ACADEMIC SENATE
ACADEMIC PLANNING AND COURSES APPROVALS COMMITTEE

Report of the APCAC E-meeting (09:11) conducted on 11 November 2009 via email circulation

The agenda and relevant documentation were circulated electronically on Wednesday 11 November 2009, for urgent response by COB Monday 16 November 2009.

1. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Attendance:

Participants:
Professor John Ingleson, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic and Enterprise (Chair)
Ms Liz Curach, University Librarian
Professor Beryl Hesketh, Executive Dean, College of Health and Science
Dr David Low, Acting Executive Dean, College of Business
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 Stuart Campbell, Pro Vice Chancellor (Learning and Teaching)
Professor Barbara Holland, Pro Vice Chancellor (University Engagement)

Apology:
Associate Professor Robyn McGuiggan, Executive Dean, College of Business
Associate Professor Steve Wilson, Head of School, Education

Secretary:
Ms Barbara Gow, Acting Executive Officer, Academic Policy and Committees (Secretary)

2. EXECUTIVELY APPROVED NEW UNIT SET

The following new unit set was executively approved by the College of Arts Executive Committee on 4 November 2009.

2.1 M1040 - Psychology Major and SM1048 - Psychology Sub-major

The variation accommodates the needs of students, particularly in the BA 1651 and 1652 Pathways to Teaching courses, where students need an 80 credit point sequence in Psychology units in order to qualify as School Counsellors. These students do not require professional accreditation in Psychology. Also, these students do not have additional 40 credit points of study available within their degree to complete a 120 credit point key program because of the number of requirements of the NSW Teachers Institute. As a result, the variation will accommodate these students and provide other students enrolled in the BA 1604 with greater choice in structuring their programs of study. Students in the BA 1604 may choose between an unaccredited 80 credit point major and a 120 credit point...
accredited sequence (80 credit point major and 40 credit point sub-major in Psychology). The Key Program in Psychology (12 units) is being replaced by Major and Sub-major (8 + 4 units). Note that both the Psychology Major and Sub-major need to be completed as the accredited sequence, i.e. the Major alone does not meet accreditation standards.

Discussion

The Committee determined that the following additional information needs to be provided:

- The following text at point 7a must be addressed: “Details of transition arrangements should be completed and attached to this document.”

There are approximately 1,800 students enrolled in the existing key program in Psychology. Most of the units in this key program will be replaced under the new course structure and information about equivalent units is available to students in vUWS. The School needs to provide a list of equivalent units as part of the course documentation, providing a permanent record of the approved transition arrangements.

- At point 14 the College should explain the situation regarding professional accreditation.

The Committee requested that the course documentation be amended accordingly before the resolution below is transmitted to Academic Senate.

It was resolved (APCAC09:11/1):
That the Academic Planning and Courses Approvals Committee endorses the introduction of the new unit sets M1040 Psychology Major and SM1048 Psychology Sub-major, executively approved by the College of Arts Executive Committee, to commence in Autumn 2010 and recommends the proposal to Academic Senate for approval. TRIM reference: D09/483927

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.