Student Staff Consultative Committee Meeting

The 1/2007 Student Staff Consultative Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday, 27th of March 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
Dr. A. Sekercioglu
Dr. Ahmed Zahedi

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

Apologies: Professor A. Lowery (Overseas)
Ms Ros Rimington

Minutes
A/Professor Lindsay Kleeman thanked all representatives for giving up their time for these meetings and introduced the purpose and format for the meetings, stressing that unit complaints should be addressed initially to the unit coordinator and that personal comments on individual lecturers should be made confidentially outside of the meeting.

Level 1
No comments/problems reported.

Level 2
ECE2061 reported as difficult to follow, labs hard to finish on time. Dr. Francesco Crusca to follow up.

Level 3:
ECE3093 causing anxiety among some students and the lecturer wrote that the unit would be "diabolically difficult" on the unit summary sheet. Comments from students centred around too much theory, too deep with too many proofs, too fast, more examples needed. Website great however with complete notes.
Double degree: lecture clashes with core units in different faculties last year. Not sure it was a problem this year.
Access to lab equipment in ECE3073 - some students find the labs difficult to complete on time and would like access to DE2 FPGA boards outside of normal lab hours. A comment was made that better organisation of the student purchasing of DE1 boards would be appreciated. Some considered the first lab in ECE3073 too easy whilst too much time was required in later labs. The suggestion was to make the first lab harder. Based on these comments, A/Professor Grahame Holmes will investigate whether unreasonable time demands exist in ECE3073 labs if they cannot be completed in the allocated time by some students. A/Professor Grahame Holmes and A/Professor Lindsay Kleeman to follow up with Dr. Andrew Price. Another request was for more demonstrators in some units such as 3073 where it was felt the 16:1 ratio was not adequate. This may have been due to a demonstrator being sick during this week.

**Level 4**
The teaching of ECE4077 was greatly appreciated by a 4th representative.

**General Comments**
ECSE help desk student helpers could not be found - this was due to the lack of distinctive clothing or badging. Perhaps the helpers should wear orange hats or shirts so that students can easily identify the helpers.

**Next scheduled meeting: 24 April 2007**