Computer Science – SSSC

Wednesday 17th October 2012

Present :

Class Representatives	Staff
Craig Doherty - CSC9A1	Dr. D. Cairns
Ashley Osbone - CSC9A1	Dr. S. Maharaji
Yung Chi H - CSC9B1	
Ryan Begen - CSC9N5 & CSC9Q5	**School Officer**
Megan Halliday - CSC9P5	Dawn Gerrard
Ken Reid - CSC9V7 & CSC9YP	
Jason Adair - CSC9YS	
Lindsey Hunter - MSC Information Technology	
James Carruthers - MSC Advanced Computing	

CSC9A1 — Introduction to Computing Science

- Students are responding to the course in a positive manner.

- There is something for all ability levels. However it was pointed out that some non-programmers are finding the deadlines, for checkpoint, tight.
  - Dr. Maharaj explained that she is willing to consider flexibility in deadlines, and student concerned should contact her directly.

CSC9B1 — Essential Skill for the Information Age

- Students are finding the practical's very helpful.

- Students are finding it difficult to find a link between the lectures and practical's.
  - Dr. Maharaj pointed out it was in the nature of the course that the two aren't link. This will be brought to attention of current students, and the next student intake.

- Assignment – Students would like more teaching on web-design.
  - Dr. Maharaj pointed that the web-design lectures are still on-going.

CSC933 — Computing Science III: Objects and Information Systems.

CSC9N5 — Multimedia and Human-Computer Interaction

- Students are enjoying the course, and think that it is going well.

CSC9P5	Software Engineering I

- Assignment
    - Students were concerned that they have learned the content required to do the assignment. Practical's that related to content required for the assignment were schedule for the day before the assignment deadline. As the assignment wasn't graded it wasn't a major issue, but students still wanted to get a near correct solution.
        - Dr. Cairns enquired if this was going to the schedule being out of sync; Megan explained that the lecture program was running according to the plan.
        - Dr. Cairns pointed out that because the assignment wasn't graded, it was more of a learning exercise.

- Tutorials
    - Students were concerned that they were not completing the assigned tutorial work, because students were not going to tutorials prepared and un-willing to participate in the tutorials correct solution. As such students enquired if it would be possible for tutorial solutions to be uploaded to the module website.

- One student had requested that one of the lectures be recorded – via ListenAgain, due to a time table class.
    - This led to a short discussion about asking other students to record lecture. Megan pointed out that this didn't work as some lecturers walk about during the lecture.
        - Dr. Maharaj pointed out the success she had had with ListenAgain in CSC9B1, and that it might worth suggesting to staff that the use ListenAgain.

CSC9Q5	Database Principles & Applications

- Lecturer's time keeping isn't brilliant, he often turns up to lectures 5-10minutes late. He once turned up to a tutorial 20 minutes late.

- The teaching room for the tutorial on a Monday at 12noon is not suitable. The room is small and cramp, students often have to sit on the floor. It was pointed out that this may be due to the Tutorial sign up procedure, not limiting the class size.

- Some students had issues understanding the lecturer, he sometimes mumbles during the lecturers.

- The schedule/timetable for the module was constantly changing, often at very short notice. Students turned up to the first tutorial, an e-mail was received afterwards to explain that it had been re-arranged.
    - One student had turned up for three classes on a Monday; none of them were running that week.

- During tutorial 2 students spent most the time discussing a question that was added to tutorial 1, after the tutorial.

- Students are learning PHP, although this was not going to be assessed in the course.
    - Dr. Cairns, Eoin & Ken pointed out that his will become useful in later modules, particularly when it comes to honours projects.

CSC9V7	Concurrent & Distributed Systems

- The practical are somewhat poorly written and are open for interpretation, however the answers are not.

- The PHD student doesn't know what they are doing (this is similar for CSC9Q5). They are ticking of checkpoints as complete, which are not. This issue has been raised with Dr. Kolberg, but nothing has happened yet.

- The assignment was not realistic, for real life work. You would not be asked to write a program within 2hours.

CSC9Z*	Honours Project

- The reason behind and what was involved in attending the Friday seminar was not clear. Some students thought that they were expected to give a presentation, where in actual fact it was just a note taking exercise.
    - Dr. Cairns explained that the reason behind attending to merely to gain exposure of attending Research Seminar. And the purpose of taking notes was to show some understanding of the subject matter.

CSC9YA	Language Implementation
CSC9YD	Technologies for e-commerce
CSC9YE	Artificial Intelligence

- *No Student Representatives.*

CSC9YP	Enterprise Portals

- Generally speaking there are no problems with the module.

- The average attendance is 8/12

- Some students are over whelmed by the content/code in practicals. They can follow it but do not know what exactly it is doing.
    - Dr. Cairns suggested in the context of the module is it better to just except the code as it and to not go digging.

CSC9YS	Computer Security & Forensics

- Students are happy with the content and enjoy the discussion in lectures

- 2B88 is cramped

PDM9L6	Information Technology Skills
PDM9L7	Advanced Information Technology Skills

ITNP01	Principles and Practise of Programming
ITNP23	Foundations of Information Technology

ITNP33	Database Principles and Applications

- There has been a little confusion over the course content, but this is most likely down to the different backgrounds of the students.

- There is a long lag between the end of tutorial, and the time it take to upload the answers to the module website.

- Lindsey aired similar points to that of the CSC9Q5 Representative.

ITNP43	Interface Design and the World-Wide Web
ITNP1A	Concurrent and Distributed Systems
ITNP2A	Computer Security & Forensics
ITNP3A	Technologies for e-commerce
ITNP4A	Artificial Intelligence

- *Similar comments to that of their undergraduate equivalent.*

	MSC Information Technology
	MSC Advanced Computing
	MSC Computing for Financial Markets

AOCB	

- Dawn Gerrard recommended that all the representatives attend the training the Student Union is providing, check the Facebook for more information.

Date of Next Meeting	

- Wednesday 29th November at 2pm in 4B94