The 3/2007 Student Staff Consultative Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday, 22nd of May 2007 in room 203/Building 72 at 1.00 pm.

Minutes

Present:  A/Professor L. Kleeman  (Chair)
           A/Professor H. Abachi
           Dr. Francesco Crusca
           A/Professor G. Holmes
           Dr. I. Kaminskyj
           Professor Arthur Lowery
           Dr. Andrew Price
           Dr. A. Sekercioglu

Students Present:
   Ryan Alexander, Yalini Amirthanesan, Andrew Bonavia
   Anushi Kulasiri, Julian Lacis, Ahmad Sammour, Ariba Siddiqi
   Meaghan Soutter

Student Representatives:
   Ariba Siddiqi, Level 1 Mechatronics
   Ahmad Sammour, Level 2 BE
   Ryan Alexander, Level 3 BE/LLB
   Stephen George, Level 3 BE
   Wendy Ni, Level 3 BScBE
   Anushi Kulasiri level 4 BScBE
   Meaghan Soutter, Level 4 BCSE

Minutes

Lindsay Kleeman informed the committee about the new web page with the minutes of meetings and student representatives listed with email addresses. The web page is linked from the main “current student” section of the ECSE web page and is authcate password protected.

Level 4:
Some concern was raised about the lateness of the release of the thesis week 13 mid year interview schedule occurring on the Thursday before week 13. This will be raised with the 4th year thesis coordinator Jingxing Zhang and it was noted that this is released by the "Infinity" student project management group.

There were appreciative comments about the labs in ECE4086 being re-scheduled.

ECE4012 tutors were complemented on the nice explanations and help.

A general comment was made that the timing of the availability of lecture notes on the web was variable between units and students would like them available well in advance of the lectures and ideally at the beginning of semester. The staff noted
that this is fine for already established units, however in the case of units being run for the first time, this was difficult to achieve.

**Level 3:**
The following items were reported in complimentary terms and noted by students as praise worthy:
- LK's ECE3073 lecture examples on real time systems. LK reported that these examples will now be able to be compiled by students at home without the need for licenced software.
- TC reliability lecture notes in ECE3092.
- ML control lectures were well received, with good lecture slides, well presented labs that relate well to the lectures.

A discussion followed on the relationship between good web resources in a unit and lecture attendance. Some student representatives reported that there was a tendency for some students to skip units with good lecture notes on the web, particularly if the lecturer did not add value to the notes in the lectures. Other students reported that in some units with very comprehensive lectures notes on the web that attendance was very good due to the excellent explanations and examples offered in the lectures.

**Level 2:**
The question was asked whether ECE2062 would be better organised this year in terms of PCB manufacture, lab scheduling and lecture notes. DGH responded that these matters would be attended to this year and the teething problems associated with running the unit for the first time last year would be overcome.

In ECE2061 the feedback to the lecturers has resulted in improvements in the unit as reported by students. The "level of doom" (referring to some students feeling that they were headed for a fail) was reported to have subsided. The use of more worked examples in lectures by NK were particularly favourably received.

ECE2071 and ECE2011 were running well as reported by students. Dr Binh's lectures in the "old style" that discussed detailed worked examples from scratch were found to be really useful.

ECE2041 was also going well with the exception of a VOIP lab were there was a technical problem that is being resolved.

One student complaint filtered through to a level 2 representative that a demonstrator had given full marks for a ECE2041 lab where the student had not completed the lab and thought that full marks was too generous.

**Next scheduled meeting: 31 July 2007**