



The minutes of a meeting of the Department held at 1.00 pm on Wednesday July 1st, 2015 in room E8A 280.

Present: Refer to Attendance List: attached

1. Apologies

Apologies are listed on attachment B

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held at 1.00 pm on Tuesday 10th February, 2015 were confirmed as a correct recorded and signed. The motion was put forward by Jenny Donald and seconded by Martin Whiting. The minutes were accepted.

3. Business Arising From Minutes of Previous Meeting

No business arising from previous meetings.

4. Consideration of Exam Results for Session 1, 2015

BBE100 – Martin Whiting on behalf of Ken Cheng

- Used Kickstart for unit ,which included opening I Learn early.
- Happy with the way unit ran
- The failing students usually did not hand in assessments

BBE304 Marianne Peso

- Hard to make comparisons from 6 students

BBE305 Brian Atwell on behalf of Jennifer Clarke

- More HD's than 2014
- No fails
- Students were engaged with unit

BIOL108 Jenny Donald on behalf of Michael Gillings

- 27% failure rate

- The performance in short answer is dropping from year to year despite more and more hints being given each year, indicates students may not be engaging with critical thinking

BIOL114 Marie Herberstein on behalf of Matthew Bulbert

- Increase in enrolment
- Problems with Disability unit getting information on time to the convener
- Distribution looked similar to 2014

BIOL206 Adam Stow

- Distribution similar to previous years
- Enrolments were slightly higher

BIOL208 Martin Whiting

- 45 Few Students
- Results consistent with last year
- 3 or 4 students who never showed up for final exam
- Next year – introduce more quizzes so that students have basic exposure to multiple choice questions

BIOL210 Brian Atwell

- Fails were often students who did not turn up for pracs

BIOL257 Darko Spirovski

- Jenny Donald: High Failure rate for a 200 level unit
- Failing students do not reach the criteria to pass
- Assessments remain the same so no explanation of high failure rate
- Unit up for review in 2015 with a new unit convenor in 2016
- Only 1/3 attending lectures

BIOL316 Katherine McClellan

- Engaged students
- Assessments were altered this year.
- More students with higher GPA's

BIOL326 Michelle Power

- Only students with high GPA's
- Changing some assessments for 2016

BIOL345 Jenny Donald

- Unusual grade distribution
- 5 students doing it as non-award students
- 15% of students had major disruptions throughout the semester, spent a lot of time trying to support students.

BIOL369 Jane Williamson on behalf of Culum Brown

- Student attendance rate at lectures was low
- Final grade distribution was quiet good
- Students need to engage more with the content

BIOL373 Jane Williamson

- Happy with grade distribution
- Students did badly in multiple choice exam

BIOL379 Jane Williamson on behalf of Matthew Kosnik

- Lots of distinctions within unit
- Highly motivated and engaged students
- Peer review assessments leaves students producing better assignment with students being harder critics than lecturers

BIOL391 Marianne Peso

- Group of highly motivated students
- Lower number of distinctions
- Fails were students who did not hand in assignments

BIOL602 David Nipperess

- Cotaught unit with 200 level unit
- As of next year, won't accept anyone without having first year biology

BIOL606

- 2 students completing unit
- 1 Pass and 1 HD

BIOL700

- Convenor: Julia Cooke
- 8 Students
- 3 HD's

BIOL701

- Shell unit with students completing undergraduate biology units

BIOL711

- Students did really well
- Withdrawal was after census date

BIOL773

- Students were engaged in unit and were highly motivated

BIOL787 David Nipperess

- Decline in distinctions, jump in number of fails
- Students who failed were not Conservation Biology students

CLIM804 Frank Siciliano

- Had 4 students drop out before census date

GSE 853 Adam Fawcett for Georgiana Storey

- 1 case of plagiarism

GSE 854 Adam Fawcett

- Number of credits was higher than normal, lack of interest in discussion component

MAR 801 David Raftos

- 3 students

- Pretty good students

MAR 202 Melanie Bishop

- Flipped mode
- Poorer results than 2014 as in 2014 many 300 level students completed the unit
- 2015 more 200 level students completing the unit

5. Consideration of examination results of students who have requested disruptions

Jenny Donald: Understand that there are issues with the disruptions process, isn't an option saying that I will take this into consideration for unit results.

Send Mariella information on problems with disruptions process, included the request information for this (Tracker case number) so that these cases can be easily found.

Use academic judgement in regards to disruptions.

6. Discipline Cases

Discipline cases were seen from BIOL391, BBE100 and BIOL114
None from other units

7. S1 Prizes

Brendan Searle Prize – Proficiency in Unit BIOL206

- Mitchell Starr– SID 43167659

8. Farewell to Jennifer Clarke

M Herberstein: On behalf of the Department thanks and farewell to Jennifer Clarke who is returning to the United States after 6-7 years at MQ.

7. Close of Meeting

Concluding Remarks:

Julia Raftos: seems to be problems with students passing exams, students may not be engaging with the content or do not have study skills.

Plagiarism rates are improving, the message seems to be getting through to students in first year.

The meeting closed at 2:00pm

Prof Mariella Herberstein in the Chair

Date: 01/07/2015

Apologies (01/07/2015):

David Raftos
Mike Gillings
Culum Brown
Lesley Hughes
Tim Green
Kathryn Korbel
Georgeanna Story
Lorraine Hardwick
Kate Barry
Emma Thompson
Melanie Bishop
Teresa Potalivo
Henrique Furstenau Togashi
Simon Griffith
Grant Hose
Rekha Joshi
K-lynn Smith
Phil Taylor
Leanne Armand
Matthew Kosnick
Josh Madin
Matthew Bulbert
Georgeanna Story
Karen Marais
Melanie Zeppel
Ian Marang
Marita Holley
Elizabeth Eyre



Department of Biological Sciences
Exam Meeting Attendance



Date: 01 / 07 / 2015

Name	Signature	Name	Signature
JANE WILLIAMSON		LINDA BEAUMONT	
WADE TOLER		JOHN BAUMGARTNER	
JENNY DONATO		James Camac	
Michele Power		Julie Rallo	
SAMANTHA NEWSON		Darko Spirovski	
Alison Downing		Matthew Lott	
VERONICA PERALTA		Vivian Cumbo	
Frank Siciliano		David Nipperess	
Glenn Brock		Adam Fawcett	
Sharyn O'Donnell		Jen Hallinan	
Hannah Woodrow		BRIAN ATWELL	
J. Pellard		RACHAEL GALLAGHER	
MARTIN WHITING		ADAM NARENDRA	
Marianne Pesó		LAURA FERNANDEZ	
John Alroy		Claire Laws	
Nola Hancock		BEN PITCHER	
Katherine McElh		Adam Stone	
Julian May		Rob Harcourt	
Andrew Allen		IAN JONES	

