The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Rob Castle, attended the first half of the meeting to discuss the following:

- The FEC’s role in the grants and awards process: more specifically, should FECs become more involved in terms of encouraging nominations, working together with the University to bring more funding to the Faculties, and improving the standing of the Faculties, internally and externally.
  - The DVC(A) encouraged the Chair to approach the Heads of Schools and get feedback on becoming more involved in the grants and awards process. The Acting Chair suggested the item be included on the next FEC agenda.

- Student Equity Fund: University Council has set aside $1 million in funding for equity students while at university. There will be 700 awards of $500 available.

- Student surveys: in the past, the response rate has been low and as such, the University has initiated a project to investigate why, including a “survey of surveys”.

1. **PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**

   *1.1  Apologies/Leave of Absence*

   Apologies were received from Prof S Bouzerdoum. A/Professor F Naghdy is on study leave.

   *1.2  Arrangement of Agenda*

   1.2.1 Items 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 6, 7.1, and 8 were starred for discussion.

   1.2.2 A motion to adopt the draft resolutions for the unstared items was carried.

   *1.3  Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting of 18 May 2006*

   The Committee confirmed the minutes of Meeting 3/06 held on 18 May 2006.

1.4  **Business Arising from the Previous Minutes**

2.  **REPORT FROM THE CHAIR – VERBAL REPORT**
3. REPORT FROM CEDIR / LEARNING DEVELOPMENT UNIT

4. REPORT FROM THE LIBRARY – ANNETTE MELDRUM

5. REPORT FROM STUDENT MEMBER – BOB BROWN

*6. PROGRESS REPORTS ON STRATEGIC PLANNING OBJECTIVES

6.1 QUALITY101 Working Party

"Improve learning outcomes and pass rates in first year subjects with high failure rates."


Dr Porter noted that CSCI114 had experienced an increase in the number of students receiving HDs, however the failure rate had not decreased. STAT131’s failure rate had also remained stable, while the number of students receiving Ds and HDs had doubled.

Dr Porter advised that an evaluation has been put into place for ECTE171. Baseline data is now being collected.

Dr Porter also raised the issue of sequencing of subjects and what can be done in the area of staff development.

6.2 Tertiary Literacies Integration Working Party

"Integrate academic and information literacy, language and learning support into curricula."

Ms Emily Purser advised that a meeting of the Working Party has been scheduled for Friday 7 July.

6.3 Dean’s Scholars Program

"Develop Dean’s Scholars Program across Faculty Degrees."

The Committee commented on the Dean’s Scholars Program proposal attached to the agenda.

Representatives from SMAS expressed concern that the BMathAdv is already in place and has a different focus to the Dean’s Scholars Program. Also that the degree may be lost if a Dean’s Scholars Program was introduced into the Faculty.

The Acting Chair suggested that the item be carried over to the next FEC agenda for discussion when A/Professor Fazel Naghdy has returned from leave.

ACTION: Dean’s Scholars Program proposal to be added to next FEC agenda.
7. SCHOOL ITEMS

SCHOOL OF ELECTRICAL, COMPUTER & TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING

*7.1 Major Amendment – Bachelor of Engineering

Minor amendments were suggested for the course proposal sheet:

- On page 1 – to move the tick in the Category of Approval box to the last category, "A major change to an existing course for which waiver of the ECAC requirement is sought".
- On page 3 – amend point j. to delete "13" and clarify that the final year subjects have been combined and modified.
- On page 17 – provide written evidence of the impact on other Faculties.
- On page 18 – in the Learning Development section, answer “Yes” to the question of “A subject with systematic integration of academic skills”.

The resolution was passed as follows.

Resolved FEC06/14:
That FEC recommends that Faculty:
(a) subject to consultation with the Library and Learning Development, approve the proposal for a major amendment to the Bachelor of Engineering (Computer, Electrical or Telecommunications Engineering) degree, and associated double degrees, to be introduced in Autumn 2007, and
(b) forward the proposal to Academic Senate Standing Committee for approval, with a covering letter requesting that the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Academic) waive the requirement for an ECAC report, as endorsed in the Course Approval Guidelines.

SCHOOL OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & COMPUTER SCIENCE

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND APPLIED STATISTICS

8 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND FEEDBACK

8.1 Language issues

The Acting Chair suggested that the position paper drafted by Ms Emily Purser be included on the next FEC agenda as an active item.

Ms Purser agreed to consult members and raise the issue for discussion at the next meeting.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 31 August.

Angelina Panetta, Secretary, 17 July 2006