School of Computer Science and Engineering
Education Committee Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday, 7 July 2023

PRESENT:

John Shepherd (Chair)	Andrew Taylor
Arcot Sowmya	Paul Hunter
Tina Tuomikoski	Rahat Masood
Yuchao Jiang	Dong Wen
Yulei Sui	Rachid Hamadi
Alan Blair	Changwei Zou
Armin Chitizadeh	Sapna Patel
Abiram Nadarajah	Michael Thielscher
Oliver Diessel	Basem Suleiman
Bruno Gaeta	Sushmita Ruj
Sara Ballouz	Hayden Smith
Raymond Louie	Wayne Wobcke
Sasha Vassar	Imran Razzak
Raymond Wong	Sanjay Jha
Richard Buckland	Raveen de Silva
Kevin Elphinstone	Sebastian Sequoiah-Grayson
Eric Martin	Sebastian Kandi
Jake Renzella	Nicola Kwan
Dong Gong	Xiaoyang Wang

APOLOGIES: Fethi Rabhi, Salil Kanhere, Wen Hu

1. OPENING OF MEETING

The Chair opened the meeting at 11:05 am.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Committee considered the minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2023.

Resolution:
The Committee confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2023 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3. REVIEW OF ACTION SHEET

The Committee discussed open action items from the meeting held on 25 May 2023.

4. ITEMS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Nil

5. ITEMS FOR DECISION

5.1 New Course: Software Security Analysis and Verification

The new proposed is designed to be one of the electives for the new cybersecurity master program. It will be coordinated by Salil Kanhere and available to student from other specializations in the MIT program. The course's proposal summary is available in ECLIPS. RB asked how this new course relates to COMP6447 and Yulei believed that these two courses will compliment each other. However, RB believed further discussion is needed to determine the sequencing of this course in the student's progression. AS provided a few suggestions to consider such as

whether this course can be taken by high achieving UG students or not, core or elective courses, how this will fit into the new MIT program. AT raised the issue that this course may not be viable for PG only and encouraged to discuss it further with Richard.

Resolution: The Committee approved the course in principle subject to amendments and revisions.

Action Item: *Associate Professor Yulei Sui will discuss this new course sequencing, pre-requisite, and other related issues with Richard Buckland and other academics.*

5.2 New Course: Applied Cryptography

There has been a lot of advancement in the area providing the learning opportunity for our students. This course requires COMP9024 and COMP9020 as their prerequisite. Also available to UG students. SR has spoken with school of Math, Electrical, and UNSW Canberra to get their feedback for the course. RB suggested to rethink the focus of the course to make it clearer for students. AS completed the wide consultation done and suggested further talk with academics in CSE for syllabus design. SJ asked about the level of mathematic required in this course. AB and RDS suggested to consider other math courses as prerequisite.

Resolution: The Committee approved the course in principle subject to amendments and revisions.

Action Item: *Sushmita Ruj will provide a revision proposal of the new course to John Shepherd for approval.*

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

6.1. Bachelor of Cyber Security, UNSW Canberra & UNSW Sydney

UNSW Canberra has a new UG program in Cyber Security both the three years and honours. CSE though the Head of School and Director of Teaching has expressed their disappointment for not being consulted on this new degree where CSE has a strong continuous presence. Head of School encouraged everyone to review the proposal in ECLIPS and give feedback within the next two and the half weeks before it goes into the APBC. Three reasons for this action are:
1. Academic Governance Rule was not followed and since CSE was not *formally* consulted, it is important for the academic board to understand CSE opinion.
2. It is an education exercise in which academics can learn about program design and structure, cohesiveness, and potential collaboration because it supposed to have different target market.
3. Make sure that when CSE submitted the new program, it doesn't get delayed because of the existing degree from UNSW Canberra.

The proposal has a lot to cover so Salil has been instructed to lead this process, consolidate and provide feedback to the director of teaching.

6.2. 2024 Course Offerings

John Shepherd provided an overview of 2024 course offerings with some courses offered in three terms to spread out the number of student enrolled. There will also be an extra offering for a few courses, i.e., COMP2041 in Term 1 2024. JS also mentioned Michael Schofield and Johannes Aman Pohjola who will no longer be available to teach in 2024 (although Johannes can teach in 24T1) and will need academics to teach their courses. AS encouraged the committee to talk to people in their respected teaching groups about these opportunities. WW raised the issue of the timing to think about courses offering frequencies and 2025 course offering. AS assured the committee that she with JS and AT have been discussing this with more ads for academic staff to go live in near future. This will make courses available more frequently whilst trying to keep in line with the teaching workload.

6.3. Adding a new Ethics course

Sebastian Sequoiah-Grayson suggested to simplify the pre-requisite so it is available to the students in their earlier study – 2nd year in order to successfully mitigate the risk of graduation bottlenecks. This led to the idea to create a more advance ethics course as elective for students who wishes to pursue ethics in more detail and connect it with what they have learnt. AS suggested that the director of teaching should assist SS in thinking about whether the students will reap the benefit of the course in their early stage compared to their 3rd year as well as how the advanced course sits in the program sequencing. BG expressed his concerns that the new advance course will have issues with accreditation. SS mentioned that COMP4920 is planned to be the prerequisite for the new advance course but AS noted that late pre-requisite hasn't been popular with students due to program space and graduation issues. AT provided the projected high number of students who will take COMP4920 in 2024 and 2025, potentially causing a teaching workload issue if the new advance course goes on.

Action Item: Sebastian will need to consult with John about his proposal.

ITEMS FOR NOTING AND INFORMATION

6.1. Report(s) from Committees outside CSE
Faculty education committee – The MIT cyber security specialisation proposal has been sent to Canberra to be commented before it goes to the APC. The difference in this program will be the exposure to research where students in the cyber major will do a cyber security project. This specialisation is envisaged to be temporary, until the masters and bachelor cyber security degrees are available.

6.2 ECLIPS, ECOS, Data Cleansing and CSE Course Outlines
Deadline July 15th to fix the course outlines, focus on course aims, CLOs using appropriate words from Blooms Taxonomy if it's an advanced level course.

6.3. Report on UNSW Online
Recurrent issue with not enough teaching staff especially when dealing with courses involving two and three faculties.

6.4. Generative AI in CSE
SS spoke briefly about this. (Paul Hunter had originally wanted talk about this but had to leave early.) The topic was about generating answers using AI for assessment. Individual convenors should consider this to identify points of concerns or opportunities.

DR JOHN SHEPHERD
Chair

Action Items	Responsible by
Discuss the new course - Software Security Analysis and Verification sequencing, prequisite, and other related issues with Richard Buckland and other academics.	Yulei Sui
Provide a revised proposal for course Applied Cryptography	Sushmita Ruj
Consult COMP4920 proposal	Sebastian Sequoiah-Grayson

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