ACADEMIC SENATE
ACADEMIC PLANNING AND COURSES APPROVALS COMMITTEE

Report of the APCAC E-meeting (09:12) conducted on 24 November 2009 via email circulation

The agenda and relevant documentation were circulated electronically on Tuesday 24 November 2009, for urgent response by COB Friday 27 November 2009.

1. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Attendance:

Participants:
Professor John Ingleson, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic and Enterprise (Chair)
Professor Stuart Campbell, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching)
Ms Liz Curach, University Librarian
Professor Beryl Hesketh, Executive Dean, College of Health and Science
Associate Professor Robyn McGuigan, Executive Dean, College of Business
Professor Geoff Scott, Pro Vice Chancellor (Quality)
Ms Thea Seabrook, Academic Registrar
Associate Professor Paul Wormell, Chair of Academic Senate
Dr Elfriede Sangkuhl, Deputy Chair of Academic Senate
Professor Wayne McKenna, Executive Dean, College of Arts
Professor Barbara Holland, Pro Vice Chancellor (Engagement)
Associate Professor Steve Wilson, Head of School, Education

Secretary:
Ms Deirdre Lee, Executive Officer, Academic Policy and Committees (Secretary)

2. NEW COURSES: COMBINED MASTERS/PHD PROGRAMS

Introduction

The proposed new courses had been approved by the appropriate College Committees, by the Research Studies Committee, and by Education Committee.

The Committee noted the following background information.

Few countries other than Australia build in research training preparation via a Bachelor Honours award. Australia is currently investigating the importance of the European Bologna Agreement and its impact on entry standards into research degrees. The first meeting of the Bologna Ministerial Advisory group in May 2009 discussed issues in relation to Honours degrees and entry criteria into Master Research and PhD programs. With an emphasis in the Bradley Report on student mobility and portability of degrees, Australian universities have a responsibility to develop programs which had admission criteria that accommodates international students’ qualifications rather than the current national entry criteria.
The programs proposed will facilitate entry and education for highly motivated international applicants seeking admission to UWS doctoral programs whose qualifications were attained in an education model different to the Australian system and possibly with only an undergraduate degree.

**Proposed Program**

**Title:** Combined Master (discipline area specified)/PhD  
**Length:** 4.5 years full time  
**Funding:** Fee paying  
**Admission criteria:** Bachelor degree or equivalent.

**Exit points**

1. a) Master of Arts (Research Studies)  
   b) Master of Business and Commerce (Research Studies)  
   c) Master of Health (Research Studies)  
   d) Master of Science (Research Studies)  

2. PhD after study of 4.5 EFSTL (3 EFTSL at Doctoral level)  
   a) Master of Arts (Research Studies) / PhD  
   b) Master of Business and Commerce (Research Studies) / PhD  
   c) Master of Health (Research Studies)/PhD  
   e) Master of Science (Research Studies)/PhD.

**Structure**

The Masters component of the program is structured on a total of 120 credit points to provide students with a discipline and research based coursework Master degree that has a research training component of 33%, comprising 40 credit point Master level units in methodology, literature review and research proposal development. The other coursework component will be 80 credit points of discipline based content and comprising units already approved by the University at Honours/Masters level with the majority being at Masters level. In cases where candidates wish to do units that are not as yet approved by the university these will be done as the program develops a candidature base. All candidate coursework components will be compiled with their supervisory panel.

The PhD component of 3 EFTSL will be completed according to the current UWS Doctor of Philosophy policy.

2.1 **1687 Master of Arts (Research Studies)/PhD**

Without discussion,

**It was resolved (APCAC09:12/1):**

_That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 1687 Master of Arts (Research Studies) /PhD to commence in Autumn 2010, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval._
2.2 **2744 Master of Business and Commerce (Research Studies)/ PhD**

Without discussion,

**It was resolved (APCAC09:12/2):**
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 2744 Master of Business and Commerce (Research Studies)/ PhD to commence in Autumn 2010, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

2.3 **4681 Master of Health (Research Studies)/ PhD**

Without discussion,

**It was resolved (APCAC09:12/3):**
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 4681 Master of Health (Research Studies)/ PhD to commence in Autumn 2010, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

2.4 **3662 Master of Science (Research Studies)/ PhD**

Without discussion,

**It was resolved (APCAC09:12/4):**
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new course 3662 Master of Science (Research Studies)/ PhD to commence in Autumn 2010, and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval.

3. **NEXT MEETING OF APCAC**

The next scheduled meeting of the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee will be held on **Wednesday 3 February 2010 at 9.00am** in the Board Room, Building AD, Werrington North.