



Academic Board Minutes

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Minutes of the meeting of the Academic Board held at 2 pm on Wednesday 15 April 2009 in the Professorial Board Room

There were present: the Chair (Professor B Sutton) presiding; the Vice-Chancellor and Principal (Dr M Spence); the Chairs of the Standing Committees (Professors B Bennett and S Kable and Associate Professor P McCallum); Professors D Armstrong, A Aspromourgos, J Brien, E Cowley, D Day, S Garton, G Hancock, J Hearn, G Llewellyn, A Peters, I Ramzan, E Schwarz, G Triggs, K Trigwell and J White, Associate Professors M Boughton, M Edmond, M Fairskye, A Fekete, M Halliwell, D Hibbs, A Jamalipour, T Masters, S Newberry, N O'Dwyer, G Ryan, J Shields (attending for Professor P Wolnizer) and A Twomey, Drs J Callen, F Collyer, S Cox, K Cramer, S Cumming, M Fisher, R Gibson, J Hanrahan, D Higgins, S Mansfield, P Marks, K Nelson, S Ronaldson and L Scanlon, Mr P Ball, Mr D Brooks, Ms J Henderson, Ms P Kamvounias, Ms R Kumar, Mr D Liu, Ms J Mooney, Mr J Quilty, Ms R Rodney, Ms R Santos, Mr J Shipp, Ms M Stephens, Ms L-M Syron, Mr A Thomas, Ms J Truman and Mr N White.

Present as observers: Mr M Charet (Secretariat) and Ms L Rose (Provost's Office).

In attendance: Ms Megan Kemmis (Executive Officer to Academic Board).

★ **1. Apologies**

The Board noted that apologies had been received from: Professors C Armour, A Boyd, A Brewer, S Clarke, R Ewing, R Magnusson, D Nutbeam, B Paltridge, C Rhodes and P Wolnizer (A/P John Shields attending as Acting Dean), Associate Professors E Blignaut, A Dunn, A Holland and L Hossain, Drs T Anthony, L Cutcher, C Grupen, B Jones, I Odeh, J Slapeta and R Stanton and Mr W Chan, Mr J Conomos, Mr M Kalonikos, Mr A McLeod and Ms C McNally.

★ **2. Arrangement of agenda**

★ **2.1 Starring of items**

Members of the Board were invited to star for discussion any unstarred items. The following items were starred: 9.2.1.1(1), 9.2.1.1(3) and 9.2.1.2.

2.2 Adoption of unstarred items

Resolution 28/09

That the Academic Board resolve as recommended with respect to all unstarred items.

3. Minutes of previous meeting

Resolution 29/09

That the Academic Board adopt the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10 December 2008, as a true record.

4. Business arising from Minutes (not dealt with elsewhere in the Agenda)

There was no business arising from the minutes.

★ **5. Report of the Chair**

5.1 Report on Senate matters

5.1.1 Report of the Senate meeting held on 16 March 2009

The Chair noted that the report of this meeting had been circulated with the agenda.

Resolution 30/09

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board on academic matters considered by Senate at its meeting of 16 March 2009.

5.2 Honours and Distinctions

The Board noted and congratulated by acclamation the recipients of honours and distinctions, as set out in the agenda.

Resolution 31/09

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board on the honours and distinctions and congratulate the recipients, as set out in the report presented.

Action: Chair of the Academic Board to write to recipients congratulating them on their honours and distinctions.

5.3 General Report

5.3.1 University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended)

The Chair reminded members that the concept of a Postgraduate Coursework Rule had been discussed with the Academic Board on a number of occasions and that there had been general agreement for the concept. There had been some debate as to whether there should be a separate rule or an Academic Board policy, but it had been agreed that the existing Coursework Rule should be amended. He added that further amendments to the Coursework Rule would come forward later in the year as part of the proposed revisions to the current PhD resolutions. He invited Associate Professor McCallum to talk to the proposal.

Professor McCallum advised that the proposal built on the recommendations from the Postgraduate Coursework review, including the recognition of two different types of masters, advanced learning and professional, the admission requirements, characteristics and components. He explained that some requirements had been spelled out in detail to give faculties more agility in developing their courses, and to provide some generic resolutions for courses. In addition to the inserted sections, the proposed amendments include the deletion of a reference to the Australian Graduate School of Management (AGSM) and a revision to the definition of credit points to align it with the Academic Board's policy. He advised that the postgraduate section had been amended since the draft was last discussed at the Academic Board

to refer to interdisciplinary degrees and to remove the reference to coursework doctorates. In addition the Graduate Studies Committee had also revised the admission requirements. The Chair invited members to discuss the proposal.

Professor White queried the inconsistent use of the phrase "other university or institution" and asked if this could be uniform. Members supported this amendment. Ms Kumar expressed concern at the removal of honours from coursework masters, noting that it was used as a pathway to the PhD. Professor McCallum advised that it was intended that there be a pathway to the PhD in as many coursework masters as possible by the inclusion of a research component (normally twelve credit points) which would also make students eligible for postgraduate awards (APAs and UPAs).

Professor Hancock thanked Professor McCallum for his work on the Postgraduate Rule but asked whether the proposed requirements would match the criteria for courses to be eligible for Austudy. Professor McCallum advised that this should be the case but agreed to check this issue again.

Associate Professor Shields also thanked Professor McCallum, particularly for his consultative approach. He noted that there was some concern in the Faculty of Economics and Business that the definitions for the professional masters and advanced learning masters did not cover some masters designed for changes in career but not for professional accreditation (e.g. the Master of Commerce and the Executive Master of Business Administration). Professor McCallum agreed that this was a concern shared with the Faculty of Law, and that such courses could be viewed in either category. He added that the key for describing a course as professional was accreditation or recognition, which could apply to the sort of course described by Professor Shields.

Ms Kumar queried the transitional arrangements in clause 28 and suggested they should specifically allow currently enrolled students to complete a course under the current resolutions or transfer to the new resolutions. Professor McCallum agreed and suggested using clause 25.2 from the existing rule to create a new clause 28.3.

Members approved the proposed amendments.

Resolution 32/09

That the Academic Board recommend that Senate approve the amendments to the *University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended)*, with effect from 1 June 2010 as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend that Senate approve the amendments to the *University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended)*, with effect from 1 June 2010.

File No. (PD7)

5.3.2 2008 Annual Report of Academic Board Activities

The Chair noted that this report would also be sent to Senate for its advice. He thanked everyone who had assisted with the Board's work in 2008, noting it was voluntary work and deeply appreciated.

Resolution 33/09

That the Academic Board note the 2008 Annual Report of Academic Board activities, as set out in the report presented.

5.3.3 Academic Board Membership for 2009

The Chair advised that, in addition to the appointment of Associate Professor Anne Dunn to fill the casual vacancy caused by Dr Gaynor Macdonald's resignation, the following amendments to the membership of the Academic Board had been submitted:

- Dr Ruth Phillips to replace Professor Robyn Ewing as an academic staff representative of the Faculty of Education and Social Work; and
- Associate Professor Louise Chappell, Dr Nijmeh Hajjar and Dr Dirk Moses to replace Drs Kathryn Crameri, Peter Marks and Richard Stanton for the period 1 July 2009 to 31 December 2009.

He pointed that all of the above changes to membership are for the period ending 31 December 2009. A fresh round of elections for faculty academic staff representatives will be held in Semester 2 for the period 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2011.

Members approved these appointments.

Resolution 34/09

That the Academic Board note and approve the amendments to the Academic Board's membership, as set out in the report presented.

Action: Executive Officer to update the Academic Board's membership list.

5.3.4 Chairs of Academic Board Standing Committees

The Chair advised members that he was currently seeking chairs for the Learning and Teaching Committee and Research and Research Training Committee, and that it was proving difficult to find high calibre people who were willing to take on the extra work involved with chairing a committee. He had particularly hoped to identify senior female academics to chair both committees, and he indicated that the Academic Board needed to do more work on succession planning and to provide opportunities for female academics. He noted that committee chairs were normally Level D or Level E academics, and suggested that this rule could be relaxed. With regard to the Learning and Teaching Committee he advised that he was nominating Professor Tony Asproumorgos from the Faculty of Economics and Business to chair the committee. Members endorsed the Chair's nomination.

Professor White queried the mechanism for the appointment of chairs, suggesting in future that the deans be contacted for their suggestions.

Resolution 35/09

That the Academic Board approve the appointment Professor Tony Aspromourgos as chair of the Learning and Teaching Committee for a term expiring 31 December 2009, as set out in the report presented.

5.3.5 Review of Academic Board

The Chair noted that the Academic Board had, at its last meeting, approved the concept of reviewing the Board as well as the draft terms of reference and membership of the review panel. He pointed out that it was possible the review would recommend amendments to the current membership of the Academic Board. As current members' terms expired on 31 December this year, and elections are to be held in Semester 2, any such amendments would need to be passed at the Board's July meeting for referral to the Senate meeting on 3 August. Professor Deryck Schreuder had also advised earlier in the day that he was no longer able to chair the panel, as AUQA is entering a period of discussion and negotiation with the Federal government.

He suggested reconfiguring the proposed panel to a smaller external group, and to ask them to review the membership as a priority, with any recommendation to come to the Board in time for its July meeting. Other issues could be the subject of a report submitted later in the year. He stressed that delaying the report beyond the July Board meeting would mean that no amendments to the membership would be made for another two years.

Associate Professor Fekete queried the need to amend the current membership structure of the Board. The Chair pointed out that one of the Board's roles is to serve as a forum for senior management and the wider academic community, and that the forum currently did not include heads of schools and departments. The proposed review would look at whether this group should be included as ex officio members of the Board, and how this would affect the current membership structure. The Vice-Chancellor pointed out that this group had day-to-day responsibility for implementing the Board's decisions, and their input would be useful. He further pointed out that a great deal of work had already gone into revising the senior management structure and committees of the University, and that it would be worthwhile continuing this momentum into the review of the Board.

Professor White agreed with this last point and asked what the proposed membership of the revised panel would be. The Chair advised that it would be Professors Carter and Harris, Dr Jeanette Baird from AUQA and Ms Anderson. He expressed his thanks to all those who had offered their time to the original panel, and added that Dr Baird had written the definitive paper on Academic Boards in Australian universities. Mr White expressed concern that the revised panel would not include a student representative. The Chair pointed out that there would be no current member of the Academic Board, staff or student, on the revised panel, but members would be encouraged to make submissions and would have the final say on any recommendations. Mr White countered that a student representative did not need to be an Academic Board member and that it would be good policy to include such representation.

The Vice-Chancellor suggested an alternative way forward: instead of using a review panel, a white paper could be developed for discussion by the Academic Board. He offered the services of his staff in developing such a paper. Professor Fekete suggested that any such white paper should be referred to the proposed panel for consideration and the development of recommendations. The Vice-Chancellor supported this suggestion. Professor Fekete added that the opportunity for people to make submissions should also be maintained. This suggestion received general support from the meeting. Mr White asked that any white paper contain a range of options for debate. The Vice-Chancellor suggested circulating a proposal to members on how to proceed, giving members a week to comment.

Associate Professor Masters expressed concern at the proposed amendments to the Board's membership, particularly the potential impact on the collegial nature of the board. He added that previous reviews of the Board had struggled with reducing the overall size of the Board while maintaining this collegial nature and representative structure. He also expressed concern that reviewing the Board by white paper would limit the sorts of issues that could be considered, raising the communication of Board decisions as one issue that needed thought. He suggested that, instead of attempting to conduct the review in time for the next elections, the Board discuss with Senate how a new structure could be implemented if one were proposed. He pointed out that alterations to the membership of both the Board and Senate had occurred in the past outside the normal election cycle.

The Vice-Chancellor argued that the Board's committee structure would also be an important issue for review, in terms of the recent changes to the structure of senior management's decision-making bodies. He suggested that membership and committee structures were two issues that could be dealt with quickly, before tackling other matters. With regard to collegiality at the University, he agreed that the Academic Board had an important tribunal function, but pointed out that the surveys conducted by Lipman Hearn as part of the Brand Project indicated that many staff and students did not feel engaged with the University. He added that he was committed to clarifying for these people how and where the University's decisions are made, what bodies are involved, what the functions of such bodies are and how people can get involved.

Professor Bennett suggested that a series of white papers could be developed looking at a range of themes, and stressed the need for the Board to be realistic about what it wished to achieve. Professor Armstrong suggested that the Board should look at the relationship between its committees and those recently formed by the Senior Executive Group, and supported the idea of the Vice-Chancellor presenting a background paper on the new management structure. Professor Hancock and Professor Day also expressed support for this suggestion, while Professor Garton supported the concept of a range of white papers, suggesting that the proposed white paper on membership and committees structure could go to a committee of advice together with submissions from Board members. If a particular point regarding membership arose which requires further

discussion, the Board could then discuss possible timelines and strategies with Senate.

Professor Fekete asked whether or not the Board needed to rescind its decision from the March meeting. This motion was put to the Board and carried. The Chair offered to circulate details for the process of preparing the white paper and a timeline for submissions following the meeting. The Vice-Chancellor suggested that any call for submissions should call quickly, with respondents given the option of providing open or confidential comment. He again offered for his staff to develop the initial white paper as a starting point for discussion at the Board. There was general agreement from members for the proposed amendments to the planned review of the Academic Board.

Resolution 36/09

That the Academic Board note the Chair's report on the review of the Academic Board, as set out in the report presented.

★ 6. **Report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal**

6.1 **Report on Senate Matters**

6.1.1 **Report of the Senate meeting held on 16 March 2009**

The Vice-Chancellor noted that the report of this meeting had been circulated with the agenda.

Resolution 37/09

That the Academic Board note the report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal on matters considered by Senate at its meeting held on 16 March 2009.

6.2 **General Report**

The Vice-Chancellor provided some general advice to the Academic Board regarding the University's 2008 financial report. He also noted that the development of the University's next Strategic Plan would need to commence soon, and advised that he would speak further at future meetings on the relevant processes. In terms of recent discussions at the Senior Executive Group he made the following points:

- the criteria for honorary awards were being revised and tightened up;
- the Vice-Chancellor's awards were also being revised: the number of awards would be maintained, but third party nominations will be introduced, and the teaching awards would focus on awarding great teaching teams and those teachers who develop excellent teaching processes and systems;
- the University's Code of Conduct is currently being reviewed; and
- the 2009 Capital Infrastructure Services budget is being discussed with faculties to determine which infrastructure projects should proceed and to look at competing needs; the Vice-Chancellor particularly noted that the current formulae used to make such decisions needed careful consideration.

Resolution 38/09

That the Academic Board note the report of the Vice-Chancellor.

★ 7. **Question time**

There were no questions asked of the Vice-Chancellor and Chair.

8. **Report of the Faculties**

8.1 **Report of the Board of Studies in Indigenous Studies**

8.1.1 **Amendment to the Constitution of the Board of Studies in Indigenous Studies**

Resolution 39/09

That the Academic Board recommend that Senate approve the amendments to the Senate Resolutions relating to the Constitution of the Board of Studies in Indigenous Studies, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend that Senate approve the amendments to the Senate Resolutions relating to the Constitution of the Board of Studies in Indigenous Studies.

The Chair and Faculty Manager of the Board of Studies in Indigenous Studies to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Constitution of the Board of Studies in Indigenous Studies and submit resolutions via CMS.

File No. (PD207)

9. **Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee**

(Professor Scott Kable)

★ 9.1 **Oral report of the Chair**

Professor Kable noted that many of the proposals submitted to this Board meeting reflected the recommendations from the 2007 Academic Reform recommendations. He added that there were a number of other proposals which would be reconsidered at the Committee's next meeting.

Resolution 40/09

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee.

9.2 **Report of the meeting held on 18 March 2009**

9.2.1 **Proposals for new and amended undergraduate courses**

9.2.1.1 **Faculty of Arts**

★ (1) **Bachelor of Political, Economic and Social Sciences**

Professor Kable noted that he had previously undertaken to brief the Academic Board on any proposals that had not received unanimous support from his Committee. He advised that the Faculty of Economics and Business had raised an objection to the use of the term "economic" in the proposed course's title, but added that the proposal had been supported by the majority of the Committee's members.

The Academic Board approved the proposal by a majority vote.

Resolution 41/09

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts to rename the Bachelor of Economic and Social Sciences as the Bachelor of Political, Economic and Social Sciences;
- (2) recommend that Senate:
 - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal,
 - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degree, Diplomas and Certifications in the Faculty of Arts, and
 - (c) approve the adoption of the new Resolutions of the Senate relating to this course, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000, and
- (3) note the Resolutions of the Faculty relating to the above course, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended); and
- (4) approve the faculty requirements relating to admission, units of study, the pass degree, combined degrees, the honours degree, specially designated streams and award of the degree,

with effect from 1 January 2010, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the Faculty of Arts' proposal to rename the Bachelor of Economic and Social Sciences as the Bachelor of Political, Economic and Social Sciences, approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degree, Diplomas and Certifications in the Faculty of Arts and approve the adoption of the new Resolutions of the Senate relating to this course.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Arts to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to rename the Bachelor of Economic and Social Sciences as the Bachelor of Political, Economic and Social Sciences and submit resolutions via CMS.

File No. (2009/5442)

(2) Bachelor of Arts and Sciences

Resolution 42/09

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts to delete the Bachelor of Arts and Sciences and the Bachelor of Arts and Sciences (Honours);

- (2) recommend that Senate:
 - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal,
 - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degree, Diplomas and Certifications in the Faculty of Arts, and
 - (c) approve the deletion of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to these courses, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000, and
- (3) approve the deletion of the Resolutions of the Faculty relating to the above courses, with effect from 1 January 2010, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the Faculty of Arts' proposal to delete the Bachelor of Arts and Sciences and the Bachelor of Arts and Sciences (Honours), approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degree and approve the deletion of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to these courses.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Arts to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to delete the Bachelor of Arts and Sciences and the Bachelor of Arts and Sciences (Honours) and submit resolutions via CMS.

File No. (2004/7828)

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(3) Bachelor of Liberal Studies, Bachelor of Liberal Studies (Honours) and Bachelor of Liberal Studies (International)

Professor McCallum noted that there was a related proposal for amendments to the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science combined degree and queried whether the Liberal Studies proposal should be deferred until it was received. Professor Kable advised that the Committee had viewed the Liberal Studies deletions as being related to the introduction of the Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Science. Professor Day concurred, adding that this deletion was not related to the proposed changes to the combined degree.

Dr Crameri expressed concern that the compulsory language study in the Liberal Studies degree was being replaced by elective studies in the Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and that a similar change had occurred when the Bachelor of Global Studies was replaced by the Bachelor of International and Global Studies. She queried whether the University was sending mixed messages by watering down the requirement to study a language in these courses. The Chair

noted that this issue was being reviewed by Professor Riegel.

The proposed deletions were approved by a majority vote.

Resolution 43/09

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts to delete the Bachelor of Liberal Studies, Bachelor of Liberal Studies (Honours) and Bachelor of Liberal Studies (International);
- (2) recommend that Senate:
 - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal,
 - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degree, Diplomas and Certifications in the Faculty of Arts, and
 - (c) approve the deletion of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to these courses, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000, and
- (3) approve the deletion of the Resolutions of the Faculty relating to the above courses, with effect from 1 January 2010, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the Faculty of Arts' proposal to delete the Bachelor of Liberal Studies, Bachelor of Liberal Studies (Honours) and Bachelor of Liberal Studies (International), approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degree and approve the deletion of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to these courses.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Arts to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to delete the Bachelor of Liberal Studies, Bachelor of Liberal Studies (Honours) and Bachelor of Liberal Studies (International) and submit resolutions via CMS.

File No. (2001/1449)

(4) Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) and Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) (Honours)

Resolution 44/09

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts to delete the Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) and Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) (Honours);
- (2) recommend that Senate:
 - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal,

- (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degree, Diplomas and Certifications in the Faculty of Arts, and
 - (c) approve the deletion of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to these courses, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000, and
- (3) approve the deletion of the Resolutions of the Faculty relating to the above courses, with effect from 1 January 2010, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the Faculty of Arts' proposal to delete the Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) and Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) (Honours), approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degree and approve the deletion of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to these courses.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Arts to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to delete the Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) and Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) (Honours) and submit resolutions via CMS.

File No. (2008/978)

★

9.2.1.2 Faculty of Science

Professor Hancock noted that the deletion of the Bachelor of Sciences and Technology and the introduction of the Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Science would not create a generic degree that automatically allowed graduating students to progress to a professional masters, and that these proposals did not constitute the introduction of the "Melbourne Model" by stealth. He added that he was in support of the proposals, but wanted to make this particular point clear. Professor Fekete queried this point, adding that a student who completed the science major in the Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Science would meet the admission criteria for the Master of Professional Engineering. Professor Hancock agreed this was so, but pointed out completion of the undergraduate degree would not automatically qualify all students for entry to the masters degree. Professor Garton added that the University would need to provide appropriate advice to students about structuring pathways through the Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Science.

Mr White raised concerns with the proposed deletion of the Bachelor of Science (Nutrition), and queried whether there was a trend to replace undergraduate degrees with postgraduate degrees. If so, was the University genuinely wanting to raise the level at which certain disciplines were taught, or was this a move towards fee-paying programs. With regard to the proposed deletion, he requested that

the Faculty of Science seek Austudy coverage for the Masters of Nutrition and Dietetics. He also asked the Faculty to reconsider the sunset period for the degree and to align it with the University's rule that students complete degrees within ten years of enrolment. Professor Day agreed to look into this last matter. He stressed that the proposal to delete the undergraduate degree had not been taken lightly, and added that there would be Commonwealth-supported places in the masters degree.

Professor Hancock noted that the requirements for the Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Science included studying no more than 84 credit points of junior units, and queried the inclusion of so many junior units of study. Ms Henderson explained that the maximum number of junior units had been increased because the course would include a stream of 36 credit points from liberal studies units, and students should be given a reasonable chance of successfully satisfying the liberal studies component. The increased number of junior units also enabled depth of study across the two faculties. Professor Garton added that the proposed course was replacing a range of other degrees and would provide a generic skills course.

The Academic Board approved the following four proposals:

(1) Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Science

Resolution 45/09

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculties of Arts and Science for the introduction of the new degree, the Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Science;
- (2) recommend that Senate:
 - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal,
 - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degree, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science,
 - (c) approve the adoption of the new Resolutions of the Senate relating to this course, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000, and
- (3) note the Resolutions of the Faculties relating to the above course, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended); and
- (4) approve the faculty requirements relating to admission, units of study, the pass degree, combined degrees, the honours degree, specially designated streams and award of the degree,

with effect from 1 January 2010, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the Faculties of Arts and Science's proposal to introduce the Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Science, approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degree, Diplomas and Certifications in the Faculty of Science and approve the adoption of the new Resolutions of the Senate relating to this course.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Science to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to introduce the Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Science and submit resolutions via CMS.

File No. (TBA)

(2) Bachelor of Psychology

Resolution 46/09

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Bachelor of Psychology;
- (2) recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal, noting there are no consequent amendments to Resolutions of Senate;
- (3) note the Resolutions of the Faculties relating to the above course, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended); and
- (4) approve the faculty requirements relating to admission, units of study, the pass degree, combined degrees, the honours degree, specially designated streams and award of the degree,

with effect from 1 January 2010, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the Faculty of Science's proposal to amend the Bachelor of Psychology noting there are no consequent amendments to Resolutions of Senate.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Science to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Bachelor of Psychology and submit resolutions via CMS.

File No. (2000/3528)

(3) Bachelor of Science (Nutrition)

Resolution 47/09

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to delete the Bachelor of Science (Nutrition);
 - (2) recommend that Senate:
 - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal,
 - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degree, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Science, and
 - (3) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Faculty relating to the Bachelor of Science,
- with effect from 1 January 2010, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the Faculty of Science's proposal to delete the Bachelor of Science (Nutrition) and approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degree, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Science.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Science to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to delete the Bachelor of Science (Nutrition) and submit resolutions via CMS.

File No. (003/0021/00006)

(4) Bachelor of Science and Technology

Resolution 48/09

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to delete the Bachelor of Science and Technology;
 - (2) recommend that Senate:
 - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal,
 - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degree, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Science, and
 - (c) approve the deletion of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to this course, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000, and
 - (3) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Faculty relating to the Bachelor of Science,
- with effect from 1 January 2010, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the Faculty of Science's proposal to delete the Bachelor of Science and Technology, approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degree, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Science and approve the deletion of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to this course.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Science to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to delete the Bachelor of Science and Technology and submit resolutions via CMS.

File No. (TBA)

9.2.2 Report of the Admissions Sub-Committee

9.2.2.1 Sydney Conservatorium of Music

Resolution 49/09

That the Academic Board note the approval of the introduction of flexible entry criteria for the Bachelor of Music (Performance), Advanced Diploma of Opera and Diploma of Music.

Action: The Executive Officer to the Academic Board to amend the Academic Board Policy on Admission to Undergraduate Courses and upload the policy to Policy OnLine.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to note the Academic Board's approval of the introduction of flexible entry criteria for the Bachelor of Music (Performance), Advanced Diploma of Opera and Diploma of Music.

File No. (P23, 2000/4196, 2000/4198)

9.2.2.2 Faculty of Economics and Business

Resolution 50/09

That the Academic Board approve amendments to the English language requirements of all undergraduate courses offered by the Faculty of Economics and Business and consequent changes to Schedule One of the Academic Board policy: Admission to Undergraduate Courses, to be implemented for applications for 2010 onwards.

Action: The Executive Officer to the Academic Board to amend the Academic Board Policy on Admission to Undergraduate Courses and upload the policy to Policy OnLine.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Economics and Business to note the Academic Board's approval of the amendments to the English language

requirements of all undergraduate courses offered by the Faculty.

File No. (P23, 003/0017/00010, 003/0017/00012, 003/0017/00013)

9.2.2.3 Flexible Entry Requirements

Resolution 51/09

That the Academic Board approve the new schedule for the Academic Board Policy Admission to Undergraduate Courses.

Action: The Executive Officer to the Academic Board to amend the Academic Board Policy on Admission to Undergraduate Courses and upload the policy to Policy OnLine.

File No. (P23)

9.2.3 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution 52/09

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Undergraduate Studies Committee meeting held on 18 March 2009, as set out in the report presented.

10. Report of the Graduate Studies Committee

(Associate Professor Peter McCallum)

★ 10.1 Oral report of the Chair

Professor McCallum noted that much of the Committee's recent work had focussed on the draft Postgraduate Coursework rule. He advised that the Committee would be establishing a working party to look at online learning and the related quality issues, particularly with regards to overseas students studying the University's courses off-shore and online. A further working party would look at the application of the policy "Identifying and Supporting Students at Risk" to postgraduate students.

Resolution 53/09

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee.

10.2 Report of the meeting held on 25 March 2009

10.2.1 Proposals for new and amended postgraduate courses

10.2.1.1 Faculty of Medicine: Master of Qualitative Health Research, Graduate Diploma in Qualitative Health Research and Graduate Certificate in Qualitative Health Research

Resolution 54/09

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Medicine to introduce the Master of Qualitative Health Research, Graduate Diploma in Qualitative Health Research and Graduate Certificate in Qualitative Health Research;
- (2) recommend that Senate:
 - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal;
 - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate related to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Medicine; and
 - (c) approve the introduction of the Resolutions of Senate related to the courses;
- (3) approve the faculty requirements relating to the courses;

with effect from 1 January 2010, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the Faculty of Medicine's proposal to introduce the Master of Qualitative Health Research, Graduate Diploma in Qualitative Health Research and Graduate Certificate in Qualitative Health Research, approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate related to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Medicine and introduce the Resolutions of Senate related to the courses.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Medicine to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to introduce the Master of Qualitative Health Research, Graduate Diploma in Qualitative Health Research and Graduate Certificate in Qualitative Health Research and submit resolutions via CMS.

File No. (2009/3914)

10.2.2 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution 55/09

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Graduate Studies Committee meeting held on 25 March 2009, as set out in the report presented.

11. Report of the Learning and Teaching Committee
(Professor Bruce Sutton)

★ **11.1 Oral report on behalf of the Chair**

The Chair advised that the Committee had formed a working party to review the recommendations from the report into the implementation of the policy "Identifying and Supporting Students at Risk".

Resolution 56/09

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Learning and Teaching Committee.

11.2 Report of the meeting held on 25 March 2009

11.2.1 Academic Board Faculty Reviews

(1) Review: Report Faculty of Pharmacy

Resolution 57/09

That the Academic Board note the Academic Board Review Phase Three Report for the Faculty of Pharmacy as presented.

(2) Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies

Resolution 58/09

That the Academic Board note the update report from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies as presented.

11.2.2 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution 59/09

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Learning and Teaching Committee meeting held on 25 March 2009, as set out in the report presented.

12. Report of the Research and Research Training Committee
(Professor Bruce Sutton)

★ **12.1 Oral report on behalf of the Chair**

The Chair advised that the PhD Review Working Party was continuing its work and was aiming to have a draft report ready by the middle of the year. The report would outline the PhD experience at the University and would recommend amendments to the existing rules and resolutions.

Resolution 60/09

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Research and Research Training Committee.

12.2 Report of the meeting held on 18 March 2009

12.2.1 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution 61/09

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Research and Research Training Committee meeting held on 18 March 2009, as set out in the report presented.

13. General Business

There were no items of general business.

The meeting closed at 4:12 p.m.

Signed as a correct record

Chair

Date