

STAFF/STUDENT MEETING
Student Pre-advisory session
Monday 31st March 12-1

Minutes of the pre Staff/Student meeting for the student representatives of Clayton School of Information Technology in room 115/63, Clayton campus.

ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES:

Present: David Albrecht, Jessica Foster, Boshen Brendan Jiang, David Zheng, Sean Gurney, Vincent Quach, Zaid Abbas, See Goh, Lau Hong Yu, Tim Ward

Apologies: Joseph Vu

WELCOME:

The meeting was chaired by Associate Head of School, Dr David Albrecht who opened the meeting at 12:10 pm and welcomed the student representatives.

David introduced himself to all student representatives and informed students as to how each meeting would be structured.

Students were informed on what was expected of them in their role as Student representatives.

ISSUES RAISED:

Consultation times posted out to all students:

Students felt they needed earlier knowledge of consultation times, especially when major assignments were due. This was to allow students to have time to organise themselves.

Action: *David will discuss this issue with academics.*

Studio Projects:

Students requested the possibility of having access to a server that was setup with all the relevant software.

Action: *David will discuss the possibility with Sita Ramakrishnan and Technical services.*

Changes to new subjects:

Last year students felt like new subjects were being trialled on them. This year they feel those subjects are far more organised and the subject matter is known by the academics.

Timetabling:

Students believe that most courses have large gaps between classes. Many students feel this is too long to have to wait.

Action: *David will discuss the timetabling issue with Karen Fenwick.*

Practice Labs:

Students questioned the point of the practice labs and why they were not made compulsory.

David informed them that it is so that specific units have access to computers with specialised software. It is not compulsory as all units are only allowed a certain amount of contact hours.

Students marked on attendance at tutorials, part of over grade:

Some representatives feel it would be a good idea to mark students on attendance. This would then ensure all students attend tutorial classes. Others believe it is up to the student to organise themselves and take care of their own education.

Workshops:

Students felt the workshops on software architecture and automated testing were really useful and interesting and would like more of them.

FIT1013

Students raised some concerns regarding Dr Ai Cheo Yeo's lecturing of FIT1013. Some found her difficult to follow and hard to approach for help.

Action: David will discuss the matters with Ai Cheo Yeo.

Automated Testing:

Students have suggested that the topic of 'Automated Testing' be taught earlier on in the course. They feel that having this knowledge is of more benefit when undertaking further studies.

Action: David will follow up the possibility of this with the Course Director.

FIT1003:

Students questioned the relevance of the unit content for FIT1003 and suggested the subject needs to be evaluated and re-structured accordingly.

David explained that the subject is currently being restructured.

Staff morale:

Students feel academic staff seem to have a more positive attitude compared to that of last year.

Lecture Theatre S5:

Students feel lecture theatre S5 is too hot and stuffy to work efficiently. The condition of the room is also quite bad.

David explained all lecture theatres are slowly being renovated and this room will eventually be done.

Action: David will contract Maintenance regarding the heat.

Building 63 C1:

Students have expressed problems with tables in C1. The tables close forward which causes them to fall over too easily. Due to this they are not suitable for students with laptops.

Social events:

Students stated concerns about the limited number of social events run for IT students and limited turnout for the yearly IT Ball. They suggested combining two faculties to run a ball.

Jessica informed them that the IT social club is being run again this year.

Action: Jessica will pass on to Joseph Vu who is organising the Social Club.

Internet Quota too low:

Students feel 1 GB is too little and they need at least 500 MB more, since IT students need to download programs and therefore require more.

Action: David will discuss this matter with Technical Support.

Windows Client:

Students have complained that the new version of Windows Client does not load properly on most computers.

David informed them that they need to supply more information on the matter so he can follow this up with Technical Services.

Lecture Notes:

Students would like access to hardcopy slides from Academics so they are able to add notes during lectures.

David explained that in the past this has produced a lot of wastage. When asked whether it would be possible to get them printed on demand, David explained the difficulty of getting them printed quickly.

Lecture Slides:

Students feel it is helpful that the lecturer mention what slide number they are referring to when they are explaining a slide. This makes it much easier to follow when listening to recordings.

Action: David will inform Lecturers as to this request.

Blackboard Layout:

Students have suggested that the structure of all pages for each subject should be standardised. Students feel this would make them easier to follow and navigate around.

David informed students that Academics will feel constrained and want the ability to add artistic flair, and that different students like different structures.

Students complained that PDF's added to subjects were sometimes randomly named. They want them named by topic or week so they are easier to navigate.

Action: David will inform lecturers as to this matter.

Students want better links to their units through student portals.

Action: David will discuss this with Margot Schuhmacher who is the MUSO Coordinator.

Damocles plagiarism program:

Students have expressed concern of limited feedback when using the Damocles plagiarism program. When some lecturers used this program students do not receive feedback for three weeks if at all. They suggested using multiple computers instead of just one.

Action: *David will discuss this with David Squire who runs the Damocles program.*

Meeting closed 1:05 pm