Upcoming Events

7 Dec  School Christmas BBQ Break Up
12-14 Deferred and Supplementary examination period
14 Dec Pre-Graduation Party
   When: 11:00am TBC
   Where: St Leo’s College

Graduation
   When: 2pm
   Where: UQ Centre

An Australia Without Hunger

We invite you all to be a part of “An Australia Without Hunger” in the annual Food bank collection to help less fortunate families and individuals in our community. Donations of the following kind would be greatly appreciated:

- Baby food – all types
- Nappies
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Rice
- Pasta
- Boxes of Cereals
- Packets of biscuits
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned meats
- Any other meals in a jar or can
- UHT milk
- Blankets
- Washing products
- School stationery

Or any products in your pantry you could part with – every bit helps! Please no perishable or out of date products and please no monetary donations.

If you would like to participate, donations will be gratefully accepted at the EAIT office between 4 – 11 December. Food Bank Queensland will pick up our contributions December 12. This will ensure the project volunteers have enough time to put hampers together for Christmas delivery.

For further details of the official organisation and their aim please visit their website: http://www.foodbank.org.au/about-us/what-is-foodbank/ (monetary donations may be accepted through this site).

Congratulations

Congratulations to Dr Ming Yan who won the 2012 The ARC Centre of Excellence for Design in Light Metals Best Paper Award (one of the three best papers, third place, $500) for his paper -


Congratulations to Kun Vanna Yang, whose PhD thesis was a runner up for the Centre of Excellence Design in Light Metals 2012 Best Thesis Award (Theses submitted in 2011-2012 within the Centre)

Thesis title: “The Origin of the Yield Strength in Thin Sections of High Pressure Die Castings Mg casting alloys”
Award: $1500.
Supervisors: Carlos Caceres, (UQ), Mark Easton (Monash).

Congratulations to Brianne McKinnon and Kim Lamb who were nominated for the Faculty’s annual Professional Staff Prize. Both received a certificate from the Executive Dean.

Congratulations to Ben Carter, a BE (Mechanical Engineering) graduate from 1997, who now works for Value Added Engineering Pty Ltd. Ben won the Richard Joel Award of the 2012 Premier of Queensland’s Export Awards. The citation read -

Ben has changed Value Added Engineering Group’s business plan to include significant design capabilities by way of a number of Queensland’s brightest, locally trained young mechanical engineers – graduates of The University of Queensland – to allow the company to become a smarter, lower-cost provider of heating ventilation and air conditioning solutions.
Funding

CRC program
The Minister for Science and Research has announced funding for the 16th round of the CRC Program. Innovative manufacturing, social innovation and sustainable regional communities have been highlighted as priority areas for this round and the CRC Committee will place a particular focus on applications that address these priority areas. Further details, including additional information regarding the priority areas and the timeline for the round, can be found on the 16th Selection Round website. Lodgement of applications via CRC online will be available after 11 February 2012 and applications close on 13 June 2013. For more information about the CRC Program (including selection round requirements) please visit the CRC Program Guidelines and CRC Program Information websites.

Postgraduate scholarship
Australian higher education institutions are encouraged to promote a fully-funded master’s degree scholarship program to exceptional science and engineering graduates, provided by the Masdar Institute of Science and Technology in Abu Dhabi. Scholarship applications are due by 31 May 2013, coinciding with the deadline for general admissions, and successful scholarship recipients are expected to commence their programs in September 2013. Eligibility is based on the Masdar Institute’s admission criteria, with scholarship applications to be evaluated by the Masdar Institute’s academic selection committee. Applicants must have:

- a relevant undergraduate degree in the field of science or engineering
- a minimum GPA of 3.0 out of 4.0
- a GRE quantitative score of 155
- a minimum academic IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent.

Interested students who meet the criteria are encouraged to contact the Masdar Institute Registrar.

RHD

Conflict of Interest re: Thesis Examination
As the School has a number of students moving towards their thesis examination it is timely for us to review the information provided by the Graduate School regarding conflict of interests when nominating Examiners.

UQ utilises the conflict of interest guidelines that have been developed by Universities Australia and are consistent with other Go8 universities (www.uq.edu.au/grad-school/conflict-of-interest). The guidelines aim to protect the candidate, examiners and the University against potential negative perceptions during the thesis examination process.

If you are in the process of nominating examiners, the School recommends that you use these guidelines as a tool to assist you.

Teaching and Learning

Assessment changes effective 1 January 2013
You will be aware that an extensive review of assessment policy and procedures was undertaken throughout 2012. Existing and new PPL policies and procedures have been revised and/or developed and subsequently approved, to take effect from 1 January 2013. The PPL documents are currently being updated and will be published soon. These include:-

- PPL 3.10.02 Assessment – Policy (significant revisions)
- PPL 3.10.02 Assessment – Procedures (significant revisions)
- PPL 3.10.10 – Assessment Re-mark – Procedures (new)
- PPL 3.10.11 – Examinations – Procedures (new)

Consequential amendments and revisions were also made to:

- PPL 3.10.07 Grading System – Procedures
- PPL 3.10.08 Release of Examination Papers – Procedures
- PPL 3.10.09 Supplementary Assessment – Procedures
- General Award Rules Part 1A Assessment

A summary of the key changes is on page 3.

For your reference, highlighted below are a few of the ‘procedural’ changes:

(i) Removal of provision for students to disregard performance at the original examination
(ii) change in timeline for finalisation of results for deferred examinations and supplementary assessment
(iii) change in the timing of re-mark requests for second semester assessment
(iv) standard exam durations and reading time for mid-semester examinations held outside of scheduled classes
(v) change in terminology from ‘perusal’ to ‘reading time’
(vi) change in definitions of ‘open book’ ‘closed book with specified materials’ and ‘closed book’, to reflect written or printed material permitted (calculators are treated separately and excluded from the definition)

An implementation plan is in place for the changes to be communicated and actioned. A number of associated Forms are also being updated and will be made available through the PPL, myAdvisor or Exams staff portal as appropriate.
Changes to assessment policy and procedures – effective 1 January 2013

A summary of the key changes is listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rules / Policy / Procedure</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Change, effective 1 January 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PPL 3.10.02 Assessment – Policy</td>
<td>Brief paragraph</td>
<td>Significantly amended to include key principles and values relating to assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPL 3.10.02 Assessment – Procedures</td>
<td>One procedure document combining information on summative assessment with significant focus on examinations, in addition to award of grades and finalisation of results, re-marking assessment, and quality assurance.</td>
<td>Significant amendments to the structure of the procedures, with focus on a chronological sequence associated with assessment. Removal of matters relating to examinations and assessment re-mark for inclusion in separate procedures.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| PPL 3.10.07 Grading System – Procedures | | Consequential changes –  
  (i) Section 4 – to reference section 4.5.5 of PPL 3.10.02  
  (ii) Section 6 – include table showing grade and description of N and P (non-graded fail and non-graded pass)  
  (iii) Section 8 – re-arrange text |
<p>| PPL 3.10.08 Release of Examination Papers – Procedures | | Section 9 Retention and disposal – re-arrange text and include schedule outlining the minimum storage requirements for examination related documents. |
| PPL 3.10.09 Supplementary Assessment – Procedures | Finalisation of results of supplementary assessment within seven (7) days. | Additional information inserted to provide further clarification on mode of supplementary assessment. |
| PPL 3.10.10 Assessment Re-mark – Procedures | Part 8 of PPL 3.10.02 Assessment - Procedures | Separate procedure document setting out the purpose of re-mark, grounds for consideration and timing of requests. |
| | Section 8.3 – timing of re-mark request (ii) for second semester results, by the first day of first semester of the next year. | Section 4.4 timing of re-mark request for second semester, by the first day of week 3 in first semester of the next year. |</p>
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<td>PPL 3.10.11 Examinations – Procedures</td>
<td>Included within PPL 3.10.02 Assessment – Procedures</td>
<td>Separate procedure document, outlining the processes for the conduct of examinations for both centrally administered and school-based examinations, staff attendance, student attendance, use of materials and equipment, alternative examination arrangements, off-campus examinations, deferred examinations, supplementary examinations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 5.7.2 maximum duration of mid-semester examinations outside of scheduled class times is 90 minutes.</td>
<td>Section 5.1.1 Mid-semester examinations outside of scheduled classes - standard examination durations of 30 minutes, 60 minutes or a maximum of 90 minutes working time; and 10 minutes reading time.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 5.7.6 Open book – any material is permitted</td>
<td>Section 5.4.1 Written or printed material – changes to the definitions of ‘open book’, ‘closed book with specified materials permitted’ and ‘closed book’. Calculators are excluded from this definition. For example, examinations may be ‘open book’ but still restrict calculators to UQ approved and labelled only.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information on alternative arrangements for special needs, timetable clashes and religious observance on myAdvisor website.</td>
<td>Section 5.5 Alternative examination arrangements – inserted into procedures.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative arrangements made for students with three (3) examinations on the one day during end of semester examination period only</td>
<td>Section 5.5.2 – alternative arrangements will also be made for students with three (3) mid-semester examinations scheduled on the one Saturday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information on off-campus arrangements on myAdvisor website</td>
<td>Section 5.6 Off-campus arrangements – inserted into procedures</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 7.2 results from deferred examinations and supplementary assessment must be finalised within seven (7) calendar days of the examination / assessment date.</td>
<td>Section 6.4 finalisation of results of deferred examinations extended to – (i) ten (10) calendar days for summer semester and semester 1; and (ii) 21 calendar days for semester 2.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Summary of key changes (cont’d)

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<td>General Award Rules Part 1A Assessment</td>
<td>1A.6.5 perusal time</td>
<td>1A.6.5 Change in terminology to ‘reading time’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|                             | 1A.14.4 provision for students to disregard performance at original examination | Removal of provision of disregard performance  
1A.14.4 A student who attends and attempts whole or part of the original examination will not be eligible for a deferred examination. |
|                             | 1A.14.5 the requirement for a student to notify the examination supervisor of their intention to get a medical certificate before the end of the examination working time. | 1A.14.5Despite GAR 1A.14.4, the associate dean (academic) or head of school may approve a deferred examination if they are satisfied there are exceptional circumstances. |
|                             | 1A.20.3 executive dean to certify final results for students enrolled in programs administered by the faculty | 1A.20.3 amended to reflect the executive dean must certify final results for courses administered by the faculty. |

Approved by Academic Board, to Legislative Committee in March 2013:

1A.3 Assessment Scheduling
New rule 1A.3.4 to reflect that no student may be given permission to sit an examination earlier than the scheduled date of the examination.