

**Clayton School of Information Technology
Student/Staff Meeting No. 3 2007**

Minutes of the third Student/Staff meeting for the Clayton School of Information Technology on Monday 13th August 2007 at 1.00pm in room 135/26, Clayton campus.

Present

David Abramson-CSE4333, Daminda Alahakoon-FIT2006/BUS3502, David Albrecht-FIT2014, Nandita Bhattacharjee-FIT1001, Alan Dorin-FIT1002, Karen Fenwick, Maria Garcia de la Banda-FIT1008/FIT1015, John Hurst-FIT2022, Carlo Kopp-FIT1005/FIT2008/BUS3150, Michelle Leclair, Ian Martin-BUS3600, Rod Martin-FIT3102, Jon McCormack-CSE3313, Ann Nicholson-FIT1010, Sita Ramakrishnan-CSE4333 & CSE4002, Sid Ray-CSE3301, Margot Schuhmacher, Caitlin Slattery, Lyfie Sugianto-BUS2011 & FIT3101, David Taniar-FIT1004/BUS3112, Peter Tischer-CSE3302, Paul van Haaster

Victoria Colquhoun-2nd year SE, Robiah Elsaadi-1st year CS, Hong Yu Lau-BCom/BBusSys, Kunal Mamik-SE Hons, Dmitri Nikulin-2nd year SE, Jeffrey Parsons-2nd year CS, Rodney Perera-4th year SE, Jianfa Tsai-2nd year BusSys Coursework, Peter Uhe-BSci CS Study Area, Joseph Vu-1st year IBL, Michael Wulfsohn-3rd year BusSys Coursework

Apologies

Chitra Appalanaidu, Sue Bedingfield, Yen Cheung, Kirsten Frederiksen, Nicholas Meinhold, Mahbubur Rahim, Nasrin Rahmati, Geoff Webb

Ann Nicholson opened the meeting at 1.10pm, welcomed everyone and announced apologies.

Ann highlighted the action items document. Thanks to Michelle Leclair for doing the action item follow-ups and producing the document.

Ann Nicholson (1st) and Caitlin Slattery (2nd) seconded minutes from previous meeting.

FOURTH YEAR SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

- Internet quotas were extended.
- Paul van Haaster said it was hard to judge how much quota to extend as downloads were more expensive from other countries.
- Students want SVN client installed for Windows.
- Paul said this would not be a problem and just to log a HEAT request.
- Students would like access to MITS clubroom sink.
- Students would like the ability to add previously enrolled units on MUSO
- Margot said there can be open access units on MUSO but needs approval from Chief Examiner and at present MUSO units cease access at the end of semester.

- Students had not received their literature review marks as yet.

THIRD YEAR

FIT1005/FIT2008/BUS3150 (Dr Carlo Kopp)

- Assignment 2 was vague and expectations unclear.
- The Business Systems degree has changed a lot and some students are concerned as to what degree they will finish with.
- Ann explained that BBusSys and BBIS were 2 separate degrees, and that students would finish with the degree they enrolled in, unless they transferred explicitly from the old BBusSys to the new BBIS.
- Students were confused from old BUS to FIT conversion.
- Caitlin said that a lot of units had been replaced during the transition
- Sid advised students to check their transcripts and speak with their course director Sue Bedingfield.

SECOND YEAR

- IBL students on placement.
- Units are a bit disorganised in MUSO, there are too many folders.
- Students want pracs to be available in PDF rather than HTML as it is hard to save and PDF was easier for students to use on their laptops in pracs.
- Alan said that PDF was hard to edit especially for last minute changes.
- HTML was easy for academics but not for students.

FIT2008 (Dr Carlo Kopp)

- Students appreciate tutorial solutions.
- Students don't see value in tutorials and compulsory attendance.
- Carlo had feedback from his tutors that students weren't participating and therefore changed the rules to a hurdle of an 80% attendance at tutorials.
- Students say that tutorials are just reading comprehension of lecture notes.
- There is a concern that the hurdle unfairly penalises students who do their work and want to leave early.
- The official hurdle of 80% attendance is too high.
- To put a hurdle on time is unfair.

ACTION: Carlo to negotiate tutorial attendance hurdle.

FIT2014 (Dr David Albrecht)

- This unit is a favourite at the moment, students are enjoying it.
- Prac restrictions (imports on Java etc.) are strange and contradictory.
- David explained that he wants to use an array of basic libraries and to focus attention on the purpose of pracs, to understand concepts.
- Students want more clarity on the first prac.
- David said there were some ambiguities but demonstrators tried to clear it up.
- Ann advised students to use MUSO discussion forums regarding these issues before it becomes too late.
- Students noted that diagrams were displayed in colour in the lectures but were black and white on MUSO and colour distinction became an issue.
- Arrowheads became too small on MUSO.

FIT2022 (Associate Professor John Hurst)

- Complaint that in lectures there is too much of a jump between slides.

ACTION: lecturer to have more text support on slides.

- Students spending too much time on how Python works.

FIT2043 (Dr Kevin Korb)

- Everyone enjoying Kevin's lectures and he makes good jokes.
- Students would like lab material released earlier.

FIT1004/FIT2010/BUS3112 (Associate Professor David Dowe, from semester 1)

- Tutorials weren't adequate to cover enough material for the exam.

FIRST YEAR

- Students are concerned that FIT1008 should be a pre-requisite for FIT2014.
- David Albrecht (lecturer for FIT2014) agrees.

ACTION: Ann Nicholson to discuss this with course/unit leaders.

- Students want to know if the new CSSE IBL program will be offered to students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science with a Computer Science major.
- The answer was no, as there are not enough units in the Computer Science major and there was not enough pre-requisite knowledge.
- The School however is looking at an option for IBL for the Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Computer Science double degree.
- Ann advised that there will be an information session in the next few weeks for the CSSE IBL program (update: August 27th, 5pm, S1, Blg 25)

FIT1008/FIT1015 (Associate Professor Maria Garcia de la Banda)

- Students without Java experience are struggling.
- Students are not sure about finding pairs in pracs.
- Are students required to do everything together?
- Maria said there was a document called 'pairs' in MUSO that students should look at.
- Maria explained that the reason for pairs was to communicate and train to collaborate with other people.

ACTION: Maria will change the pairs situation for next semester.

- Tutors need to encourage students to talk.
- Maria encouraged students to give her feedback regarding her tutors.

FIT1010 (Associate Professor Ann Nicholson)

- Unit is going well.

FIT1005 (Dr Carlo Kopp)

- Generally good comments.
- Students weren't aware that there was a textbook until week 2.
- There were issues with the bookshop getting enough textbooks.

FIT1004 (Dr David Taniar)

- No comments

FIT1003 (Dr Nasrin Rahmati)

- Complaints regarding lecturing style.
- Students feel they are not getting anything out of the lecture and are not attending anymore.
- Pacing issue: lecturer taking too long on slides at the start of the lecture and rushing through the end.
- Students feel there is an overlap with VCE IT.

FIT1001 (Dr Nandita Bhattacharjee)

- Explanations are hard to understand.

- Ann suggested to academics to ask students example questions to check for understanding.

DOUBLE DEGREES

- Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Business Systems students are confused about their progression with the unit transitions.
- Students advised that if they follow their course map they shouldn't have any problems.

ACTION: Check double degree students progression to identify any potential problems due to transition to new course/unit code.

The following feedback received via email

- The Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Computer Science double degree is a good combination allowing for further mathematic study for computer science.
- Need to introduce mid-year entry for Science/Computer Science double degree.

Meeting closed at 2.15pm

Next meeting scheduled for Monday 17th September, 1.00pm.