

DEPARTMENT OF OPTOMETRY & VISION SCIENCES

**UNDERGRADUATE STAFF STUDENT LIAISON MEETING
FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD YEAR**

MINUTES 01-06

**1pm, Monday 24th April 2006
Council Meeting Room**

Present: Prof Neville McBrien [Chair], Dr Larry Abel, Dr Andrew Anderson, Ms Anthea Cochrane, Dr Alex Gentle, Ms Alex Jaworski, Dr Allison McKendrick, Dr Andrew Metha, Dr Michael Pianta, Ms Bronwyn Thomson, A/Prof Trichur Vidyasagar

Student Reps: Loan Vu [Year 1], Jessica Perri [Year 2], Laura Henderson [Year 2], Julijana Baltinas [Year 3], Amanda Douglass [Year 3]

Apologies

Ms Jacquie Burnheim

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held in semester 2, 2005 were confirmed.

2. Matters Arising

- 655-201 Students were asked to give feedback on lectures. Coordinator didn't receive any so changes were made without feedback.
- 655-222 Prac rotation problem has been addressed
- 655-221 has been given more demonstrator support and the pracs pushed towards the end of the semester.

3. New Business

3.1 Quality of Teaching Surveys for Semester 2, 2005

Figures for Semester 1, 2005 were distributed and discussed.

655-152 Optics: From Rainbows to Digital Imaging

Lower Question 4 score than normal.

Students commented that when prac reports were given back to students that they were only given to one student and were not always distributed by that student. This was especially difficult as they were in random groups. Students feel that the random groups were not needed. Dr Abel will look at ways of improving this for this year.

Students would like more tests to get feedback and keep on top of studying.

655-219 Optics and Ophthalmic Metrology

Low scores overall. Students didn't feel that the subject was well structured and was disjointed. This is a once off transition subject and won't be structured the same way again.

Student felt that there was not enough demonstrator support – will try to address for 655-210 this year.

Students like that the answers to the problems were posted at the end of the lectures.

Students felt that where problems were worked through in the prac that it might be better to be done prior to the prac. Dr Anderson will look at structure of these for 655-210.

655-222 Visual Processing and Control

Low scores in computer based questions – Dr Abel to try and for more computer resources for this year.

655-351 Ophthalmic Lenses and Dispensing

Lower scores than usual. Dr Pianta suggested that this was due to his being on leave for most of the semester so the students were not given the introductory lecture and were unsure on what to expect.

Comments about how rushed Dr Pianta's lectures were. This was also due to his being on leave and will be resolved for this year.

Noted at 4th/5th Year SSLM

655-321 Practical Problems in Vision

Lower average overall. Students noted that there was a lot of difference between the guidance that was given from supervisors. Guidelines for supervisors will be developed for this year

655-351 Ophthalmic Lenses and Dispensing

Lower scores than usual. Dr Pianta suggested that this was due to his being on leave for most of the semester so the students were not given the introductory lecture and were unsure on what to expect. Students also suggested it would be good if they were taught auto-vertometer.

3.2 General Student Feedback by Year

1st Year

Students who are attending the multimedia sessions think that they are great and that the demonstrator support is good. However, students who aren't going are finding it difficult to keep up. Coordinators will look at possibly doing tutorials instead of multimedia session for next year.

Students would like a reading pack to be produced for 655-111 for next year as there wasn't one done for this year (just available electronically). This will be done for next year.

Students were generally pretty happy with all other first year subjects.

2nd Year

655-201 Anatomy and Histology of the Eye

General consensus was that there was a lot of content and the students were unsure as to what is relevant or not. Ms Jaworski to clarify with the students.

Students thought that the 5 minutes at the end of the slide exam was not enough to review. If a beep was sounded when the slide was changing that 5 minutes would be adequate. Will look at doing this for next year.

655221 Human Visual Functions

Students found the questions and answers that were emailed out after the lectures were good and a good example of feedback

Tutorial didn't work well as students had not prepared any questions due to having an anatomy test that morning and the students were concentrating on that – will try to address timing issue for next year

Students are finding Biochemistry lectures to be very good and Physiology to be ok.

3rd Year

Students wanted an update on the new lockers for them. They are on order and will hopefully be here in 2-3 weeks

Students will like a copy for their insurance policy for their equipment. Ms Thomson and Ms Cochrane to follow up with insurance company.

Students requested additional time in the pre-clin before the prac exam to review. Prof McBrien said that enough time was given during the pracs and that there were issues in trying to timetable and staff additional times. He will look at possibly trying to schedule one additional session.

655-341 Ocular Histopathology

Students complained about the timing of their mid-semester tests for Pharamcology and 655-341 as they are on consecutive days. Dr Gentle will look at pushing it earlier for 655-341 for next year.

Slides on the lecture notes are too small and difficult to see. This will be address once the subject has a website which has been held up due to Blackboard issues.

Dr Gentle expressed disappointment in the students attitudes to attendance in the tutorials as timetabled as students were attending tutorials they were not allocated to.

4. Any Other Business

Student reps were asked to attend a meeting with the architects working on development of the new Prac Lab.

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting is tba.