

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING ~ MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY
Minutes of the 100-Level Liaison Committee Meeting
13th May 2009 1pm

Present:

Student Representatives	Units	Student ID
Ahmad Faril Rusman	COMP115,ISYS123	
James Geotsis	COMP115	

Staff Representatives	Units
Ros Ballantyne	Chair, COMP125
Bernard Mans	HoD
Tony Sloane	COMP115
Yan Wang	COMP115
Diego Molla	COMP125
Melina Chan	Executive Officer
Richard Miller	ScienceIT
Matt Cabanag	ScienceIT, Labs
Sylvian Chow	Department Administrator
Raina Kim	Minutes

Apologies:

Matthew Mansour (Tutorial on at the same time), Michael Hitchens

Meeting started 1:10pm

UNIT MATTERS

COMP115: unit convenor-Tony Sloane, Yan Wang

Lectures:

- Students are very happy with Yan's notes.
- The lecture is running too fast and skims through the slides.
- The class has been noisy but is under control now.
- The catch up class run by Yan had a very good response. Students are very thankful.
- Students would like more screen casts.
- Some students find Eclipse difficult. They have problems such as when loading files it slows down the system because it takes up a lot of memory.

Tutorials and Practicals:

- The classes are running smoothly.
- The students had very good comments about Abeer.
- Tutors are actively involved with the class and try to cover all the examples thoroughly.

- At times there was not enough time to go through all the weekly tasks.

Assignments:

- Students have not much progress with assignment 2.
- This assignment is easier than the one released 3 years ago. Current course involves more problem solving techniques.

Labs:

- Printing is very slow. It took a long time to print a PDF file. RM informed that PDF files can be fairly large and it takes times to send the file to the printer.
- Some 1st year students attend the 3rd year labs and 3rd year students complain of disruption. BM is keen to ensure that 1st year students are not being bullied by 3rd year students.

General Issues:

- Study group is still running and is very helpful for those turn up. Some 2nd year students come to help.
- Past exam papers will be posted on the web. Students should note that none of the computing papers are kept in the library.
- One 2nd year student wants to help the 1st year students in various ways. TS will look into giving him a guest COMP115 student portal access.
- The microphone in E7BT5 is not working properly. Perhaps the battery needs replacing. Admin to follow up.

COMP125: unit convenor-Ros Ballantyne, Diego Molla

There was no student representative for this unit.

- Everything is going well.
- Not many students are attending the lectures.
- Some students do not participate in all the activities and not much work is done and are at high risk of failure.
- Some diagrams do not show up in Internet Explorer but in Firefox they are working fine.

Labs:

- Students who do not belong to the mixed class are disrupting.

ISYS123: unit convenor-Michael Hitchens (not present)

Lectures:

- The lectures are running smoothly.
- Fewer students attend the lectures.
- Student wanted to know if the 2 lecture notes could be combined. RB suggested it could be divided into 2 sections to make it print friendly.

Tutorials and practicals:

- The different Microsoft word version is still a problem for students. To decide whether to upgrade RB is to ask MM to find the number of students using each version. If upgrade is decided teaching material might need to be changed accordingly.
- The problem with Monday morning tutor is resolved and situation improved.
- One tutor finished the tutorial class early.

Generals Issues:

- People have problems in logging on to the wireless network. The wireless network does not pick up in some places in building E6A.
- The new wireless seems to be very slow.
- In E7B theatres the wireless is not accessible.
- Students said in lectures they could not access the wireless even though the signals are strong.
- RM said theoretically wireless should be available for all teaching space.
- E6A still has the old wireless system.
- The suggestion box is not very visible and it is suggested to move to a more visible location.

Meeting finished at 1:45pm.

This was the last meeting for semester 1, 2009.