Present:

Student Representatives | Units
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Addison McDermid | COMP225, COMP247, COMP249

Staff Representatives | Units
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Abhaya Nayak | 200 level convenor
Bernard Mans | HoD
Debbie Richards | Acting Director of Teaching
Annabelle McIver | COMP225
Ros Ballantyne | COMP225
Rajan Shankaran | COMP247
Michael Hitchens | COMP247
Rolf Schwitter | COMP249
Steve Cassidy | COMP249
Jian Yang | ISYS201
Adam Shah | Science IT
Matt Cabanag | Science IT
Melina Chan | Executive Officer
Sylvian Chow | Minutes

Apologies: Leszek Maciaszek

Meeting started at 1:05 pm

General note:
There was only a single student rep (Addison McDermid) representing three units. Addison tried to give an objective view, although it was felt that not enough distinction was made between his personal view and the view of his peers. He was advised to keep it in mind for future meetings.

UNIT MATTERS

COMP225: Annabelle McIver / Ros Ballantyne

Lectures:
- Student found that the examples given in the lecture were too simple and therefore, when it came to do the assignment, he has found it a bit too hard.
• i-lecture is considered useful to the students.
• Student requested if harder examples could be given in the lecture notes.

Practicals:
• Classes have not been so well attended - normally there are only three quarters of students.
• However, today’s practical class was very well attended.
• Practical classes (2 hours) are set aside to help students with their assignments. Students are advised to make good use of these practical classes.

Tutorials:
• COMP125 questions were asked/reviewed in the tutorials.
• Classes have been quite well attended.

Assignment:
• Student understands the assignment, however he has found it a bit too hard to complete the assignment as it involves a great deal of thinking and coding.
• Assignment has two parts. It requires even more thinking and coding for the 2nd part.
• Student in question is doing MATH135 at the moment, due to the heavy workload from Maths, he has found it difficult to complete the assignment on time.
• All assignments will be handed back in tutorials.
• No feedback will be given for on-line submission.
• Students are advised to turn up to tutorials for feedbacks.

General Issue:
Students requested that announcement to be put in the unit homepage.

From Addition’s later email (after the meeting):
• A student who has already passed Math135 noted, presumably about the assignment, that they are having trouble getting started, and more clear instruction would help. In particular, a recap of Comp125 material might be useful. (As Ros noted, Comp125 material are being reviewed in the tuts.)

COMP247: Rajan Shankaran / Michael Hitchens

Lectures:
• Lectures are very well conducted with a great level of details.

Practicals:
• Week 3’s practical class was okay.
• Week 4 was a bit too easy as a lot of people has done it before.

Tutorials:
• Students are generally happy with the tutorials.
• Tutors are very helpful.

Quizzes:
• Quizzes are fairly okay. It is meant not to stretch people but rather to test that students have the assumed knowledge plus new given information.
• Students are getting the quizzes back next week.

IT Problems:
• Blackboard issue here – it’s too heavy for wireless connections, and networking in general as it takes too long to download (word-) files from the WebCT. It might help if files are stored in the pdf format.
• Students wonder if lectures, practicals and tutorials can be put in another website (unit homepage), outside WebCT with link from WebCT. Michael commented about changing the interface in the middle of a Semester is not such a good idea. Steve Cassidy also acknowledged this problem and has agreed to pass it up for further consideration.
• Student has come across with problem when using Wireshark.
• Virtual machine cannot be run if memory is low (e.g. it cannot be run while Firefox is opened)
• PCs do not have the same spec. Some machines need to be upgraded.

From Addition’s later email (after the meeting):
• Anonymous student reiterated that it would be nice to have material available outside the webCT, in the unit homepage.

COMP249: Rolf Schwitter / Steve Cassidy

Lectures:
• Video Lectures have been very helpful.
• Lecture notes have been quite good.
• Most students do not have textbooks.
• W3 school has been great to refer to.

Portfolio:
• Students hope that more specific ideas will be given e.g. an example portfolio from last year would be a good idea. It has been told that it would be clarified this week.

Mixed Classes:
• Mixed classes are useful.
• Students hope to have more concrete examples given in classes.

Assignment:
• Assignment is due on Monday, 23 March. Student was unsure of how much details would be deemed necessary for the CSS coding. However, it was pointed out that this assignment would worth only 5% of the final marks for the unit and therefore it was advised that not too much time should be spent in completing this assignment.
IT Problems:
• There were problems while doing the formatting with Safari 5.
• While using Firefox, student claimed that there was a problem when trying to run a slide show.

General Issue:
• Students requested that announcement to be included in the main webpage.

From Addition’s later email (after the meeting):
• From anonymous student: screencasts have been most helpful.

ISYS201: Jian Yang

Lectures:
• Lecture’s contents have been changed a little as the majority of students did not do Java. There is no pre-requisite for Java.

Assignment:
• First assignment will due in Week 8 after the break.

Mixed Classes:
• Tutorial/Practical classes are doing fine.
• Classes are fairly easy for students now as they are object-oriented in regards to programming and they are from Oracle.
• GUI stuffs are in practicals but not in lectures.

General Issue:
• Tutor Yihao has been asked to find a student rep for this unit.
• Jian and her tutors have not come across with any difficulties so far.

Meeting closed at 2pm.

Next Meeting
Monday, 6 April at 1pm in E6A357.