Student Staff Consultative Committee Meeting

The 4/2007 Student Staff Consultative Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday, 28th of August 2007 in room 203/Building 72 at 1.00 pm.

Minutes

Present:  A/Professor L. Kleeman (Chair)
          A/Professor H. Abachi
          Dr. Francesco Crusca
          Dr. I. Kaminskyj
          Professor Arthur Lowery
          Dr. A. Sekercioglou

Students Present:
Ryan Alexander, Yalini Amirthanesan, Andrew Bonavia, Stephen George,
Anushi Kulasiri, Wendy Ni, Ahmad Sammour,
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

Arthur Lowery discussed the forthcoming re-structuring of the academic staff with the reduction of up to 10 academic staff positions and noted that no core units would be affected. There was the chance that should staff involved in specialist electives leave then those electives may not run. Since declining enrolments were an important factor in the reduced funding for the Department this issue was raised with the student representatives. Some students reported that the teaching of BJTs in year 12 Physics was seen as difficult and a turn off for students to enter Electrical Engineering. Female students suggested that targeting marketing to Mac. Robertson Girls High School and other high performing schools in sciences. It was noted that 3/4 of the female representatives had a father who was an engineer. Also Civil Engineering was seen as attractive since it was "easy" and low contact hours.

A request was made for all lectures to be recorded in ECSE since other faculties are routinely recording lectures. Students thought this would improve our perception and survey scores. A round of discussion occurred as to the effects of attendance at lectures, but the student reps thought this was irrelevant and that students overwhelming would welcome ECSE lectures being recorded. It was mentioned that a radio scanner has been used overtly to record lectures anyway. Arthur Lowery and Lindsay Kleeman would bring this to the attention of the Department at the next departmental meeting.
The issue of air conditioning in the top floor labs building 35 was raised. Students were asked to report these matters to the lecturer who would relay complaints to the resources manager of the department.

Some complaints were made concerning availability of components in ECE2062 labs and preliminary work being returned too late to be used in the lab session that it was prepared for.

Also ECE4045 caused some students complaints about the lack of any tutorial sessions and the "endless proofs".

ECE3022, 4022, 3051, 3091, 2072 were all reported as going well with good student response. Some more Verilog lecture/tutorial material was requested in ECE2072 and this is being addressed.

**Next scheduled meeting: 2 October 2007**