

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING ~ MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY
PPDP Liaison Meeting - Wednesday 31/8/11 at 5PM

Present: Peter Busch, Michael Hitchens, Sekher Seshadri, Diego Molla Alliod, Vijay Varadharajan, Melina Chan, Donna Hua

Students: Arun Neelakandan (ITEC870, ITEC810), Zheng Xing Xu (ITEC871, ITEC802, ITEC853 & 854).

Apologies: Josef Pieprzyk, Gaurav Gupta, Ian Krycer, Milton Baar, Michael Johnson, Frank Moisiadis

Meeting started 5pm

UNIT MATTERS

ITEC801- Introduction to Distributed Systems (Michael Hitchens/Rajan Shankaran)

- There are 11 students in the class, all is going well
- MH teaches in week 1, 2, 4, 6 & 7 and Rajan is teaching the other remaining weeks
- ITEC801 is an elective unit this year. MH is expecting enrolment numbers will go up for next year when this unit becomes a core in the WT specialisation.

ITEC870- Advanced Database Applications Development (Sekher Seshadri)

- There are 25 students in class
PB advised that this unit will not overlap with UG unit contents next year and ISYS326 will be the prerequisite for this unit
- Oracle has been working fine
- SS mentioned that 2 students couldn't get access to the lab systems, they probably enrolled late
- Sekher is happy to change the starting time from 9am to 9.30am next year

Student (A.N) commented:

- The start time on Saturday for this unit at 9am is too early and makes it difficult for some students. It would be good if the class can start at 10am. If the class starts from 10-2pm, those students who are undertaking ITEC872 will not have a break for lunch as ITEC872 starts from 2pm.
- A.N mentioned that a few students had trouble connecting to the Microsoft SQL Server ("amidala"/"kettle"). There were some issues over the weekend with the Microsoft SQL Server instance, or the students were using the wrong connection instructions. A request has been made by Arun to Informatics about resolving this OnePod issue that affects the SQL Server instance. This is still waiting to hear back from Informatics.
- For his ITEC810 unit (Information Technology Project) - Everything is going well, lectures run fortnightly on a Friday night, class finishes after 8.30pm. Students review each other's work and present their projects in class. The presentation will be held in week 13, last week of the semester.

ITEC871- Information Systems Design and Management (Ian Krycer)

Student (Z.X) commented:

- It would be good if Ian can give more examples in class.
- All other of his subjects: ITEC802, 853 & 854 have no problems and all went well
- No problem with the lab except he can't create a wiki on Moodle as it doesn't work (PB to follow up with Ian)

ITEC872- Data Mining and Business Intelligence (Diego Molla Aliod)

- There are 27 students in class, good attendance numbers
- DM wanted to know who to contact for lab issues on Sat, e.g. when the monitor/projector is not working. DM can contact Arun as he works as a LSO on Saturday.

PG LAB127:

- There are no complaints so far for the PG-Lab127
- PB mentioned that the Dow Corning building will be available 24 hours access for PG students to use in next semester, yet to be confirmed

Other business:

- PB, Vijay and Sekher will discuss a visit to Macquarie bank for promoting our MIT program.

Meeting closed at 5.30pm