UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG
FACULTY OF INFORMATICS RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting 3/06 to be held at 2:30pm on Thursday, 20 July 2006 in Building 19, room 2082.

PRESENT: Prof D Steel (Chair), Mr S Antoun, Prof S Bouzerdoum, Dr G Cox, Prof J Fulcher, A/Prof T Wysocki (for Prof R Safavi-Naini), and A/Prof M Zhang.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms A Panetta.

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1.1 Apologies/Leave of Absence

Apologies were received from Mr T Coltman, A/Prof T Marchant, A/Prof F Naghdy, Mr C Peden, and Prof R Safavi-Naini.

A/Prof T Wysocki attended for Prof R Safavi-Naini.

The Chair welcomed the new student representative on the Committee, Mr Shérine Antoun.

1.2 Confirmation of Minutes for the Meeting of 16 May 2006

The minutes of the meeting held 16 May 2006 were confirmed.

1.3 Business Arising from Previous Meeting

2. REPORT FROM CHAIR – VERBAL REPORT

The Chair’s report encompassed the following:

- The RIBG applications have been processed. Three out of the six Informatics applications were successful. The Chair noted that he would approach the three successful teams to discuss the reduction in funding granted.

- ARC Linkage Grants have been announced. Mr Tim Coltman was successful in obtaining a grant.

- URC Small Grant applications are due to the Research Services Office (RSO) by 31 July 2006. The Chair advised that he has organised a Q&A session for Monday 24 July 2006. Profs Salim Bouzerdoum and Fulcher will also attend. The Chair also noted that a special FRC meeting will need to be scheduled to rank the applications, as the next regular FRC meeting will not be until September.

- A HDR student conference is being organised. The Chair advised that it will be left up to the Schools to coordinate nominees to attend and that he would send posters to each Schools shortly.
• Internal deadlines set by the RSO need to be strictly adhered to. There have been several cases of applications being accepted after deadlines, which should not have been. The Chair advised that the University will not process late applications in the future. This message needs to be communicated more widely.

• At the last FRC Chairs' breakfast, the following issues were discussed:
  - The deadline for Honours Scholarships has been moved to 17 November 2006, which is later than last year’s deadline. Members are urged to encourage their students to apply.
  - New partnership grants and linkages: unsuccessful Informatics and Engineering applicants from last year are invited to attend a workshop to revise their applications. Members are asked to advise those staff working on linkage grants of the workshop.

• The Chair reported that he was involved in obtaining a successful grant, coordinated by ANU.

3. WORKING GROUPS
   
   For discussion

3.1 Postgraduate Research Coordination Standing Committee
   The Chair advised that the issue of the lack of postgraduate supervision training and guidelines has been raised by Prof John Fulcher in a previous FRC meeting. Prof Fulcher advised that he is currently in the process of handing over the role of Postgraduate Coordinator to a new staff member, and that this new staff member should be involved in further meetings of the working group.

3.2 Industry and Community Linkages Standing Committee
   The Chair reported that the working group has not met, however TITR have conducted regular planning activities. RIBGs have also flowed from this group.

3.3 HDR Student Recruitment and Support Working Group
3.4 Impact and Quality Working Group
3.5 Internationalisation of Research Working Group

4. PROGRESS ON RESEARCH STRENGTHS/STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

The Chair advised that the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) has initiated a process to reassess the research strengths within Faculties. This means that there could be a realignment/re-focus of the research strengths.

The Faculty has put forward three Expressions of Interest.
5. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business raised at the meeting.

6. NEXT MEETING

A special meeting to rank URC Small Grants will be scheduled.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 1.30pm, Thursday 14 September 2006 and will be held in the regular meeting room, 39.150a.

The meeting closed at 3.10pm.

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Angelina Panetta
Secretary
25 July 2006