MINUTES OF THE BACHELOR OF ARTS BOARD OF STUDIES MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, 2ND APRIL 2013 AT 10AM IN THE CHANCELLOR’S ROOM

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF STUDIES FOR THE BACHELOR OF ARTS
Deputy Vice-Chancellor’s (Education) Nominee as Chair (Winthrop Professor Alan Dench)
Dean, Coursework Studies (Winthrop Professor Grady Venville)
Academic Board Chair Nominee (Dr Neil O’Sullivan)
Dean, Faculty of Arts Nominee (Professor Ian Saunders)
Dean, Faculty of Education Nominee (Professor Simon Clarke)
Dean, Faculty of Law Nominee (Winthrop Professor Peter Handford)
Registrar’s Nominee (Mr Jon Stubbs)
President of the Guild of Undergraduates (Mr Cameron Barnes)

OBSERVER
Mr Marc Padros Goossens (Project Officer, Academic Policy Services)

APOLOGIES
Dean, Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Visual Arts Nominee (Associate Professor Darren Jorgensen)
Dean, Faculty of Business Nominee (Winthrop Professor Rob Lambert)

WELCOME
The Chair welcomed members, including the following new members, to the first meeting of the Board of
Studies for the Bachelor of Arts:

• Winthrop Professor Grady Venville as the Dean of Coursework Studies
• Mr Cameron Barnes as the President of the Guild of Undergraduates
• Mr Marc Padros Goossens as an observer

DECLARATIONS OF POTENTIAL FOR CONFLICT OR PERCEIVED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
No conflict of interest was declared.

1. MINUTES – Ref F50113

RESOLVED – 3/13

that the minutes of the Board of Studies for the Bachelor of Arts meeting held on 7th August 2012 be
confirmed.

1.1 NOTING OF DECISIONS – Ref F50113

RESOLVED – 4/13

• That the noting of decisions taken on 11th September 2012 on items considered by the Board of
Studies for the Bachelor of Arts by way of a circular be confirmed.
• That the noting of decisions taken on 27th February 2013 on items considered by the Board of
Studies for the Bachelor of Arts by way of a circular be confirmed.

2. ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION DEALT EN BLOC

Members noted the following item as outlined in Part 1 of the Agenda:
(i) Board of Studies (Bachelor of Arts) – Constitution – Ref: F50114
(ii) Meeting dates in 2013 for the Board of Studies (Bachelor of Arts) – Ref: F50138
(iii) Induction of new members to the Board of Studies (Bachelor of Arts) – Ref: F50115
3. MODUS OPERANDI FOR THE BOARD OF STUDIES (BACHELOR OF ARTS) – Ref F50115

In accordance with the Committee’s practice, the Chair briefly outlined the role of the Committee and the expectations of its members, which are guided by the following University policies and practices:

- Principles for the Operation of Committees
- Rules for the Operation of Committees
- University Committee Members’ Code of Conduct
- The Effective Committee Member

It was noted that the “Information Package: A Handbook for Members of the Board of Studies” had been circulated to new members and had been made available on the web for reference by all members.

The Chair noted that the Board of Studies (Bachelor of Arts), as a standing committee of the Board of Coursework Studies, is subject to annual review by its members. Members had before them the review report from 2012, comprised by the Institutional Research Unit, and noted the following:

- That the Board had performed reasonably well with regard to managing changes and expectations as a result of the implementation of New Courses.
- That the Board had played an important role in facilitating discussions and negotiations across faculties with regard to new proposals.
- There was also brief discussion on the ways in which the Guild President or his nominee could contribute more effectively to the work of the Board.

Members noted that the 2012 Survey Report would be forwarded to the Board of Coursework Studies for its information.

4. FACULTY OF ARTS – PROPOSED NEW MAJORS

The Faculty of Arts resolved by R7/13 and R9/13 to recommend to the Board of Studies for Bachelor of Arts that the following new majors be considered for offering from 2014:

4.1 GENDER STUDIES MAJOR – REF F29286

By R2/13, the Board of Studies for Bachelor of Arts accepted, via circular, the concept plan for proposing Gender Studies (MJD-GNDST) as a new degree-specific major to be offered in the Bachelor of Arts from 2014.

Members noted that the proposed Gender Studies major has a 2+3+3 structure and that a number of units proposed as part of the major sequence had been already approved.

Members had before them the following:
- Phase 2 detailed proposal for Gender Studies major
- Unit proposals for the following:
  - GEND3902 Gender Studies Internship – Ref F50485
  - GEND3903 Screening Gender – Ref F50484
- Proposed new unit sequence for MJD-GNDST
- Mapping of outcome statements of units (approved and to be considered) with that proposed for the major in Gender Studies.

The following points were noted in the ensuing discussion:

(i) It was noted that the prerequisites for GEND2901 Sex, Bodies and Spaces and GEND2902 Men and Masculinities in History, which have been proposed as Level 2 core units within the major, had been approved to include the following phrase: “with the approval of the unit coordinator”. This however was expressed, by the Chair, to be highly irregular and inconsistent with the overall approach of the Board in ensuring that academic progression within a major occurred via approved prerequisites. One member queried whether it would be appropriate for the Board now to amend something that it had originally approved.
Executive Officer's note: Further investigation confirms the Chair's assertion that the Board would not have approved the prerequisites for GEND2901 Sex, Bodies and Spaces and GEND2902 Men and Masculinities in History to include the following phrase: “with the approval of the unit coordinator”. At its meeting of April 2011, the Board approved the removal of this phrase. Attached (Attachment A) for verification is an extract from minutes of a meeting of the Board of Studies for Bachelor of Arts held on 5th April 2011. The error will be corrected.

(ii) That the prerequisites for HIST2013 Medieval and Early Modern Women and MEMS2002 World Views: Religion, Gender and Society in Pre-modern Europe, though both units have been listed as Level 2 options, would need to be amended by the relevant discipline if they were to be listed as options within the proposed major. It was noted that the unit ANTH2405 Sex, Gender and Social Life currently has prerequisites that allowed it to provide a pathway for students to progress through the proposed Gender Studies major.

(iii) It was noted that the assessment statements for GEND3902 Gender Studies Internship and GEND3903 Screening Gender read as follows: “Assessment details are advised in the unit outline”. It was agreed that this statement when published in the handbook might not provide enough information to students. It was therefore, suggested that the assessment statements for these units be written broadly with a view to including reference to the forms of assessment to be used and providing sufficient information to students.

(iv) There was broad discussion with regard to the provision of grades for the 2,500-word essay as an assessment component for GEND3902 Gender Studies Internship, and whether it might be a sufficient ‘discriminator’ to determine an overall percentage mark/grade for the unit. It was agreed that the proposed grading scheme of ungraded pass or ungraded fail for GEND3902 Gender Studies Internship was in line with the University Policy on Ungraded Passes and Ungraded Fails.

RESOLVED – 5/13

to recommend to the Board of Coursework Studies that the Gender Studies major (MJD-GNDST) proposal for offering in the BA from 2014 be approved, subject to addressing the feedback provided in (i) – (iii), as minuted above.

4.2 KOREAN STUDIES MAJOR – REF F50486

By R1/13, the Board of Studies for Bachelor of Arts accepted, via circular, the concept plan for proposing Korean Studies (MJD-KOREB) as a new degree-specific major to be offered in the Bachelor of Arts from 2014.

Members noted that the proposed Korean Studies major has a 2+3+3 structure and that a number of units proposed as part of the major sequence had been already approved.

Members had before them the following:

- Phase 2 detailed proposal for Korean Studies major
- Unit proposals for the following:
  - KORE2801 Korean Study Abroad – Ref F50151
  - KORE2811 Readings in Korean Language and Culture – Ref F50149
  - KORE3802 Korean Study Abroad – Ref F50152
  - KORE3405 Korean 5 – Ref F50147
  - KORE3406 Korean 6 – Ref F50148
  - KORE3812 Contemporary Korean Society – Ref F50150
- Proposed new unit sequence for MJD-KOREB
- Mapping of outcome statements of units (approved and to be considered) with that proposed for the major in Korean Studies

The following points were noted in the ensuing discussion:

(i) Recommendation 13 of the report “Education for Tomorrow's World: Courses of Action” states “That every undergraduate major include a demonstrable emphasis on enquiry-based learning and research skill development through direct engagement with the research culture of the relevant discipline. It was agreed that this has not yet been adequately addressed in the proposal.

(ii) It was suggested that the outcomes statements of all Korean language units include expected achieved levels of language aptitude with reference to the ‘TOPIK scale of proficiency’.
(iii) It was agreed that the proposed prerequisites for KORE3812 *Contemporary Korean Society* were too broad and therefore, should be reconsidered with regard to the kind and level of preparation required by students to undertake this unit successfully.

(iv) Clarification required as to how the proposed two study abroad units, each worth 24 credit points, are to fit within the proposed structure of the major. Given that there were only four Korean language units that could be 'substituted' for within the major (KORE2401 *Korean 3*, KORE2402 *Korean 4*, KORE3405 *Korean 5* and KORE3406 *Korean 6*), it was suggested that there was a need for only one study abroad unit instead of the two that had been proposed (unless each unit is to account for 12 points rather than 24).

**RESOLVED – 6/13**

that the Korean Studies major proposal be revised in line with the feedback, as minuted above, and that the proposal be resubmitted.

5. **FACULTY OF EDUCATION – PROPOSED NEW ‘CATEGORY A’ UNIT – REF F48322**

The Board considered a new Level 1 unit proposal EDUC1104 *A World of Mobile Learning*, for offering from 2014 as a:

- category A broadening unit and be made available to students enrolled in degrees other than the Bachelor of Arts; and
- Level 1 elective

The following points were noted in the ensuing discussion:

- It was queried whether students would have the sound technological abilities and knowledge to undertake this unit. What kind of help would be provided to students who might not have the appropriate level of technological skills?
- It was noted that the proposal does not explicitly state what mobile technology students would be expected or required to have access to, nor how the University was to provide for this.
- There was also broad discussion with regard to the implications of this unit for resources, particularly in the context of who would provide the necessary learning tools.
- It was not clear how this unit satisfies the requirements of a ‘Category A’ broadening unit as it does not adequately address aspects relating to cultural diversity.

**RESOLVED – 7/13**

that the unit proposal for EDUC1104 *A World of Mobile Learning* be revised in line with the feedback, as minuted above, and that the proposal be resubmitted.
EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF THE INTERIM BOARD OF STUDIES (BACHELOR OF ARTS)
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 5TH APRIL 2011 AT 10AM IN THE CHANCELLOR’S ROOM

7. NEW UNIT PROPOSALS FROM THE FACULTY OF ARTS, HUMANITIES AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

7.2 CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS AS OFFERING AS UNATTACHED ELECTIVES AND BROADENING CATEGORY B – REF: F31990, F31992, F31994

Members considered the following new proposals for offering as unattached electives and broadening ‘Category B’ units in the Bachelor of Arts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal ID</th>
<th>GEND1XXX Days of our lives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F31990</td>
<td>Proposal ID - 1046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F31992</td>
<td>GEND2XXX Sex, Bodies and Spaces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposal ID -1050</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F31994</td>
<td>GEND3xxx Men and Masculinities in History (Approved as ‘Category A’ unit in the BA – Academic Council R88/10)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In relation to proposal IDs 1050 and 1052, members agreed that the clause in the prerequisites list for each unit, which states that “or with the permission of the unit coordinator” should be deleted.

RESOLVED – 19/11

To recommend to Academic Council via the Board of Coursework Studies that the above listed proposals be approved as unattached electives and broadening ‘Category B’ units offered in the Bachelor of Arts, subject to above minuted amendment to proposal IDs 1050 and 1052.