MINUTES

Meeting Open – 12.30pm

Agenda 1 – Welcome staff and students

David Squire welcomed the students and staff to the first BComp staff/student meeting of 2005.

Agenda 2 – Farewell to Laura Williamson and Welcome to Aleisha Matthews

Students bade farewell to Laura Williamson and welcomed Aleisha Matthews into the position of Undergraduate Studies Officer. They thanked Laura for her helpfulness and accessibility.

Agenda 3 – .NET subject Offerings

As a prelude to discussion on this item, Dr Ramakrishna expressed a view that students should feel free to bring up problems as they arise rather than waiting for student/staff meetings. Dr Squire supported this view.

The students voiced the opinion that Microsoft .NET technology should be given more of an emphasis in the degree given its industry importance. Students felt that they need more of an introduction of what .NET actually is, in other words the underlying framework. The current electives that teach .Net (e.g. CSE2030, CSE3030, CSE3211, CSE3210) duplicate the introduction to .Net but do not go into detail about the framework. It was suggested a 2nd year unit on the fundamentals underlying .NET technology would be very useful. The students felt that such a unit could form the basis for subsequent advanced .NET units, which could provide more material on specific aspects of .NET implementations.
Ms Hagan mentioned the rearrangement of all subjects next year and that it may be possible to introduce such a second year foundation .NET subject.

**Agenda 4 - Staff Access to tutors**

Students felt that it’s quite hard to meet up with their sessional tutors outside tutorials and consultation time. There are no specific rooms/times available to meet other than helpdesk time (and not all units run helpdesk). Mr Shimmins suggested setting up a room for sessional tutors, or CSSE tutor email addresses. However, Dr Squire advised that the email accounts may not be financially viable, and that tutors may well be reluctant to respond to individual emails or visits outside of the time they are paid for consultation. Dr Squire suggested that redevelopment of existing group feedback sites would be an option that may address this issue. Dr Ramakrishna supported this view.

**Agenda 5 - General Business**

Mr Carmichael commented that CSE3030 was a brilliantly taught and well run unit. He complimented Dan Eaves on his teaching methods.

Mr Carmichael also mentioned that he was very impressed with CSE3211, in particular the support provided by his tutor Evi Syukur and lecturer Nick Nicoloudis.

The students also expressed the view that CSE3400 was extremely well run and valuable. Mr Fernleigh mentioned that the lecturer, Andy Blucher, was a great help and was available for consultation at any time.

The students expressed a view that it would be very valuable to have another C++ unit in the degree which would build on CSE3400.

**Meeting closed 1pm**