**MINUTES**

**SCHOOL MEETING**

**1.00pm, FRIDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2012, MLR2**

**Present:** John Bamberg, Andrew Bassom (Chair), Tania Blackwell (Minutes), Alice Devillers, Nev Fowkes, Michael Guidici, Des Hill, Jenny Hopwood, Les Jennings, Kevin Judd, John Lau, Robin Milne, Kevin Murray, Alice Niemeyer, Tony Pakes, Cheryl Praeger, Michael Small, James Springham, Thomas Stemler, Lucho Stoyanov, Steve Su, Berwin Turlach, Song Wang

1. Apologies

Wally Andrioni, Ed Cripps, CJ Goh, Nazim Khan, Phill Schultz

1. HOS Report

Staffing – Welcome to Michael Small. Michael joins us as a Future Fellow in Applied Mathematics for the next four years. Michael Giudici has transferred from a Research Fellow to a permanent member of staff. Alice Niemeyer has returned from LWOP. Akos Seress has been offered an ongoing contract. Lyle Noakes is on Study Leave for this year. Lucho Stoyanov has agreed to be Acting Head of Pure for 2012. Gordon Royle is on LSL for three months. Susan Ballard will be retiring from the workforce with her last day being Friday, 2 March 2012. Annie Walker has moved over from EECE to join the Academic Services team in Maths.

PDRs – You would have seen from the email circulated earlier in the week that it is time again for PDRs to be completed. Les, Berwin, Caiheng together with myself will be the reviewers. We will run this as before. After the reviewers have received training I will send around an options list and try to allocate staff to their 1st or 2nd choice of reviewer. I will be doing those who are on probation or up for tenure. Any staff who are intending to leave or retire within 12 months need not go through the process but all other staff including postdocs need to have PDRs done.

I attended the joint AMSI/ACHMS meetings recently. There was a forum on how to keep Maths competitive attended by Government. We were told that Maths was important and the Government wanted to encourage it but unsure how that’s going to proceed. At the Heads meeting the state of Statistics around the country was discussed and that some sections can’t get enough staff or students. There was also discussion about ERA and what’s going to come up in the 2012 round. There may be some changes to Pure in future rounds as the peer assessment method is not popular.

There is a new national curriculum coming in. All states have been told to implement it by the end of 2015. WA is the only state which will start in July 2013. I have been invited to comment upon the year 11 and 12 curriculum next week.

I have met the new VC. He attended the Senior Managers Day at University Club and the Faculty Leadership Team meeting. The theme for the Senior Managers Day was how to focus on change. There was a lot of discussion about what was required – what the University wants to change and when they want to change it. The VC stated that he wants UWA to be a comprehensive University but if areas aren’t performing he has no qualms about cutting those areas. The Faculty will have a short time to sort out any problems within but otherwise the VC will organise for them to be sorted out.

Budget – The budget is controlled by the Faculty. I have been given a statement of this year’s budget. It is probably advantageous that the Faculty manages the budget as based on student numbers we are down this year. These numbers have mainly been lost in statistics which has been heavily affected by FLAPS units. There isn’t a lot of spare money available and that includes funds from the VC. The VC has also advised that a number of level E positions approved by Alan Robson will be stopped unless they have already gone to press.

Robyn Owens has been optimising the University’s ERA entry. Robyn expects that Pure will again get a grade of 5, Applied probably a 4, Computational Mathematics and Mathematical physics do not have enough papers so won’t be graded. Statistics will also not be graded because there are less than 50 papers. Thank you to those staff who contributed to the ERA Supporting Statement. It has now gone to Robyn Owens for editing.

There is the possibility of making some teaching only appointments as opposed to teaching and research appointments. The Dean realises that Mathematics and Statistics is increasingly going to have more bridging units and is considering teaching only appointments for these units.

1. Update on New Units

Summary

MATH1001 – approx 1000 students

MATH1035 – approx 60 students

MATH1038 – approx 400 students

STAT1520 (over two semesters) – approx 1000 students

MATH1045 – approx 170 students (used to have 630)

MATH1050 – approx 109 students (used to have 520)

STAT1400 – approx 200 students (used to have 550)

We are down about $450,000 in student income.

Moodle is the new learning management system which replaces WebCT. If staff have any questions once they start loading unit material up Des is available for questions.

The Faculty has introduced a new Unit Information Management System. It is being used across the University. Staff should have put their unit outlines up already as it will go live at midnight on Sunday. A lot of the information is pulled automatically from the handbook but assessment and learning outcomes details need to be entered.

Lectopia recordings – As per the email that came around the University will now be recording all lectures. Staff who don’t want these recordings made available to students need to advise the LCS (Lecture Capture System) staff.

1. New Masters Courses

Thomas Stemler provided a summary of the EOI for the new Mathematics and Statistics Masters course. Please see attached EOI for full details.

Kevin Murray provided a summary of the EOI for the new Quantitative Methods Masters course. Please see attached EOI for full details.

Kevin and Thomas are both available to discuss and answer any questions regarding these new courses. The Mathematics and Statistics Masters will start in 2013 and Quantitative Methods in 2014.

1. Any Other Business

The Outreach Committee had Shenton College students for a visit and activities this week which went well.

James and John spoke to some of the BPhil students. Some of these students are interested in doing some mathematics.

Kevin Judd advised there will be a Faculty research workshop on 20 April. An email will be circulated with details.

Meeting closed 2.00pm.