Mining Engineering Staff Meeting
02/13
26 March at 10:00am in 43-205

Minutes

Apologies Received: MK
Present: PK, SA, ZC, WS, MN

Items for Discussion:

Previous Minutes
- Minutes from meeting 12 February 2013. All action items completed.

OH&S
- Members noted that there have been several incidents in labs recently.
- The UQ Mine closure report is not yet finalised.
- Members noted that there was an incident in the mine with students regarding notification. The incident has prompted a review and processes have been updated.

Chair Report

- S1 2013 student statistics
  Members noted that –
  o the number of students enrolling in the Mining specialisation had increased since 2009;
  o the number of mining staff had remained steady despite increasing enrolments;
  o the number of female students was decreasing;
  o the final year projects will become a larger issue as enrolments increase. Members discussed the possibility of introducing group projects in final year;
  o the number of publications has been increasing within the division;
  o RHD is an area that the division is looking to increase enrolments.
Members also noted that when reviewing the graduates from 2012, there were several students who did not graduate due to outstanding units. These units were generally ENGG1400, MATH and STAT – all first and second year courses. Members noted this was probably a result of students leaving failed courses to repeat at the end of the program so that they could remain with their cohort of friends. The Chair noted he would welcome suggestions on ways to address this issue.

- Integrated masters
  Members of the Advisory Committee have agreed to prepare a submission to introduce the 5 year BE/ME in Mechanical Engineering, Mechanical and Materials Engineering, and Mechatronics Engineering. There should be no new courses introduced. Members noted that several years ago when the mining industry had been seeking people an extended program would most likely not have been supported, however this situation has changed. Members noted that there would likely be an additional workload and questioned what benefits would be obtained from the program. Members also noted that they would prefer enrolments into the MPhil program instead.

- Sandvik Academy 1 update
  Members noted that this engagement with Sandvik was a good opportunity and that the legal agreement was almost completed.
T&L Matters

- Examination papers
  Members noted the due date for examination papers for semester 1, 2013.

- Student/Staff Liaison meeting
  Divisions needed to hold at least 1 staff:student meeting each semester (per the 2012 EA recommendations)

Research

- RHD Final Seminar Program
  A group of RHD SSLC members will be working with the Research Committee to create a Final Seminar Program for students to present to their peers and other interested staff when nearing completion of their RHD studies in the School. This program will be run fortnightly in ELEX from 4-5pm on Fridays throughout Semester 1. The program is expected to commence in April.

  The RHD SSLC members (Wouter De Vos Mostert, Mitchell Dunn, Pisan Kulkaew, Kristian Weegink and Yunhui Chen) will be making contact with students nearing their Thesis Review or Submission milestones to present as part of this program. Principal advisors will be Cc’d to the email invite and it would be appreciated if advisors can encourage their students to cooperate with the RHD SSLC members coordinating this program.

- Expressions of Interest
  Members discussed three EOIs, noting that there was an issue around funding scholarships for RHD students. It was noted that ARC funding would allow scholarships to be awarded by the principal supervisors and members discussed the development of linkage grants, including the possibility of hiring someone to help write grant applications.