



**Clayton School of Information Technology
Student/Staff Meeting**

Meeting 2, Semester 1, 2012

Date & Location: Wednesday 2 May 2012 at 12pm in Building 63 Room 115

PRESENT

Chair: Sue Bedingfield

Assistant to Chair: Karen Nisbet

STAFF

David Albrecht
Karen Fenwick
Maria Garcia de le Banda (via
ph)
Daniel Horsley
Kim Marriott
Robert Merkel
Andrew Paplinski
Sid Ray
Margot Shuhmacher
Peter Tischer
Paul van Haaster
Geoff Webb

STUDENTS

Will Manning (BBIS1st yr)
Chris Bui (BBIS 2nd yr)
Zheng Gong (Eric) (BBIS 2nd yr)
Cameron Yan (BCS 1st yr)
Katie Dartnell (BCS 1st yr)
Will Lucas (BCS 1st yr)
Harmohit Sabharwal (BCS 1st yr)
Bianca Gibson (BCS 2nd yr)
Simon Cai (BCS 2nd yr)
Matt Gamble (BCS 3rd yr)
Remlie Ortencio (BSE 2nd yr)
James Hart (BSE 3rd yr)
Layan Domingo (BSE 4th Yr)

Thomas Moore (BSE honours)
Stas Likane (BSE honours)
Oke Ijala (BBIS honours)

APOLOGIES

STAFF

John Betts
Kirsten Ellis
David Green
Carlo Kopp
Ann Nicholson
Kris Ryan

STUDENTS

Stuart Lloyd (BSE 1st yr)
Daniel Sun (BSE 3rd yr)

1. WELCOME

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- a. WIFI – Prior to the wireless outages, it was noticed that the WIFI in the student foyer had improved, though sometimes it had problems logging in.
- b. Student feedback on moodle – The Student Representatives' emails are now available
- c. ECE2041 – Ann is meeting with Engineering staff next week to discuss. Please give feedback directly to her.

3. UNIT FEEDBACK:

SECOND YEAR UNITS

FIT2001 – Systems Development Yuan-Fang Li (CE)

Too much information on slides and inconsistent lecture and tutorial content. Tutorial content unstimulating (eg. Analyse one website =1hour) Monotonous lecture – a break in the lecture is preferable to finishing early.

FIT2003 – IT Professional Practice Kirsten Ellis (Ann Nicholson (CE))

Lecture and some tutorial attendance down but students are engaged. Fun tutorials. (Tutorials are also marked) Students would like more oral preparation for the oral assessments. Students tend to read slides rather than attend. Two hour, no break – prefer a break.

FIT2004 – Algorithms and data structures Reza Haffari (Geoff Webb (CE))

Tutor that runs Tues 9am and 12noon labs takes too long marking so goes overtime by up to 3 hours. Students are happy that he goes through the questions with them but could he use his consultation times to do it? Some students would like to get their lab work earlier by a week or so. Lecturer has informative annotations.

FIT2006 – Business Process Modelling and Workflow (Mark Wallace (CE))

Mark is enthusiastic. Assignment expectations differ between the tutors. Students would like additional questions. Lectures can go over your head. Detail level could be simplified. Tutor is good at explaining processes at the most basic level.

FIT2013 – e-business software technologies Stephen Huxford (CE Sue Bedingfield)

Consultation time only Wednesday and Thursday. Would prefer some on Friday -- lecturer not available but could use tutor. One rep would prefer individual assignments rather than 4 mark labs as harder to get an HD. Some students search the internet and copy code in labs (which the lecturer knows and says as long as it is understood.) Slides difficult to read when printed out. Would like a prelab quiz as preparation. Students' warming to lecturer's speaking style.

FIT2017 – Computer models for business decision making John Betts (CE)

Some students are not as familiar with Excel and find it a bit hard. The assignment is perfect and John always there to help when needed.

FIT2043 – Technical Documentation for software engineers David Squire

Studio rooms not working for groupwork as the tables next to the window with the computers are too small for groups of 4 when a person doesn't have a laptop.

FIT2069 – Computer Architecture Andrew Paplinski (Carlo Kopp (CE))

Information overload. The discouragement in students is now showing in attendance (~14) Too much in slides "boring people to death" in content. Tutorials are more difficult and time consuming than labs but labs worth more marks. *AP: Tutorials is exam preparation. Andrew will clarify their importance to students.* Contents of lecture not relevant to tutorial so hard to start the tutorial – can there be more examples in lecture so more prepared for tutorial?

ECE2041 – Telecommunications Arthur Lowery (CE)

Pre-Lab moodle test answers not released at all, not even the feedback of which answers were wrong. Some questions are vague. There is a stigma attached to being an IT student in Engineering, more amongst younger tutors. Lot of prerequisite knowledge assumed. Have to write a program in MatLab but haven't used it before and can't have it at home. It is only in Engineering labs. *David Albrecht: GNU Octave is a public version of Matlab. Paul Van Haaster: Matlab is in the 24hour labs.*

FIRST YEAR UNITS

FIT1002 – Computer Programming David Green (CE Stephen Huxford)

No negative comments

FIT1006 – Business Information Analysis John Betts (CE)

Good

FIT1008 – Introduction to Computer Science Maria Garcia de la Banda (CE)

No feedback

FIT1029 – Algorithmic Problem Solving David Albrecht (CE)

Tablet touch screen problems – DA: *will be fixed. Got feedback and waiting for replacement one.*
Computer/JAVA showing algebra is very good. Not all tutorial material can be covered in session – DA: *certain questions are similar problems. Recommended books coming up.*

FIT1030 – Introduction to Business Information Systems (Rod Martin (CE)) (Mary Lim)

Mary delivers well, but many students' attention is zip, so Mary ends up yelling to be heard and the students that are interested are bothered by the talkers. Good turnout to lectures, but they TALK.

MAT1830 Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science Daniel Horsley (CE)

Switchover of lecturer worked ok. Doug reviews previous lecture which is good, but takes too long. Could he condense it a bit? He gets off track and talks about his research which can be distracting. (as students tune out then realise he is talking about MAT1830 again)

ENG1061 - Engineering profession Kris Ryan CE

No feedback

FIT1004 – Database Lindsay Smith (CE)) (Maria Indrawan)

Caulfield unit. Lecture a week behind so people skip it because it is already covered in the tutorial. Students leave half way through lecture.

THIRD YEAR UNITS

FIT3003 – Business intelligence and data warehousing Daminda Alahakoon (CE)

No feedback

FIT3009 – E-business systems Vincent Lee (Md Mahbubur Rahim (CE))

No feedback

FIT3036 – Computer science project Sid Ray (CE) & Kevin Korb

No feedback

FIT3042 – System tools and programming languages Robert Merkel (CE)

Being taught to use programs SH and VI instead of VIN and BASH. RM: *VI can be used in emergencies. Shell-based material has been progressively removed each year. Some were removed last year. More again this year. And more will be removed next year.* Assignment: Students were stumped when not about C, but other languages. Eg HTML. Examples of using some of the functions would be handy. Would like a unit specifically about C language. RM: *There is discussion about this but there may be no solution. Lab marks: RM will clarify to students. To pass – attend class. To get marks – do the exercise.*

FIT3051 – Decision Support Systems for Finance Vincent Lee (CE)

No feedback

FIT3063/FIT4063 – Human Computer interaction Mike Smith (Judy Sheard CE)

Quite happy

FIT3077 – Software engineering: architecture and design David Squire (CE)

No marks back on first assignment, but you can run your assignment passed David in class so that is Ok. Assignments are easy but targets the right skills. Tutorials have a good attendance.

FIT3088 – Computer Graphics Peter Tischer (CE)

Very happy with unit. Aiming a bit low on the maths etc. PT: *trying not to lose people by being too hard*

FIT3140 – Advanced Programming Robert Merkel (CE)

Not getting assignment marks back fast enough. Didn't get Assignment 2 marks before Assignment 3, which was a continuation. Material repeated from past units, including FIT1008 prerequisite unit. RM: *Will talk to Maria.* There are some resource problems. People feel it is more planning than programming. More content about programming, particularly android programming, would be appreciated.

FIT3143 – Parallel computing Carlo Kopp (CE)

Labs – Carlo has put forward templates so it is now easier, but some syntax errors, and solutions easily found too. Tutor Chandana hasn't been able to answer some questions.

FOURTH AND FIFTH YEAR UNITS

FIT4002 – Software engineering studio project Peter Tischer (CE)

Really good. Nice if moodle had more assessment breakdowns like the website eg Keydates. *PT: Email Robyn with your request.*

FIT4004/FIT5171 – System validation & verification, quality and standards Yuan-Fang Li (CE)

Caulfield/Clayton unit. Lecture needs 5minute break in middle, particularly as if it is run audio-visually it is harder to concentrate. Volume can't be louder in 26/135 as then 26/134 tutorial room complains. Only 4-5 students attend in Clayton. Lecture needs more interaction. Ask questions. Tutors mark assignments in tutorial and go over stuff.

FIT4005/FIT5185 – IT research methods Geoff Webb (CE)

BSE – don't know how unit fits into course. Currently out of synch with the assignment that was due 2 weeks after research due rather than before. Nori is really good at teaching how to write a research proposal but he is duplicating information. Writing style required for the assignment was not clear.

FIT4010 – Advanced topics in algorithms & discrete structures Kim Marriott (CE) & Mark Carmon

No feedback

FIT4000, FIT4441, FIT4442, FIT4443, FIT4444, FIT4448, FIT4606, – Honours thesis, + extension units (Alan Dorin) (Michael Morgan CE)

Nori builds on skills, and told them what expected/assessed in assignment – Need an assignment marking sheet beforehand and the marking of the unit itself. Currently 6/30 students attend, with 3 x 3% assignments and tutorials not marked.

FIT4063 – Human Computer Interaction (Judy Sheard CE) Mike Smith

Ok.

4. **OTHER/GENERAL BUSINESS**

- a. Should we promote jobs recruitment from companies within the faculty? Would you like to see emails on recruitments etc (no vetoing though) (answer = Yes)
- b. 63/126 First year consultation room officially begins next week. All first year units will be covered by tutors at the lunchtime 12-2pm timeslot. Students deemed as at risk will be contacted and advertised to directly, but it is available for all first year students. First year consultations for specific units will also be held there.
- c. Guidelines for late submissions. Can it be clarified if an hour late= next day submission?
- d. More powerpoints/powerboards in the student foyer
- e. Firefox – Lab computers don't support firefox properly so opening pdfs crash it. IE is now the university's preferred program, but programmers need firefox to test programming. *Esolutions Ben Doubleday is approaching esolutions management with a "business working case" regarding this.*
Action: Sue follow up
- f. IT website is harder to use or find things. **Action: Sue follow up**

Meeting closed at: 1.45pm

Next meeting date: TBA