Department of Computing – Macquarie University
Minutes of the 300-level Liaison Committee Meeting
1:00 pm – 19th August 2014 – Room E6A357

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Student Representatives</strong></th>
<th><strong>Units</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Harish Ravi</td>
<td>COMP347, COMP355</td>
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<td>Sarah Heimlich</td>
<td>COMP332</td>
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<td>Rebekah Coote</td>
<td>ISYS355, ISYS301</td>
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<td>Ronald Hancock</td>
<td>COMP332, COMP355</td>
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<td>Alexander Loder</td>
<td>COMP329, COMP344, ISYS355</td>
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<td>Imgoon Kang</td>
<td>COMP329, COMP344</td>
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<td>Mohamed Odeh</td>
<td>COMP347</td>
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<td>Anthony Wales</td>
<td>COMP332, COMP344, COMP355</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Staff Representatives</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Abhaya Nayak (AN)</td>
<td>COMP329</td>
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<td>Diego Molla Aliod (DMA)</td>
<td>Chair</td>
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<td>Christophe Doche (CD)</td>
<td>HOD</td>
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<td>Rolf Schwitter (RS)</td>
<td>COMP329</td>
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<td>Tony Sloane (TS)</td>
<td>COMP332</td>
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<td>Annabelle McIver (AM)</td>
<td>COMP333</td>
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<td>Steve Cassidy (SC)</td>
<td>Director of Teaching</td>
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<td>Divya Leekha (DL)</td>
<td>Minutes</td>
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<td>Malcolm Ryan (MR)</td>
<td>COMP352</td>
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<td>Yan Wang (YW)</td>
<td>COMP344</td>
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<td>Ian Joyner (IJ)</td>
<td>COMP347</td>
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<td>Rajan Shankaran (RS)</td>
<td>COMP347</td>
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<td>Peter Busch (PB)</td>
<td>ISYS301</td>
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<td>Natalia Salzberg (NS)</td>
<td>Science IT Manager</td>
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<td>Deborah Richards (DR)</td>
<td>COMP355, ISYS355, ISYS358</td>
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<td>Richard Miller (RM)</td>
<td>Science IT</td>
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<td>Melina Chan (MC)</td>
<td>Executive Officer</td>
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The meeting started at 1:05 pm

The Chair welcomed all who attended the meeting. There was a brief introduction of the members.

**COMP329 – Knowledge Systems**

*Abhaya Nayak, Rolf Schwitter*

- Student Rep feels that they are happy with the unit. The lecture content is perfect. The way in which Abhaya and Rolf are doing the lectures in the same week is working well. The labs have good exercises.
- RS asked the students what they thought about the Diagnostic Test. Student Rep feels that it has good diversity of content. He also mentioned that it was good that the results of the test were to come in before the Census date.
- Abhaya feels that so far the students are reciprocating well with the unit.

**COMP332 – Programming Languages**

*Tony Sloane*

- Student Rep says that the lectures are good and are helpful for her to solve the questions. The three hour sessions are handled quite efficiently by the lecturer. She also feels that the practicals are good.
- Another Student Rep feels that the lecture content is very well organized. So much so, that those who are beginners can understand it step wise, whereas those who have the background are able to revise.
- Student Rep says that there are some technical issues with the software during the practical. The tutor was not aware of the procedure. The Unit Convenor explained that this issue is being sorted out.
- The Student Rep said that they have already started working on the first assignment.
- Another Student Rep feels that she is enjoying programming and the lab exercises are helping her to move ahead in the unit.
- TS informed that the pattern of assessment has changed this semester. He mentioned that it is something like learning as you go method. Student Rep feels that this pattern is a good idea, as it gives an early insight.

**COMP333 – Algorithm Theory and Design**

*Annabelle McIver, Mark Dras*

- There were no Student Representatives present for the liaison meeting for this unit. AM said that the unit is going pretty well.
COMP344 – E-Commerce Technology
Yan Wang, Les Bell

- Student Rep feels that he is happy with the fact that there is no mid-term exam for this unit. There is extra practice available online. He is hoping also to get practice during the practicals.
- YW explained that they will not be expected to write code in the exam. The Student Rep feels happy about it.
- The Student Rep feels that the unit comprises of various methods of Web Programming. The lecture notes are pretty good, as they give a walkthrough of the procedure.
- Another Student Rep says that the lectures give a good understanding of web technologies in operation. Lectures are comprehensive and with good examples. The textbook mentioned by the lecturer is quite comprehensive and covers all the aspects of the unit.
- YW feels that the basics for all the technologies need to be given for better understanding of the unit, hence the exposure was given to the students.
- The Student Rep complimented the lecturer about his lecture being quite interactive with students. There is a high level of participation by the students in the tutorials, as well as the practicals.

COMP347 – Computer Networks
Rajan Shankaran, Ian Joyner

- The Student Rep feels that there is a lot of theory in the lectures, but it is very well handled by the lecturer.
- Student Rep said that there were some issues with the practicals. RS said that they are aware of them and that they have already sorted out the issues.
- The Student Rep feels that the refresher was useful.
- RS explained that the lecturer is open to answer queries related to tutorials during the lectures, as well as the tutorials.
- RS also mentioned that he would be discussing the assignment during the lectures.
- The lecturer clarified that this unit would be focusing more on routers than switches.
- Student Rep feels that this is a good unit. The practicals are in sync with the lecture material.
- Student Rep feels that the evening timings are much better. The assessments are well formed. The lectures are sufficient.
- The printer was having a login problem but then IJ informed that not much printing would be required.
- RS informed that the class size is larger, hence some changes in timings of the sessions would take place.

COMP352 – Videogames Project
Malcolm Ryan

- There were no Student Representatives present for the liaison meeting for this unit.
- MR informed that this is the first time the unit has been run. The class size is 24. He also mentioned that the unit is Project based.
• He further added that in the last week the students were forming groups and that this week the students would be presenting their plans.
• MR said that he is trying to get involvement of industry expertise in this unit.

COMP355, COMP365, ISYS355, ISYS358 – Undergraduate Project Units

Stephen Smith, Deborah Richards

• DR informed that they have started with the unit quite well, with the feasibility study in place.
• Students are divided into groups of 5 and are doing projects for real world customers.
• The whole life cycle of the project would be studied.
• Student Rep feels that they need to have feedback on the progress of the project.
• DR explained that the 68% presentation marks are displayed on iLearn and the remaining are sponsor marks, which come later.
• The Student Rep had a query relating to iLearn notification feature, which was resolved by the lecturer.
• The Student Rep feels that real world project exposure works well for their placements.
• Student Rep feels that the groups are quite versatile. DR explained how the groups are made and how that is helpful for the students with the sponsor.
• The lecturer explained that the several groups are not supposed to work together. The students should not argue with the clients.
• Student Rep feels that there is a lot of documentation done and that all the aspects of the projects are exposed to the students. DR explained that exposure to all aspects helps the student to understand the system fully and that this also helps in the work profile.
• DR said that the template is fine but giving examples does not help.

ISYS301 – Enterprise Systems Integration

Peter Busch, Jian Yang

• Student Rep feels that the 6 to 9 lecture is too boring and challenges the concentration span. PB explained that the break is given for 15 minutes for the same reason. There was a suggestion made for 2 days offering and 2 nights offering for the unit in a week.
• Student Rep said that the Diagnostic assignment is good and that most students have already started working on it.
• Student Rep feels that Practicals were almost the same as Tutorials. PB explained that there were more questions for the Practicals than the Tutorials.

General issues

• The Student Rep feels that it was very hot in the lab.

The Chair thanked all the stakeholders of the meeting and the meeting closed at 2.05pm