

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES POLICIES AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM ADVISORY GROUP

Minutes of the meeting of the LMSAG held on
Wednesday 30 July 2008 at 2.00pm in
David Myers Meeting Room, David Myers Building, Bundoora Campus.

- PRESENT:** Ric Canale (Chair), Marcus de Rijk, Lillian Austin, Fiona Salisbury, Kay Souter, Iain McAlpine, Robert Bassett, Jeffrey Barnes, Ben Ong, Shannon Kerrigan, Chris Campbell, Cindy Taylor, Shem Macdonald, Eileen Clarke, Jennifer Rogers
- APOLOGIES:** Caroline Walta, Anthony Jarvis, Aly Waterson, Jenny Masters, Katherine Legge, Bess Secomb
- SECRETARIAT:** Mr Marcus de Rijk

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

2 ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted, noting the correction that Diane Williamson was present at the previous meeting. Moved Lillian Austin, Seconded Fiona Salisbury.

3 ACTION ARISING FROM MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE

None.

4 REPORT FROM DIRECTOR, FLEXIBLE LEARNING AND TEACHING

The Chair presented the Directors' report (LMSAG08-12). Copies were distributed to members via email. Discussion sought clarification regarding point 5 in the Directors' report to the Learning Technologies Committee (LTC12/08): "Students will continue to have access to the LMS space until a final mark is awarded for the relevant unit in the Student Information System". Final Mark is an on/off flag set by Academic Services (AS) on an individual student basis – regardless of what the mark is, it shall be AS's definition of what constitutes a Final Mark. Question was raised regarding accommodation of access to units beyond a Final Mark. The Chair noted the importance of separating out educational needs and practices from what may be technically feasible and scalable. A possible outcome to be looked at is enabling access beyond a Final Mark as Auditor students for all students in an LMS space, to be enabled at the unit coordinator's discretion on a unit by unit basis. Question was raised regarding Student ID (student number) column and whether it's possible to set Student ID as the username – not an option as La Trobe uses Active Directory Usernames. Student ID column is a deliverable of the custom column project.

5 ISSUES REGISTER UPDATE, ALY WATERSON

Updated register to be circulated after the meeting. Notable development: from 2009 the Active Directory Username (which is subject to a 20-character limit) will be issued on students' Statement of Account, rather than their full name as is the current practice. This will alleviate incorrect usernames issued to students with a name greater than 20 characters.

6 WORKING GROUPS

Upgrades WG: No new business

Learning Resources WG: Cindy Taylor (Chair) reported that the survey seeking feedback on the LMS website has been prepared. An email seeking feedback from LMS users will now be sent out.

R. Canale
A. Waterson

Doug Oldmeadow has commissioned UniqStats reporting for the LMS website and will table a report on usage in a few months' time.

Jennifer Rogers will commence the role of Chair for this working group from today. Ric Canale thanked Cindy Taylor for her work as Chair on behalf of the Advisory Group.

Template guidelines: Educational Designers together with Aly Waterson have met and a report from the meeting is being prepared.

Stephen
Jones

Fiona Salisbury reported that the Library is trialling a subject guide project. This constitutes a set of library resources for 9 units, linked to from within their respective LMS units.

7 LMS REVIEW WORKING GROUP

The Chair reported that the LTC has asked that the LMSAG establish a working group to review the University's LMS needs and options with respect to choosing a new LMS or staying with Blackboard (ref Notes: Agenda Item 7 LMSAG08-11). Volunteers were sought, which include: Shem Macdonald, Chris Campbell, Iain McAlpine, Marcus de Rijk, Rob Bassett, Ric Canale, Ben Ong.

8 OTHER BUSINESS

Future of LMSAG – 2009. The Chair tabled for discussion at the next meeting an excellent idea sent through by Lin Crase regarding the concept of a local LMS support/reference group. This would possibly precipitate a repositioning of the LMSAG through establishing a distributed model of reference groups which are representative of Academic requirements, rather than maintaining the LMSAG which is more LMS-management focussed.

No other matters raised.

8 MEETING CLOSED 3pm

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, August 27 at 2.00pm, David Myers Meeting Room

CONFIRMED BY CHAIR _____

DATE _____