MONASH University
Information Technology

Clayton School of Information Technology

Student/Staff Meeting

Meeting 4, 2012

Date & Location: Wednesday September 19, 2012 at 12pm in Building 63 Room 115

PRESENT

Chair: Sue Bedingfield

Assistant to Chair: Karen Nisbet

STAFF
Aldeida Aleti
David Albrecht
Marc Cheong
Tom Hall
Reza Haffari
Carlo Kopp
Rod Martin
Ann Nicholson
(Jason) Kefeng Xuan
Geoff Webb

STUDENTS
Will Manning (BBIS 1st yr)
Stuart Lloyd (BSE 1st yr)
Remilie Ortencio (BSE 2nd yr)
Simon Zhao Xiang Cai (BCS 2nd yr)
Matt Gamble (BCS 3rd yr)
Layan Domingo (BSE hons)
Stas Likane (BSE hons)
Brendon Wreford (BSci/BE)

APOLOGIES

STAFF
John Betts
Gopal Gopta
Arun Konagurthu
Margot Schuhmacher
David Taniar
Paul Van Haaster

STUDENTS
Cameron Yan (BCS 1st yr)
Katie Dartnell (BCS 1st yr)
Will Lucas (BCS 1st yr)
Bianca Gibson (BCS 2nd yr)

1. WELCOME

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Within unit feedback

3. UNIT FEEDBACK:

FIRST YEAR UNITS

FIT1002 **Computer programming** Stephen Huxford (CE) David Green
No feedback

FIT1004 **Data management** Lindsay Smith (CE) David Green
Unit is fine. Assignment 2 just been completed and handed in. It took a lot of time to complete and students underestimated how long it would take, eg thinking XQLV is easy then finding the question is harder than they thought.

FIT1008 **Introduction to computer science** Graham Farr (CE) Aldeida Aleti
Going OK. Labs are intensive.

FIT1010 **Introduction to software engineering** Ann Nicholson (CE) Robert Merkel
Really like it. Lectures are not well attended but could be the timetabling (10am)Lectures are engaging.

FIT1013 **IT for business** Yen Cheung (CE) Sue Bedingfield
Good.

FIT1016 **Advanced project level 1** Ann Nicholson (CE)
No feedback.

FIT1029 **Algorithmic problem solving** David Albrecht (CE) Peter Tischer
No feedback.

FIT1031 **Computers and networks** Sid Ray (CE)
The unit is OK. Challenging. A lot of information to know and remember but the quizzes forces you to keep track and do the work. Lectures appear to be running behind, and some people are not attending because they feel they can self-learn more effectively. Lectures aren't time-managed properly with setup taking 10-15minutes so lecturer ends up speeding up through the latter part of the lecture.

SECOND YEAR UNITS

FIT2002 **Project management** Rod Martin (CE)
Lecture is hard to follow – not because they are too fast, but because they are not making sense. RM: sometimes they are technical, and so goes through those parts thoroughly. Lecturer will remind students to ask questions if unsure what is meant.

FIT2004 **Algorithms and data structures** Geoff Webb (CE) Reza Haffari
No feedback.

FIT2014 **Theory of computation** David Dowe (CE) Graham Farr
No Feedback.

FIT2024 **Software engineering practice** David Squire (CE) Yuan-Fang Li
Marking scheme for assignment one not given to tutor till after it was due so tutor couldn't advise students and will be late marking the paper. Lectures are OK.

FIT2044 **Advanced project level 2** Ann Nicholson (CE)
No feedback.

FIT2070 **Operating systems** Bala Srinivasan (CE) Carlo Kopp
Lecturer talks too fast. A suggestion by another rep is to keep mentioning it because he does listen, and he does slow down. Tutorial questions good but the rep's tutor Anwaar just reading the answer rather than going through it.

FIT2078 **Introduction to security** Nandita Bhattacharjee (CE) Bala Srinivasan
No feedback

THIRD YEAR UNITS

FIT3003 **Business intelligence and data warehousing** Dhananjay Thiruvady (CE) Sue Bedingfield
No feedback

FIT3013 **Formal specification for software engineering** Yuan-Fang Li (CE) Peter Tischer
Lectures have too much maths content – but the prerequisite is discrete maths, and, being from first year, students need to revise their maths. The Lecturer will suggest the Maths Learning Centre for students. Not enough information on Rodan programming which became a problem with assignment one. Yuan-Fang will note this for changes for next time.

FIT3036 **Computer science project** Sid Ray (CE) David Dowe
Questioning of direction/organisation of unit as week 5 what was wanted was released, and week 6 was specifications. Why can't use last year's specs? Clarification made, different projects therefore last year's specs not applicatable. The 3 academics had to correlate specs.

FIT3080 **Intelligent systems** Ingrid Zukerman (CE) Reza Haffari
Ingrid's lecturer style preferred but students may be they are still adjusting to new lecturer. Tutorial sheet not released till late evening the day before tutorial. *RH: Timetabling not optimal with 2 x 1hour lecture on Monday and 1 x 1hour tutorial on Tuesday. C*hange timetabling next time it runs. Not all tutors getting through all the material. Requests for more tutorial time*. AN By third year students are expected to work outside and not rely on tutorials to do their study. RH: Two hour lecture is challenging getting through all the material. AN: Restrictions on how many contact hours a unit can have so we can't change it.*

FIT3107 **Advanced programming for database applications** David Taniar (CE) Stephen Huxford
Students are having problems getting Oracle Form Builder 10G installed on their home computer as it is a Windows XP version, and the moodle instructions involving changing system settings etc to trick it to work in Windows 7 and Windows Vista that don't really work. The unit is tied to this software. Tutor unaware of this problem. Students should have consulted with him or David about this. For next semester, will look into VMware and/or upgrading to 11G Oracle.

FIT3136 **IT governance and strategy for business** Mahbubur Rahim (CE) John Betts
No feedback.

FIT3138 **Real time enterprise systems** Sue Foster (CE)
Feedback from students about the unit has generally been positive. There were complaints about being auto-allocated partners for the assignment though, as a few people have unluckily been placed with unreliable partners -- though Sue Foster has been dealing with this very well. Students feel that by third year, auto-allocating partners for assignments is unnecessary.

FIT3139 **Computational science** Arun Konagurthu (CE) David Albrecht
Unit has huge divide in student type so lecturer takes the middle ground, which doesn't appease anyone. FIT students haven't done Matlab and find it hard. ENG students have been doing Matlab since first year and find it easy. Some labs are easy, even for the FIT students. There should be a PDF on Matlab functions and non-assessible work so FIT students can familiarise themselves with the software more easily. The unitguide mentioned other programs (Mathematica, Maple, Sage) but only Matlab is being taught. Lecturer doing well. ACTION: DA and SB to talk to AK about software.

FIT3142 **Distributed computing** Carlo Kopp (CE) Asad Khan
Lectures too texty and labs unrelated to lectures. CK: surprised by this complaint. Needs more information. First half of the unit is about survey pact, and in the second half of the unit it is applied and so is more interesting. The unit is curriculum based. There are no good textbooks so have to do slides.

FOURTH/FIFTH YEAR UNITS

FIT4000 **Honours thesis extension** Michael Morgan (CE) Alan Dorin
No feedback.

FIT4002 **Software Engineering Studio Project** Peter Tischer (CE) David Squire
The rep understands there will be changes made for next year, with all of the important stuff on moodle rather than relying on the unitguide. *PT: has asked for feedback from the students on any further changes they could suggest*

FIT4007/FIT5181 **Advanced topics in information systems** Ron Weber (CE)
No feedback.

FIT4008 **Reading unit** Michael Morgan (CE) Alan Dorin
No feedback.

FIT4009 **Advanced topics in intelligent systems** Ingrid Zukerman (CE) David Dowe/ Reza Haffari
No feedback.

FIT4012 **Advanced topics in computational science** Jon McCormack (CE) Alan Dorin
No feedback.

FIT4441/4442/4443/4444/4448 **Honours thesis pt 1/pt 2 /pt 3 /final** Michael Morgan(CE) Alan Dorin
No feedback.

FIT5000 **Minor thesis extension** Michael Morgan (CE) Alan Dorin
No feedback.

FIT5551/5552/5553/5554 **Minor thesis pt 1/pt 2 /pt 3 /final** Michael Morgan (CE)
No feedback.

MAT2003 **Continuous Mathmatics for Computer Science** Tom Hall (CE)
No feedback.

OTHER/GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Common rooms for FIT students. Engineering has common rooms (with microwaves and fridges) for each year level, which is good for finding people in the same units and nutting out problems etc (ie Peer Learning). FIT only has the honours rooms and the open foyer level. It would be good to have at least a third year area. *PT: Common rooms and Peer Learning is the advantage of University over MOOTS.*

B. Request for a consistent use of moodle. Just annoying. Different naming conventions, different ways pdfs are loaded (within frame, autodownload and separate window) and different layouts. Eg Commoncore units eg FIT2002 – Clayton had different slides.

Meeting closed at: Next meeting date: