 3ALG: Rings, Fields and Matrix Algebras be introduced; and
(ii) MATH3380 3GG: Graphs and Geometry with Applications to Networks and Computer Vision, be discontinued

e. **APPLIED STATISTICS MAJOR TO BE MADE AVAILABLE IN THE BSc AND STREAMLINING OF HONOURS STRUCTURE IN THE BSc, BCM and BA**

(1) **Applied Statistics major in the BSc** Ref: F5075

The Board of Studies members had before them a request from the School of Mathematics and Statistics for the Applied Statistics major to be made available in the general BSc and its Rules to be the same as for BCM, Bachelor of Computer Science and BA. Speaking to the item, Dr Robin Milne had stated that the major had previously been available in the BSc (Mathematical and Statistical Science) programme which was withdrawn at the end of 2007. He had also said that this was one of the more important mathematics majors for science students and the School wished to make a formal request for it to be re-instated in the BSc.

The Chair of the Board of Studies drew Dr Milne’s attention to the fact that the BSc currently had four mathematics majors i.e. Applied Mathematics, Pure Mathematics, Mathematical Sciences and Mathematical Statistics. He reported that the Dean of the Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences had felt that an extra one would be too many and had suggested that the School drop one of the existing majors. He had suggested that the School consider dropping Mathematical Statistics as the major had low enrolments. It was pointed out that students would still be able to complete the units for Mathematical Statistics under the Mathematical Sciences major. Dr Milne had responded that most of the majors had small numbers initially when introduced but had grown over the years. All the majors had a role to play and had important links with other disciplines e.g. commerce and combined degrees.

In response to another query as to how the Applied Statistics major differed from the Mathematical Statistics major, Dr Milne had advised that Mathematical Statistics graduates were more versed in the theory of statistics and probability as opposed to Applied Statistics graduates who were more versed in the how, why and on the types of data in which various statistical tools would be used, i.e. the practical aspect of statistics. One member commented that he could see the value of the Applied Statistics major for students in his School as it would prepare them to undertake research in psychology.

**RESOLVED – 31**
that the Applied Statistics major be introduced as a fifth major alongside the existing mathematics majors in the general BSc.

*(Secretary’s Note: The Academic Student Adviser pointed out that the Faculty would need to look at the issue in relation to the administration of the 30-point outside science ruling and proposed that this be taken to the next Board of Studies meeting for discussion).*

(2) **Honours in Mathematics and Statistics in the BSc** Ref: F5075

Dr Robin Milne had advised Board of Studies members that the School of Mathematics and Statistics wished to formalise the honours structure in the BSc similar to that offered in the BCM and BA honours degrees. The Faculty Manager had pointed out that when the honours program formally became Rules, it
was found that there was no flexibility within the Rules for Science students and the Faculty had to request for Rule waivers from Academic Council to accommodate students.

RESOLVED – 32
that the honours in Mathematics and Statistics be amended as follows:

(i) that in Rule 9.2.8A 29, students have the option of picking four coursework units from Groups A to C in Table 9.2.8Ao – Mathematics and Statistics Honours options;
(ii) insertion of Rule 9.2.8A.29(2) to permit students to substitute two other units in the University, for units offered in the School.

f. CHANGES TO UNIT OFFERINGS & MAJOR SEQUENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE  REF: F5075

Members of the Board of Studies had before them a proposal from the School of Computer Science & Software Engineering for changes to the unit offerings and major sequence in computer science in the Bachelor of Science course. Associate Professor Michael Wise had spoken to the item on behalf of Professor Mark Reynolds. Professor Wise stated that the School had gone through a restructure and took the opportunity to review its courses and unit offerings. The two main reasons for the proposed changes were firstly, it was found that BSc students currently had lesser choice of units in computer science as opposed to engineering students. Secondly, BSc students did not write programs well. It had been hoped that the programming units would equip them with these skills.

RESOLVED – 33
(i) that the following units, currently listed as recognised science units and as options in the computer science major sequence be deleted:-
   CITS1211 Foundations of Computer Science
   CITS2210 Object-oriented Programming
   CITS3213 Concurrent Systems
   CITS3240 Databases

(ii) that the following existing units be added to the list of recognised units for the Bachelor of Science (50110) (Science Rule 9.2.2.3, Table 9.2.2a):-
   CITS1220 Software Engineering (level 1)
   CITS3201 Human–Computer Interaction (level 3)
   CITS4211 Artificial Intelligence (level 3)
   CITS4220 Software Quality & Measurement (level 3)

(iii) that the following new units be added to the list of recognised units for the Bachelor of Science (50110) (Science Rule 9.2.2.3, Table 9.2.2a):-
   CITS2232 Databases (level 2, replacing CITS3240);
   CITS3242 Programming Paradigms (level 3)
   CITS4243 Advanced Databases (level 3, to be available in 2010)

(iv) that the following units be added to the list of options for the BSc major in computer science (Science Rule 9.2.6.14, Table 9.2.6(22) Computer Science Major Sequence Options):-
   Level 1
     CITS1005 Computing for Scientists & Engineers
     CITS1220 Software Engineering
   Level 2
     CITS2232 Databases
   Level 3
     CITS3201 Human–Computer Interaction
     CITS3220 Software Requirements and Project Management
     CITS3241 Robotics
     CITS3242 Programming Paradigms;
     CITS4220 Software Quality and Measurement
     CITS4243 Advanced Databases (to be available in 2010)
(v) that the title of CIT52231 Introduction to Graphics, be changed to CIT52231 Graphics

(vi) that the replacement units for units to be deleted be as follows:

- CIT5 1231 Web Technologies to replace CIT51211 as an option in the Bachelor of Education/Bachelor of Science course (Rule 11.1.29.5a(ii) and Group A of Table 11.1.29c B.Ed/BSc Science Options);
- CIT52232 Databases to replace CIT52210 as an option at level 2 of the computational biology major sequence of the BSc (Bioinformatics) (Rule 9.2.7A2.1, Table 9.2.7A2(2) Bioinformatics Options Group E);
- CIT53242 Programming Paradigms and CIT54243 Advanced Databases to replace CIT53213 and 3240 respectively in the computational biology major of the BSc (Bioinformatics) (Rule 9.2.7A2.1, Table 9.2.7A2(3) Bioinformatics Majors Group I).

4. PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF THE ANTHROPOLOGY PROGRAM WITHIN THE MASTER OF FORENSIC SCIENCE, GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN FORENSIC SCIENCE AND A NEW THESIS UNIT REF: F5199

Members had before them a proposal from the Centre for Forensic Science to introduce a new program in Anthropology within the Graduate Diploma in Forensic Science and the Master of Forensic Science. Speaking to the item, Dr Dan Franklin advised that the proposed program was the outcome of an internal review of its course offerings. The review panel had recommended that the Centre focussed on its main strengths and specialised in core areas. He advised that there were two parts to this proposal. The first part was the introduction of several forensic anthropology units last year. The second part involved the introduction of the program itself this year. It was anticipated that the Centre would be introducing another new program in chemistry further down the track.

The Faculty Manager pointed out that with the official notification of the DEST changes to ‘research’ definition for those masters’s courses that were included in the Research Training Scheme (RTS), the Centre would need to decide whether it wanted its programs to be classified as ‘coursework’ or ‘research’ courses and to revise its programs accordingly if it wanted to retain the research status for its programs.

The Academic Student Adviser noted that there were errors in the proposed Rules which needed to be rectified prior to submission to Academic Council. She also queried why the proposed thesis unit was 48 points as opposed to the 36-point thesis unit currently offered in other programs in the Master of Forensic Science. Dr Franklin replied that in the Anthropology program, students would not be required to do the second case study so that they could devote more time to the thesis. This change would be extended to the other programs.

In response to a query about possible overlaps with a joint undergraduate unit being developed by School of Anatomy and Human Biology and the discipline of Archaeology, Dr Franklin replied that the units in the Centre focussed on forensic archaeology, so there was no danger of overlapping. In response to a query, the Faculty Manager provided an overview of the funding arrangements for Forensic Science and the difficulties associated with identifying Forensic Science students so that funding flowed to the Centre. Discussions were currently taking place with a view to resolving this issue.

RESOLVED – 34
to recommend to Academic Council that the following be approved for introduction in 2009:

(i) the anthropology program within the master of forensic science and the graduate diploma in forensic science subject; and
(ii) a new thesis unit (FNSC9XXX) in the Master of Forensic Science (Anthropology).

5. PROPOSAL TO REINSTATE THE CLINICAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM IN THE COMBINED MASTER OF PSYCHOLOGY/PHD COURSE REF: F5211

Members had before them a proposal from the School of Psychology to reinstate the Clinical Neuropsychology program in the Master of Psychology. The School had also proposed that the program be only taken in conjunction with a PhD. Speaking to the item, Associate Professor Dave Morrison, Head of the School of Psychology, stated that at different times the School had offered two separate professional training programs in applied Clinical Neuropsychology. The School had found that the
Clinical Neuropsychology program did not meet the requirements for students opting to become professional practitioners or researchers. The program was subsequently withdrawn from the Master of Psychology and the combined Master of Psychology/PhD course at the end of 2005. In its place, the School had introduced the Doctor of Psychology in Clinical and Clinical Neuropsychology in 2006 which would provide sufficient breadth of training in both areas.

The Doctor of Psychology provided high quality training for applied clinicians, however, the research component of the course was inadequate for career researchers in this area. Neuropsychological research was a significant growth area for the School and it intended to have training tailored appropriately for students through the introduction of the Clinical Neuropsychology program in the Master of Psychology. However, it was the School’s desire that the program be only taken in combination with the PhD as the combined course provided a thorough grounding in the knowledge, methods and techniques necessary for pursuing a research career in the area of neuropsychology. It had also been very successful in producing PhD graduates in neuropsychology with a completion rate of around 80%.

During the discussion that ensued, the following points were made:

- The natural and existing exit point from the Combined Master of Psychology/PhD was the Master of Psychology. However, there was some discussion on whether the Master of Science was a more appropriate exit point for the PhD. It was pointed out that some students may not want to pursue their studies in research and would want to exit with a coursework degree. The Head of the School of Psychology commented that he did not want students to use this exit point to gain a cheaper masters course and that the Master of Psychology alone would not give graduates the skills that they needed to become a professional practitioner.
- The professional requirements needed to be made clear to students so that they understood the reasons for the restriction of this program to being taken in combination with the PhD.
- Students who exited to the Master of Psychology would still be required to undertake 24 points of dissertation.

It was resolved,

RESOLVED – 35
(i) that the Clinical Neuropsychological program be reinstated within the Master of Psychology; and
(ii) that entry to the Clinical Neuropsychological program be restricted to the combined Master of Psychology/PhD

6. ADDITION OF NEW UNIT REF: F5075

The proposed new unit is in the attached list (Attachment A).

Confirmed

CHAIR
## Proposals for new unit - Meeting of Faculty Board held on 22\textsuperscript{nd} May 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit No.</th>
<th>Unit Name</th>
<th>Points Value</th>
<th>Brief Description of Unit Content</th>
<th>Courses in which offered</th>
<th>Semester offered in</th>
<th>Faculty Rules to be amended (Specify)</th>
<th>Faculty Resolution Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FNSC9XXX</td>
<td>Forensic Science thesis (Anthropology)</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>Research thesis in the discipline of forensic anthropology</td>
<td>Master of Forensic Science (Anthropology)</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>9.6.5</td>
<td>R34/08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I confirm that the processes leading to the proposals for the introduction of the new units listed above have included appropriate consultation with all other schools/faculties with a potential interest in the proposed new units. I am satisfied that the proposed new units will not overlap significantly with any other faculty.

Signed

[Signature]

DEAN

22/5/08