

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Meeting No. 6, 2007

Meeting No. 6, 2007 of the University Education Committee was held on Thursday 29 November 2007 at 10.00 am in the Ross Hohnen Room of the Chancelry.

Present: Professor Cram (in the Chair); Professor Thomas; Professor Stanton; Dr Vervoorn (for Professor Jeffrey); Mr Beckett; Professor Brown; Professor Cardew-Hall; Professor Bottomley, Acting Dean; Mrs Douglass; Ms Eggert (for Mr Choo); Professor Gatenby; Professor Houghton; Professor Oakes; Professor Peterson and Ms Verney.

By invitation: Professor Carroll; Ms Gouldthorp and Mr Kalkan (for Item 7.); Mr See (for Item 12.2); Mr Watt.

In attendance: Ms Bruce

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY OR MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary or material person interest in matters listed in the agenda.

USE OF INSIDE INFORMATION OR POSITION

Under sections 24 and 25 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*, a member of the University Education Committee must not make improper use of his or her position or of inside information to gain an advantage for himself or herself or to cause detriment to the University or to another person.

PART 1: PROCEDURAL ITEMS

ITEM 1. MINUTES

The minutes of Meeting No. 5, 2007 of the University Education Committee (932/2007) held on 14 September 2007 were confirmed (published at http://info.anu.edu.au/OVC/Committees/040PP_Education/meetings.asp).

ITEM 2. MATTERS ARISING

The Committee noted that:

- (i) **Item 13.2 Supplementary Assessment**
the *Examinations Rules* had been amended and the changes implemented for the Semester II, 2007 examinations;
- (ii) **Item 10 Associate Degrees**
an Associate Degree specialising in Social Studies has been approved for introduction from 2008 (See Item 14).

ITEM 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND APOLOGIES

3.1 Apologies were received from Mr Choo, Professor Coper and Dr Hort.

3.2 Announcements

ITEM 4. STARRED ITEMS

The starred items were: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15.1, 15.2, 15.3, and 17. The unstarred items were approved without debate as set out in the agenda.

ITEM 5. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

There were no confidential matters. Dr Akerlind, Dr Ayson, Dr Baker, Professor Clarke, Ms Firth, Dr Fonteyne, Ms Rizvi, Dr Smith and Ms Veness attended as observers.

PART 2: REPORTS AND POLICY MATTERS**ITEM 6. REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR**

The Committee noted the following report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

- AUQA Audit Report (summary of Commendations, Affirmations and Recommendations tabled) <http://www.auqa.edu.au/qualityaudit/universities/>
 - . the report, released on 28 November, reflected well on the ANU and was a credit to all involved, both in preparing for the audit and engaging with the panel during the visit
 - . the report was a strong endorsement of the directions being taken at ANU and pointed to good performance and quality connections
 - . the recommendations would be worked through during 2008
- 2007 Federal Election outcome

A number of education initiatives and restructuring could be anticipated from the Labor Party's pledges made during the campaign, including additional undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships, removal of domestic full-fee paying places and new research scholarships to improve career development for mid-career researchers.
- Graduate Coursework Transformation Project (paper tabled)

Professor Carroll reported on:

 - . the outcome of liaison with government agencies and industry in progress since mid-year
 - . on-going dialogue and engagement with the ACT community and businesses for opportunities not yet explored
 - . publicity through websites and brochures

The Chair advised that the proposed Board of Studies would provide a forum for considering issues to do with the project, such as training modules and the granting of credit.
- ANU Secondary College: the new MOU
 - . the success of the Secondary College was a credit to the Dean and other members of the ANU College of Science
 - . a review was being undertaken by the ANU and DET
- IARU Global Summer Program
 - . work has been progressing well
 - . programs to be offered from June 2008 and the arrangements were detailed at Item 15.2
- Vice-Chancellor's Teaching Forum convened by Dr Richard Baker
 - . the forum for teaching and learning staff on campus would be held on 30 November at 12.30 pm in the Humanities Research Centre
 - . the Vice-Chancellor and teaching awardees would be guest speakers
 - . approximately 140 staff members were already registered at the forum website and other staff were encouraged to join

The Chair referred to advice in the AUQA report about a planning and co-ordinating role for the University Education Committee for framing conversations about education and conducting forums.

- ANU/CIT Agreement for Co-taught Associate Degrees
 - the new Agreement was being finalised
 - ANU would continue to be the accrediting body under the new arrangements
- Policies and Procedures:
 - The new Academic Progress of Undergraduate Scholarship Holders (167a/2007) policy and Academic Progress of Undergraduate Scholarship Holders (634/2007) procedures have been approved for implementation from 1 December 2007 (See <http://info.anu.edu.au/policies/browse.asp?view=title>)
 - Student Reservist Support Policy proposal (1021/2007):
The Committee recommended that a policy be drafted to codify our current practice for reservists, which takes account of the Policy Statement from Southern Cross University.
- Deputy Registrar, Student Services
Dr Neil Rodgers, currently Head of Bruce Hall, has been appointed Deputy Registrar, Student Services and will commence on 7 January 2008.

**ITEM 7. NATIONAL CODE OF PRACTICE FOR REGISTRATION
AUTHORITIES AND PROVIDERS OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING
TO OVERSEAS STUDENTS 2007**

The Committee noted a presentation by the Registrar on the revised *National Code of Practice for Registration Authorities and Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2007* (published at http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/international_education/publications_resources/profiles/revised_national_code.htm).

The Registrar outlined the main features of the revised *National Code*, which was implemented from 1 July 2007, and described major changes being instigated to implement the provisions of the *Code*, including in relation to course status, complaints and appeals and academic progress. (See slides at http://info.anu.edu.au/OVC/Committees/040PP_Education/uecmtg6_2007/PPT2774.pdf).

The Office of Policy and Regulation in the Registrar's Division was in the process of organising Roadshows to inform academic staff and would be consulting and communicating about important issues with course conveners.

ITEM 8. GRADUATE STUDIES INITIATIVE

The Committee noted the following papers and background to the development of the Initiative:

- Graduate Studies Initiative 2007 (GSI) (1022/2007) (See Item 15.4 for details of the GSI Awards)
- Establishment of a Board of Studies (1020/2007)

The Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stanton, advised that the launch of the Graduate Studies Initiative was anticipated within the next two weeks leading to the first intake from First Semester, 2008. He recorded his appreciation for the work undertaken since mid-year by Deans in discussion with the Vice-Chancellor, the Action Group, the Registrar's Division and ANU Colleges.

Principal comments arising in discussion were:

- The terminology should be standardised to refer to 'units' rather than 'credit points'

- . ANU Colleges had different understandings of the meaning of the categories, in particular what was meant by “transitional’ courses
- . Areas should be advised that the classification of courses was a work in progress. It would be addressed by the proposed Board of Studies along with a number of other matters such as meeting standards for award
- . Guidelines for the recognition of prior learning at the point of entry, for status and for award. Existing ANU College practices were expected to remain in place
- . There was a list of outstanding matters to be addressed centrally or by areas including admission standards for international students, prerequisites and eligibility criteria
- . The International Student Indicative Fee had been set at \$22,800, which was the fee used for most Arts, Science, Business and Economics programs
- . A website and FAQ sheet were in preparation

Discussion about nomenclature for the awards was wide ranging. The Committee noted that names different from those proposed by the Action Group were now being recommended: Master of Studies, instead of Master of Graduate Studies; Graduate Diploma of Studies instead of Diploma of Graduate Studies; and Graduate Certificate of Studies instead of Certificate of Graduate Studies. Principal comments arising in the discussion included:

- . although nomenclature is not prescribed, the recommended titles were aligned with AQF terminology and more commonly recognised in the sector. Institutions may, however, name awards as they see fit
- . the recommended nomenclature was also consistent with standard ANU practice for the naming of graduate coursework awards
- . ‘Certificate of’ and ‘Diploma of’ could be confused with undergraduate awards
- . to have both ‘Master’ and ‘Graduate’ in the name would be redundant
- . ‘Graduate’ qualifies and gives meaning to ‘Studies’
- . the names Master of Tertiary Studies and Master of University Studies had also been canvassed in discussion but had not been pursued. There was felt to be some potential for confusion with other University honorary awards
- . choosing names most likely to enhance the marketability of the awards was an important consideration
- . a way forward would be to retain Master of Studies, and, separately, to adopt the Action Group’s proposal for ‘Certificate of’ and ‘Diploma of Graduate Studies’.

The Chair sought an indication of the meeting’s preference in respect of award titles. He moved the motion from the chair that ‘Graduate’ precede ‘Certificate’ and ‘Diploma’ in the titles. The motion was lost.

The Chair moved the motion from the chair that the degree be titled Master of Studies. The motion was lost. The Chair noted that a majority of those voting favoured Master of Graduate Studies and that this would be taken into account in determining the final title.

The Committee also considered the proposal for a Board of Studies to be established as a sub-committee of the University Education Committee as detailed in paper 1020/2007. It was noted that:

- . Its role would extend beyond issues relating to the GSI to consideration of such matters as cross-campus courses that are not offered under the supervision of an ANU College
- . That it was not appropriate for the relevant delegations to reside for the longer-term with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor or Pro Vice-Chancellor because of their other responsibilities
- . The Chair of the Board of Studies would be a senior academic appointment
- . The membership would be expanded to include one ANU College student administration representative appointed by the Chair.

The Committee:

- (i) Recommended for approval by the Vice-Chancellor:
- (a) That the Initiative (detailed in paper 1022/2007) be launched and publicised for introduction from 2008;
 - (b) Delegation of responsibilities to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for the administration at award level of the Graduate Studies program for the interim pending determination of longer-term arrangements and the establishment of a Board of Studies;
 - (c) The establishment of the three awards from 2008 as awards that the University may confer noting that the Committee had proposed the following titles:
 - Master of Graduate Studies
 - Diploma of Graduate Studies
 - Certificate of Graduate Studies;
- (ii) Noted that criteria for an award of Master of Advanced Studies will also be explored;
- (iii) Noted that management of the new Graduate Studies program at award level is a cross-campus responsibility, whereas at course level, ANU College Deans remain the authority for courses offered by their College;
- (iv) Noted the draft terms of reference and membership (1020a/2007 as amended) for a Board of Studies, and authorised the Deputy Vice-Chancellor to proceed with the establishment of a Board of Studies as a standing sub-committee of the University Education Committee.

ITEM 9. EDUCATION INNOVATION

The Committee noted the following:

- Education Innovation at ANU – Frequently Asked Questions (825/2007) (at http://info.anu.edu.au/OVC/Committees/040PP_Education/discussion.asp)
- Extract from the University Education Committee minutes
- Responses from areas received since the August meeting, as follows:
 - ANU College of Science (1008/2007)
 - Members of staff from the ANU Colleges of Asia and the Pacific and the ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences (1009/2007)
 - Professor Cardew-Hall, ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science (1010/2007)

ITEM 10. EDUCATIONAL PRACTICES

The Committee noted background to the item and the papers:

- Summary of Examination Practices in ANU Colleges (1016/2007)
- “Should anonymous assessment be a University requirement?” (1017/2007) from the ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences’ Education Committee
- “ANUSA: Examinations Practices Response Paper” (tabled)
- “Examination Procedure” (841/2007), from the ANUSA received by the Committee at its August meeting

The Committee:

- (i) Noted the issues raised about educational practices relating to examinations and current practices at ANU;
- (ii) Referred the documents to ANU College Education Committees for discussion with the request that they address in particular the cross-campus variations and possible areas where changes to current practices and the adoption of a common approach could be explored;
- (iii) Noted that the Deputy Vice-Chancellor intends to discuss the matter of anonymous assessment with ANUSA representatives for report to the Committee in 2008;

- (iv) Noted that these discussions would also provide an opportunity for exchange about broader issues to do with the handling of student concerns.

ITEM 11. ENTRY PATHWAYS TO UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

The Committee noted the paper *Entry Pathways into the ANU* (1011/2007) which summarised the increasing range of pathways to undergraduate programs at ANU.

ITEM 12. ENABLING UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

12.1 Career Development Elective (1012/2007)

The Chair invited discussion of the Career Development Elective proposal, noting that a more formal approach to career learning warranted consideration.

Mrs Carole Brown, from the ANU Careers Centre, spoke to the proposal that was designed to assist students to place themselves in employment and especially in an increasingly global market environment. Discussion, which was wide-ranging, focussed on:

- . Accommodating the course, especially in combined degree programs, or as an “add on”; possible implications for the HECS load and international student fees
- . Preparing students to become more employable, including international students remaining in Australia, student seeking applying for graduate entry programs etc
- . Alternative modes of delivery of a not for credit course, such as voluntary workshops, or internship schemes in preference to a generic based course, or an module in an existing course
- . Market research, and the value of such a course for the less professionally based award programs. Participation in the proposed pilot program was very important to ANUCoL and its many graduates who are placed in industry

The Committee agreed:

- (i) To note the paper, “Career Development Elective (1012/2007)”; and
- (ii) To request the Chair to form a working party to explore the opportunity further during 2008.

12.2 Extended University English (1024/2007)

The Committee noted:

- . The proposal from Mr See for a new course, Extended University English (6-units), to count towards a bachelor degree, which would be offered by ANU College and managed through the Board of Studies;
- . That English in Academic Context courses had been offered previously by the Faculty of Arts. These English proficiency training courses were accredited towards degrees where the structure allowed, or undertaken as non-award courses;
- . A variety of ways in which the proposed course could be applied in respect of undergraduate students and also made available at postgraduate level (e.g. as a campus-wide 6-unit transitional course in the Master of Studies) with

individual areas to decide whether or not the course would count towards an award.

The Committee:

- (i) Referred the issue to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for action following consultation as appropriate; and
- (ii) Noted that the Board of Studies would be asked to consider an approval process for accreditation of ANU campus-wide and ANU College courses.

ITEM 13. HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH TRAINING REVIEW

Professor Thomas advised that the report from the Working Party on administration and information systems was still to be submitted. A consolidated report on the Review would be presented to the University Education Committee in early 2008. The recommendations would include a proposal for the establishment of a sub-committee on Higher Degree Research issues. Two key principles that had emerged from consultation with ANU Colleges were:

- . A focus on quality throughout the PhD
- . Addressing trends in applications for PhD admission and dealing with the shift in a wider context. The number of domestic student applications continues to decline and international students would be likely to make up a higher proportion of enrolments in the future.

PART 3. PROGRAMS AND COURSEWORK

ITEM 14. UNDERGRADUATE AND PRE-TERTIARY PROGRAMS

The Committee considered proposals for changes to undergraduate and pre-tertiary programs and noted approvals by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor since the September meeting of the Committee.

14.1 Undergraduate Programs

ANU College of Business and Economics

The Committee endorsed minor course changes in the following programs:

- Bachelor of International Business (965/2007)
To add BUS12027 Development of Modern Business as an elective in the International Business major
- Bachelor of Economics (964/2007)
To add ECON2141/2142 Strategic Thinking(P) and (H) to the list of Schedule 2 courses
- Bachelor of Commerce (963/2007)
To add BUSI2027 Development of Modern Business as an elective in the International Business major

ANU College of Law (1013/2007 and memo)

- Bachelor of Laws
The Committee noted that the Deputy Vice-Chancellor had approved the following changes:
 - . Compulsory course component of the LLB to include the three courses required for admission to practice making a total of 15 courses (90 units): Corporations Law, Evidence, and Litigation and Dispute Management
 - . Students to be eligible to take out the LLB upon completion of the compulsory component and other specified units.

14.2 Associate Degrees

- **Associate Degree (specialising in Social Studies) offered in conjunction with ANU College (memo)**
The Committee noted that the Associate Degree (specializing in Social Studies) to be offered from 2008 in conjunctions with ANU College had been approved by the Dean, ANUCASS, and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor.
- **Associate Degrees (specialising in Science, Engineering and Music) offered in cooperation with the Canberra Institute of Technology**
The Committee endorsed the following revised and updated statements of program requirements:
Associate Degree (specialising in Science) (1004/2007)
Associate Degree (specialising in Music) (1005/2007)
Associate Degree (specialising in Engineering) (1003a/2007).

ITEM 15. GRADUATE PROGRAMS, GLOBAL SUMMER PROGRAMS AND CONCURRENT STUDIES

The Committee considered proposals for new and changed graduate programs and noted approvals by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor since the September meeting of the Committee.

15.1 Concurrent Studies for the Bachelor of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy degrees

The Committee noted:

- DEST endorsement of the proposal for concurrent studies leading to the PhB and PhD degrees and that different ways for managing the program were being considered possibly to allow APAs to commence at an earlier point than under the present regulations
- The importance of academic merit in the selecting of students for the program;
- The concentration of time for completion of a doctoral thesis (6 years of study rewarded by 2 degrees) with commencement in the second year of the program may have implications for the quality of postgraduate research work
- It was expected that in view of the challenging nature of the program most students would be likely to commence the concurrent studies in their fourth year of the program.

The Committee endorsed in principal the proposal for concurrent study for the PhB/PhD degrees as detailed in paper 1000a/2007 (as amended at the meeting).

15.2 Global Summer Programs

The Committee noted the program description (papers 1007/2007 and 1006/2007) that: "The GSP aims to be a flagship Program of the IARU with the distinctive focus on academic vigour and quality. The GSP will take advantage of the academic strengths of IARU institutions to offer students the opportunity to study together in specially designed courses. This will permit students to benefit from a powerful intercultural dynamic and to enhance their educational experience with courses drawing the strengths of IARU member institutions and the resources of their environments, that will also challenge them to learn with students from other societies within and beyond the classroom.

The GSP also provides an opportunity to develop innovative courses and pedagogies that may be difficult to accommodate within existing degree programs. The GSP can serve as a mechanism to create a rich array of collaboratively developed course work that can bring faculty as well as students together across the globe. Participating institutions will agree on courses to be offered based on the particular strengths of each institution, as well as other factors."

The Committee endorsed the recommendation that the following programs be offered from June 2008 and the arrangements as detailed in the Academic Program Information Forms:

- Global Summer Program (Undergraduate) non-award (1007/2007)
 - CECS Energy Resources and Renewable Technologies
 - CECS Artificial Intelligence
 - COS Sustainability in the South
 - COS International Environment Policy
 - CAP Great Power Politics in Asia - Security etc
 - CAP Southeast Asian Frontiers
- Global Summer Program (Postgraduate) non-award (1006/2007)
 - CECS Energy Resources and Renewable Technologies
 - CECS Artificial Intelligence
 - COS Sustainability in the South
 - COS International Environment Policy
 - CAP Great Power Politics in Asia - Security etc
 - CBE Project Management

Note: Course information forms will be reported to the Committee in early 2008.

15.3 Commercialisation Training Scheme (CTS)

The Committee noted that:

- . 8 students had undertaken the Graduate Certificate in Second Semester
- . Funding for the Scheme had been accepted for 2008
- . A report on the Scheme would be presented to a future meeting of the Committee and a proposal put forward for a Master degree to commence from Semester II, 2008.

15.4 Graduate Programs approved from 2008

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific (memo)

The Committee noted that the Deputy Vice-Chancellor had approved the following:

- Master of Asia-Pacific Studies (954a/2007): new Pacific Studies major
- Master of Arts (Asia-Pacific Studies) *MA(APS)* 96 units (1014/2007): new degree by coursework and research; graded; replaces the Master of Arts (Asian Studies) which will be discontinued from the date of nil current student enrolments.

ANU College of Law

- Juris Doctor (292b/2007)

The Committee noted that the Deputy Vice-Chancellor had approved revised requirements determined since the September meeting for students enrolled in the JD to be able to undertake certain approved Law postgraduate courses, in addition to the undergraduate electives, and to be required to complete at least two postgraduate courses (12 units).

Graduate Studies Initiative Awards (1023a/2007) (Also see Item 8.)

The Committee recommended that the awards available in the Graduate Studies Initiative program be included in the Schedules to the *Graduate Coursework Awards Rules* and that they be titled:

- Master of Graduate Studies *MGradStud* 48 Units
- Diploma of Graduate Studies *DipGradStud* 36 Units
- Certificate of Graduate Studies *CertGradStud* 24 Units

15.5 Graduate Studies Fields

It was noted that the Deputy Vice-Chancellor has approved changes to the ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science fields of study that are inscribed on testamurs for PhD graduates to give a better description of what is in fact undertaken. The fields are:

ENGN_RP which is Engineering (previously Engineering and Info Science)
COMP-RP, which is Computer Science (previously Computer Science and Technology)

ITEM 16. UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE COURSEWORK

The Committee noted a summary (1015/2007) of course approvals by ANU College Deans notified to the course registry to 20 November 2007.

PART 4. ITEMS OF OTHER BUSINESS**ITEM 17. OTHER BUSINESS AND QUESTION TIME**

jab\4 December 2007