

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING ~ MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY
Minutes of the 300 -Level Liaison Committee Meeting
Monday 30th April 2007 at 1pm

Present:

Student Representatives	Units
James Baldwin	COMP345,COMP330
Pierre Diab	COMP340,COMP342
Staff Representatives	Units
Debbie Richards	COMP340,345, ISYS346
Peter Busch	ISYS302, MPCE360
Lee Flax	MPCE360, ISYS302
Scott McCallum	COMP323
Leszek Maciaszek	ISYS326
Josef Pieprzyk	COMP343
Mike Johnson	COMP342
Diego Aliod Molla	COMP348
Manoyla Kavakli	COMP330
Abhaya Nayak	Chair

UNIT MATTERS

ISYS302 – no student reps.

No student rep. Overall going well. Wk 7 and 8 have been swapped; Lects and tuts going fine. Lecture attendance rate about 60% now – students have switched on. To a question of Mike, student breakdown in the unit was given: Altogether 130 students; 3 BA-ICS; 2 BBA; 7 BBA/BIT; 28BeBus; 18 BIS; 28 BIT; 20 BSc-ICS; 12 BCIS and 6 BTech. On Mike's suggestion Peter will talk to BBA students to see if any of their friends would be interested in the unit.

COMP323 – no student reps

No student rep. Everything going fine. Scott mentioned of a 4-time repeat student in the unit. Scott thinks Math135 should be sufficient as prerequisite. Mike suggested that a broader math pre-req might be better.

ISYS326 – no student reps. Out of 80, 30/35 turn up in lectures although they know lecture slides are not enough. 1st assignment due on next Monday. Leszek in charge of the 2nd assignment.

COMP330

Going well. 1st assn (cartoons using C++) was good – challenging but not impossible - time required was as expected. 2nd assn on flight simulator. Max replaced a tutor who left to join the library as an analyst-programmer.

COMP340, COMP345 & ISYS346

Overall fine. A problem with Group 28 was reported – its size went from 4 to 5 to 4. Three people have changed groups. Each group has 345 student and a 346 student for skill balance. Leszek noted that he would have given different projects for 345 students and 346 students.

COMP342

Good feedback on Assn 1. Mike noted that students are excited about the prospect of working on Windows source-code – a first time in the world. It is available to all universities now; but most unis have failed to take advantage of it. Len is now doing the Help301; but no student has shown up in his office!

COMP343 – no student reps

Assn 1 has been marked. Assn 2 is to be posted tomorrow. Student number in 70's. There was discussion on whether the prerequisite of Comp125 & Math237 are enough for the unit.

COMP348

No student turned up to the last Friday lecture; but provided no explanation when asked about it in the next lecture. Rolf and Diego reckon students think the lecture-notes in the web is good enough. So only lecture summaries will be provided on the web. About 10 of 25 students normally attend lectures. Assn 1 went well; Assn 2 due this week.

MPCE360

Not a lot to report; Peter lecturing now. 2nd Assn due wk 10. Assn 1 was a dry-run for it. About 50 students. There will be a guest lecture from ACCESS Macquarie on IP.

General Issues

Non-ICS students (largely from the EFS) hogging up the lab and distracting the rightful users – especially in room 114. Mail from HOD has not had tremendous effect. Ian opined that security does not cooperate at the expected level, and should be directed regarding this from the top. Mike suggested that Abhaya formally write the HOD to escalate the request. (Abhaya has.)

Richard mentioned that resources are over subscribed. He sought student opinion on ideas such as pay per print; print-quota and limit on aggregation.

Next Meeting

Wednesday 23rd May 2007 E6A357 at 1pm