

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING ~ MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY
PPDP Liaison Meeting – Monday 21/3/11 at 5PM

Present:

Staff Representatives	Units	Attendance/Sign here
Dr. Peter Busch	PG Director -Chair	Yes
Dr. Frank Moisiadis	ITEC800	No
Dr. Gaurav Gupta	ITEC802	No
Dr. Rajan Shankaran/ Dr. Michael Hitchens	ITEC803	Yes No
Prof. Josef Pieprzyk	ITEC808 - 811	Yes
Dr. Ian Krycer	ITEC832 & ITEC841	Yes
Dr. Diego Molla Aliod Assoc. Prof. Steve Cassidy	ITEC833	Yes Yes
Mrs Cathy Campbell	ITEC844	Yes
Prof. Vijay Varadharanjan	ITEC852	Yes
Donna Hua	AO	Yes
Melina Chan	EO	Yes

Apologies: Dr. Gaurav Gupta, Dr. Frank Moisiadis

Student representatives: None

Meeting started at 5pm

UNIT MATTERS:

ITEC803- Computer Networks (Rajan Shankaran/Michael Hitchens)

There are 18 students enrolled in the class. Although some students show understanding of the unit, others may find it difficult. A few weak students are like a stone and don't have any clue about this unit. RS has offered students to pop in to see him anytime without making an appointment. He is worried what will happen next year regarding this unit. PB plans to put Comp247 as a prerequisite for this unit but it was denied; 300 level units are the necessary pre-requisite.

ITEC832 – Enterprise Application Integration (Ian Krycer)

Students in this unit are doing well. IK found it very helpful and useful when he invited guest speakers from the IT industry to deliver a lecture to the students. These speakers include (Oracle - Mr. Sean Boiling - Pre-sales consultant and Mr. Nathan Gyaneshwar - Managing Director,

Marketboomer). With 44 students in class, IK has divided the group work into 7 presentations, (6 individuals per group). To have a such sized groups in a class like this is difficult. IK ensures that each group has a topic to work on such as (Medicare, ERS etc). Having too many groups in a class is hard to spread the group work and mark the student's contribution to their work. IK also requested a move into a bigger room, as C5A 313 is too small and stuffy. E4B 314 has been provided after IK requested a change to another room. IK commented that E4B 314 is a nice room in a new building.

ITEC841- Project and Risk Management (Ian Krycer)

There are 33 students enrolled in the class and the group dynamic is good. It has strong attendance and is running smoothly. IK invited guest speakers from (Ms. Amireh Amirmazaheri - Trainer, Primavera Software and Mr. Pal Yogendra - Air Systems Project Manager, BAE Systems). IK thanked MC for making a casual room booking for E7B 163; the room size is good and he suggested that it would be good if he can have this room permanently.

ITEC808-811 Information Technology Project (Josef Pieprzyk)

This year the ITEC project units are combined with COMP901 and COMP401 (44 students in total). In order to make students stay in class, JP changed the order of the lecture and presentation. There has been good attendance so far. ITEC students complained to JP that the room is pretty stuffy and unpleasant due to the number of people in the room. The students want to change to another room; JP asked MC if the room could be changed. Overall, they are doing well in all activities in classes. JP will keep an eye on the projects.

ITEC833- Web Services (Diego Molla Aliod / Steve Cassidy)

Diego is running the lectures for the first half of the semester; there are no complaints from students so far, with a good record of attendance. Each week, the students are having 2 hours lectures and move to a lab for 1 hour practical after which they can leave. All students are doing fine. Some students show knowledge in the unit, whilst others do not have the experience and they need lots of help. SC pointed out that the students have participated in good discussions on the forum. For next year, a prerequisite may be required for this unit, PB mentioned he has to provide at least a 300 level unit as a pre-requisite for 800 level courses which will consequently likely affect future enrolment numbers. PB is working on some assessment weighting at the moment.

Security staff has been asking students to leave room E6A 127 as it closes at 10pm. Some students wanted to stay back to discuss their work.

ITEC844- Strategic Project Management (Cathy Campbell)

Cathy Campbell is taking the first 7 week of lectures. Students just completed the 1st individual assignment and CC has marked it. Participation in class is worth 25% of their mark. This is to encourage the students to contribute and do group work in classes. All students are working quite well. They are doing the 2nd group assignment at the moment (a short lecture followed by a case study). The 3rd assignment will be individual one. Students in this unit tend to be more responsive and hard working. IK mentioned this to CC that he heard from one of his students who attends CC's class, found it really good and was enjoying the unit.

ITEC852- Network and Systems Security (Vijay Varadharajan)

The class is very crowded, it first started with 18 students, increased to 21, then back to 18 students. VV has one special consideration from a student in class due to illness. VV will run 2 additional lectures during the break. The first assignment has been given to students; there will be a group project and one exam at the end. VV measures attendance in the first 4 weeks, this allows VV to organise project work. Overall, there are no major problems or issues in class.

Meeting closed at 6.00pm