Minutes
School Meeting
12.00noon, Friday, 22 April 2016, Weatherburn Lecture Theatre


1. Apologies
   Michael Giudici, John Lau, Tony Pakes, Tomasz Popiel, Cheryl Praeger, Gordon Royle, Michael Small, Matt Tuson

2. Confirmation of Minutes from 26 February 2016 and Business Arising from the Minutes
   The minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2016 were confirmed as a true and correct record.

3. EZONE UWA
   Vanessa Kirley, EZONE Change Management Lead, presented an update on the EZONE. This update was also circulated to all ECM Staff on 12 April 2016.

   FAQ’s are available on the EZONE UWA website (http://www.ezone.uwa.edu.au/project) and will be updated regularly.

   EZONE is a long term project so it is not expected that the renewal project will impact on this.

   The refurbishment to the Maths general office is expected to take place at the end of 2016 with the CSSE staff moving to the Maths building in the second quarter 2017.

4. Head of School Report (Lyle Noakes)
   Dr Snezhana Abarzhi has accepted the Level E appointment in Applied. There is also a level B/C associated with this position however this will not be advertised until Dr Abarzhi commences.

   Dr David Walker has accepted the Level C position in Applied and will be working in Michael Small’s area. Dr Walker is due to commence 4 July 2016.

   Whilst interviewing the Level E Applied candidates there was the opportunity to attract a couple of well-known analysts in Professor Valdinoci and his wife. The University offered
Professor Valdinoci a Level E position and his wife a Level C. These offers were initially accepted however they then declined due to an offer from another institution. They have been offered Adjunct positions here though by the Faculty which they have accepted.

Unfortunately the School will be losing Cai Heng Li who is resigning to take up a position in China and Cheryl Praeger who will be finishing at the end of the year. Cai Heng will also be offered an Adjunct position here, and it is expected (and hoped) that Cheryl will also have a continued association with the School.

The Faculty has set up a Masters of Data Science program. The statistics section will be teaching two units into this course. One of those will be an existing unit, the other will be a new unit. We also have tentative agreement from the Deputy Dean (education) for an additional unit for each of Pure and Applied which will probably come online in 2018.

In the coming weeks there will be meetings associated with the Renewals Project. Those staff members who may be affected will be invited to meetings with the Dean on the 5th and 6th May. The HoS will have the discretion to adjust SURF scores by 0.3 per unit in cases where real difficulties in teaching the unit can be identified. These adjustments will also need to be approved by the FLT. In recent times there has been an increased emphasis on teaching. In the Renewals process a staff member whose teaching is strong but their research may not meet the required standard will have the option of moving to a Teaching Intensive appointment. There is no equivalent for staff members whose research is strong but their teaching record is weak.

5. **Undergraduate Matters (Des Hill)**

MATH1001 and MATH1002 will be replaced by two new units next year. One of these units Multivariable Calculus will contain all the calculus material while the other unit Math Theory and Applications will contain the remainder of the material. Neither of these units will be a pre-requisite for the other.

Exams are due in today but we have been given an extension to Tuesday. Please have these to the office as soon as possible.

Although we will be losing two staff members we have 4 new staff coming on board. According to the ECM Workload Model this will mean that we will be overstuffed. One way to counteract this is to offer Summer School courses. This is one of the options that the University has been considering as it reviews the current semester structure. Another option to counteract the workload is to have dedicated units in first year for students majoring in Mathematics and Statistics.

In 2017 the School will be offering a new broadening unit which John Bamberg will be teaching. We are expecting approximately 30 students for this unit. It will be a Category A unit and all students have to do one Category A unit. There are currently 10 Category A units for students to choose from.
It is looking likely that mathematics and statistics units will be counted as broadening units within Science. This will mean that mathematics and statistics units can be taken as broadening units by science and engineering students.

The engineering major is being redefined and will result in students being able to take extra units. The Engineering schools are being asked to nominate for these units and many of them are recommending maths units. In particular the unit that Physics students take would be suitable.

6. Postgraduate Matters (Thomas Stemler)
Next week is the IPRS ranking. We only have one applicant in the ranking.

Thomas expressed strong concern over the plan to have PhD student travel funded from supervisors’ PGs rather than the School. The School has been providing funding of $2,000 over the course of their study to each PhD student for conference attendance. We were recently advised by the Faculty that this is not consistent with the practice within the rest of the Faculty and that funding which was previously given to the School for this purpose has in recent years been given to Supervisors instead with the expectation that they would support their students’ conference travel. For current students we can continue to provide funds from the School however for new students the funds would need to come from the Supervisor/s. As a member of the Board for the Graduate Research School Thomas provided information which indicates that the School is responsible for a certain amount of PhD student travel support. The School is currently following this up with the Faculty. Evidence suggests that it is the practice in other areas of the University for the School to provide these funds.

7. Outreach Committee report (Joanna Fawcett)
Nazim Khan organised for Peter Moyes Anglican Community School Year 11 and 12 students to visit on 21 March 2016. Michael Small, Nazim Khan and several postgraduate students presented sessions to the students which were well received.

8. Any Other Business

Meeting closed 1.10pm.