

Minutes of the meeting (CSE Teaching Committee Meeting 14/7) of the **COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING TEACHING COMMITTEE** held at 1:00pm on **Friday, 31 October 2014**, in Room 103 (HoS Meeting Room), Computer Science Building.

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**Present** AProfs R Buckland, M Pagnucco  
Drs A Blair, H Guo, E Martin, J Shepherd, S Venugopal

**Absent with Apologies** Profs A Sowmya, J Xue  
AProf F Rabhi  
Dr B Gaeta  
Mr O Tan

**In Attendance** Miss C Nock

Present / Quorum: 7 / 6  
Attendance Rate: 8 / 13

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## 1 APOLOGIES AND WELCOME

## 2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the CSE Teaching Committee Meeting 14/6 held on 19 September 2014 were confirmed and signed.

## 3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None

## 4 REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

Jingling Xue was not available for this meeting, so there was no report from the Core Syllabus Working Group.

Richard Buckland reported on the deliberations/recommendations of the Skills Syllabus Working Group:

- the Graduate Attributes for CSE graduates can be summarised as "leaders and innovators with a deep level of technical mastery capable of being effective agents for change"
- it would be useful to re-introduce academic **mentors**
- we need a **capstone course** for all programs (not thesis, but possibly integrated/replacing COMP4920)
- capstone course allows students to reflect on what they've learned, what they haven't, and rectify the latter
- a **passbook** for CSE students to log their learning achievements and collect samples of work
- the implementation of a passbook spanning the entire degree needs some work

### 14-7-01. Action required by AProf. Richard Buckland

Formally write up the WG Report with *recommendations* and present to HoS

## 5 ADVANCED MASTERS PROGRAM

Eric Martin presented his proposal for an Advanced Masters degree, taught via a sequence of new courses where all academic staff members would be involved and would present 3-4 weeks of material/assessment on one of their research topics.

Discussion:

- should there be a Grad Certificate for people who don't want to commit to 2-year Masters?
- what is the market? expect demand from advanced international students and local students
- MP: could we run several targeted Masters instead (e.g. Security)?
- EM: better to get *everyone* in the school involved to ensure that something happens
- MP: could any new courses somehow be included in ASB's new MBA?

**14-07-01. Action required by Dr. Eric Martin**

Present the proposal at the next School Meeting

**6 COURSE OFFERINGS**

There was no resolution on how to deal with the situation that reduced offerings of courses is impacting students without increasing teaching loads.

Some suggestions (for having more offerings without increasing workload):

- team teaching
- less lecture hours

**14-07-03. Action required by Miss. Cassandra Nock and Dr. John Shepherd**

The TC should determine what courses we can feasibly offer in future semesters and present this list to Jingling Xue for allocating staff to courses.

**7 ASSESSMENT REVIEW**

There was a suggestion that we introduce an Academic Review Committee which deals with courses that have poor ratings.

It was decided that this could be handled by the Teaching Committee (noting courses) and the HoS (following up on actions to be taken to improve them).

JAS: would prefer a Star Chamber

MP: perhaps as well as focussing on courses with poor ratings, we should reward LICs of courses with exceptionally good ratings (e.g. CSE Teaching Award/Commendation).

**8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Eric Martin noted that he was revising COMP9021 to use Python instead of C.

Advantages:

- Python easier to learn for students in an introductory programming course
- Python makes it easier to design interesting exercises (e.g. using graphics)
- course might be more attractive to non-CSE Masters students

**9 NEXT MEETING**