

Minutes of the Class Feedback Meeting (2006/2007 Semester 2) of Full-time BSc(Hons) Degree Programme in Internet and Multimedia Technologies (Programme Code: 42077) held on 15 March 2007 at 6:30 p.m. in Room CD634.

Present : Dr F. Lau (Chairman and Programme Leader, EIE)  
Prof. George Baciu (Deputy Programme Leader and  
COMP448 Subject Lecturer, COMP)  
Dr C.K. Leung (DQAC Chairman, EIE)  
Dr Daniel Lun (EIE330 Subject Lecturer, EIE)  
Dr M.W. Mak (EIE424 Subject Lecturer, EIE)  
Dr M.Z. Wang (EIE333 Subject Lecturer, EIE)  
Dr Karen Tam (AMA228 Subject Lecturer, AMA)  
Dr Tao Dacheng (COMP418 Subject Lecturer, COMP)  
Dr Clifford Choy (SD3983 Subject Lecturer, SD)  
Mr Liu Xiao (42077 FDG1 Class Representative)  
Miss Wei Jie (42077 FDG1 Student)  
Mr Zheng Xuanqing (42077-FDG1 Student)  
Miss Chan Ching Ying (42077-1 & FDG-2 Class Representative)  
Mr Lee King Hong (42077-1 & FDG-2 Class Representative)  
Mr Lee Lau San (42077-1 & FDG-2 Class Representative)  
Mr Chan Wai Fung (42077-1 Student)  
Miss Ho Ka Yi (42077-1 Student)  
Mr Au Pak Him (42077-2 Class Representative)  
Mr Siu Wai Kit (42077-2 Student)  
Miss Cheung Ka Man (42077-FT2 Student)  
Mr Lau Tat Hei (42077-FT2 Student)  
Mr Yan Fat Kin (42077-FT2 Student)  
Miss Fong Lai Yung (42077-2F, 3F, D4 Class Representative)  
Mr Lam Yau (42077-2F, 3F, D4 Class Representative)

Miss J. Ng (Secretary)

Absent with apologies:

Dr Y.H. Chan (Deputy Programme Leader, EIE)  
Dr C.K. Li (EIE408 Subject Lecturer, EIE)  
Dr K.T. Lo (EIE406 Subject Lecturer, EIE)  
Dr Frankie Wong (APSS186 Subject Lecturer, APSS)  
Mr Joseph Leung (COMP427 Subject Lecturer, COMP)  
Dr Robert Luk (COMP425 Subject Lecturer, COMP)  
Ms W.Y. Chong (SD2491 Subject Lecturer, SD)  
Mr Chow Kin Chung (42077-1 Student)  
Mr Lam Yuen Pan (42077-3I Class Representative)

- M1 The Chairman welcomed the students and the staff attending the meeting.

### **Feedback from Foundation-year Students**

#### Request for Computer Related Subject

- M2 Students hoped that they could study some computer-related subjects during their foundation year. The Chairman responded that currently, students would start taking computer-related subjects only in their Year-1 study. But the Chairman would review the curriculum and seriously consider the possibility of including computer-related subjects as compulsory or elective subjects into the foundation year starting 2007/2008.

#### “APSS186 Understanding Ethics in Daily Life”

- M3 Students felt that this compulsory subject was of less relevance to the study of the programme. The Chairman responded that the Program Committee originally thought that the subject was more on professional ethics, but it turned out that the actual content of “APSS186 Understanding Ethics in Daily Life” was very different. **The Chairman** would review the curriculum and consider removing this subject starting 2007/08.

The Chairman

#### Overall Impression

- M4 Overall, the students found that the subjects were good.

### **Feedback from Year 1 Students**

#### “AMA228 Mathematics II”

- M5 Students remarked that they hoped the teaching of the subject lecturer to be more interactive. It would enhance their understanding on the subject matter if the subject lecturer could give more examples during lectures as well as in the lecture notes. Students also reported that the problem had recently been improved. Having viewed the feedback from the students before the meeting, the subject lecturer had already revised the lecture notes and distributed them to students. The subject lecturer further encouraged students to try to respond to her questions during lectures.
- M6 Students appreciated the tutor’s effort in giving them detailed explanations and solving their problems in the subject. However, students noted that those who did not have a strong background on Mathematics would still find it particularly difficult in understanding the subject matter. The Chairman encouraged students to consult the subject lecturer further if they had any difficulties in studying the subject.

“SD2491 Product Design and Social Considerations”

M7 Year 1 students found that there were overlaps in the subject matters of “SD2491 Product Design and Social Considerations” in this semester and “SD348 Introduction to Industrial Design”, which had been studied by advanced-standing students in Semester 1. They furthered that the requirements of the projects were similar in both subjects. Since the subject lecturer was not available for the meeting, **the Chairman** would relate the feedback to the subject lecturer and follow up this issue.

The Chairman

*[Post-meeting notes: The subject lecturer responded in her email that “The design project of SD2491 aimed to help students understanding the relationships between Product design and culture and society, which focused on social factor... student need to investigate a local social issue, identify a problem, and based on analysis of collected information to set their project direction, and propose a solution - a new design for further development... Regarding “SD348 Introduction to Industrial Design”, students prepared to be equipped with essential theoretical foundation of the industrial design process and methodology. Therefore, the aim of SD348 project, required students to apply appropriate design principles/elements and design process in their projects... the aim and differences of the two subjects were stated clear right at the beginning of the class... I will be happy for any related questions about the subjects if there’re still doubts.”]*

**Feedback from Year 2 Students**

“EIE333 Data and Computer Communications”

M8 Students reflected that there were overlaps in “EIE333 Data and Computer Communications” and “EIE325 Telecommunication Technologies”. The Chairman responded that the class of “EIE333 Data and Computer Communications” comprised of BScIMT and BEngEIE students. Since BEng EIE students did not need to study “EIE325 Telecommunication Technologies”, there was no issue of overlapping syllabus for these students. **The Chairman** would review the subject content of “EIE333 Data and Computer Communications” and would consider offering another subject to replace “EIE333 Data and Computer Communications” starting 2007/08.

The Chairman

M9 Students wished to have more tutorial sessions for questions and answers. Currently, they had one tutorial class every two weeks. The subject lecturer responded that questions had been selected for discussion during tutorial sessions and students who had difficulties in completing the remaining questions could consult him during consultation hours. The Chairman encouraged students to talk to the subject lecturer if they really needed additional tutorial sessions. But students must attend the extra tutorials.

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M10 Students reflected that they had difficulties in understanding the accent of the subject lecturer. The Chairman responded that living in an international city such as Hong Kong and studying in an internationalized university, students should appreciate different cultures and must learn to adapt to different English accents. He encouraged students to raise their queries to the subject lecturer whenever in doubt.

M11 Students remarked that the cover pages of two sets of lecture notes were identical. The problem had already been resolved as revised versions had been distributed to students subsequently.

“EIE330 Integrated Project” and “SD3983 Computer Game Development II”

M12 In this semester, students were required to submit one combined project for both subjects. Students commented that they were given a budget to purchase add-on devices. However, they found that the support or manuals accompanying the devices were not sufficient to guide them to make use of those add-on devices such as “Data Glove”. The subject lecturer of “EIE330 Integrated Project” explained that the subject focused on the use of the user interface and that the study on game engine was not important. Moreover, students who were capable in using the existing “marker and voice system” would get a favourable grade already. The Chairman responded that there are numerous devices available on the market. It would be very difficult for the Department to provide support on every device. But the Chairman still encouraged the students to purchase new hardware for exploration because during the process, students can self-learn new materials.

M13 Students expressed that the workload of “SD3983 Computer Game Development II” was heavy due to the process of trial and error arising from laboratory sessions. The **subject lecturer** would review the number of laboratory sessions in view of the heavy workload. The subject lecturer also added that the highlight of this subject was event handler instead of game engine.

Subject  
Lecturer

M14 Students requested the subject lecturer to provide more detailed instructions on laboratory sheets. The subject lecturer responded that there were two parts in the laboratory sheets. Detailed instructions were given in part 1 while brief instructions were only given in part 2. He explained that the objective of part 2 aimed at inspiring students’ creativity to generate their own design.

- M15 Students wished to have more time to complete the merged project of “EIE330 Integrated Project” and “SD3983 Computer Game Development II”. The subject lecturer of “SD3983 Computer Game Development II” responded that students would have no laboratory session and lecture after Week 9 and that they should have enough time to finish the projects.
- M16 Students mentioned that 3D Studio Max should be taught first. The subject lecturer explained that 3D Studio Max was a complicated software to master. If 3D Studio Max was taught earlier in the course, students could easily encounter difficulties and thus became discouraged. He further explained that the teaching schedule was designed in such a way that general knowledge on the topic was only required in the first few laboratory sessions. Anyhow, the subject lecturer encouraged the students to consult him after class if they encountered difficulties in studying this subject.
- M17 Students reported that the subject content seemed not well-prepared. The subject lecturer of “EIE330 Integrated Project” responded that at the request of the subject lecturer of “SD3983 Computer Game Development II”, the game engine was changed just before the beginning of this semester, making the subject look not very well-prepared. He furthered that such a change would not have any effect on students’ performance.

### **Feedback from 3I Students**

#### **“COMP448 Virtual Reality and Applications”**

- M18 3I students reported that the lectures started late and over-ran. Both 3I and Year 3 students hoped that the lecture could be on schedule, i.e., from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The Chairman also reflected that students who lived far from campus might prefer to leave on time without much delay. But the students added that the situation had been improved since March.

The subject lecturer responded that he started the lecture late because some students working on the Hong Kong side could not arrive at the campus on time. He added that a one-hour tutorial was scheduled after the 2-hour lecture and he extended the duration of the tutorial session so as to further explain to students who had queries on the subject or those who wanted to learn more. Still, students were allowed to leave if they want. Having said that, the subject lecturer would try his best to stick to the timetable and finish the class no later than 9:45 pm.

DQAC Chairman suggested that schedule of timetable was preferably to be adhered to. But noting that some students might arrive late, the subject lecturer could give students a brief revision or overview during the first 15 minutes of lecture. Then, students who would arrive late could still catch up with the teaching materials. The subject lecturer welcomed the suggestion.

- M19 3I students stated that some topics were quite old which were less related to the subject. As there was no 3I class representative in the meeting, the above comment could not be further elaborated. The subject lecturer responded that he presented the historical knowledge on Virtual Reality, which should not be treated as an old topic. He furthered that gaining historical knowledge of this subject would be good for the students in studying the subject.
- M20 3I students requested for more examples in the subject. The subject lecturer responded that this subject was quite complicated, students were encouraged to consult him should they encounter any difficulties.
- M21 Year 3 students found difficulties in doing Assignment 1 as they were asked to design their own algorithms. The subject lecturer suggested students to seek his advice earlier before the deadline of assignment submission. The Chairman also encouraged the students to consult the subject lecturer on problems they encounter in studying the subject.

### **Feedback from Year 3 Students**

#### **“COMP418 Electronic Commerce”**

- M22 Students reported that they had difficulties in understanding the accent of the subject lecturer. The Chairman encouraged students to learn to adapt to different accents from different lecturers. He also mentioned that students should raise their questions to the subject lecturer when in doubt.
- M23 Students also reflected that they were unable to connect the relationship between lectures and tutorial sessions. Theories of e-Commerce were taught in lectures while programming such as JavaBean was taught in tutorial sessions. The subject lecturer explained that e-Commerce comprised of fundamental theories and technologies. Hence theories were taught in lectures and practical programming techniques to implement an e-Commerce system was taught in tutorial sessions. The Chairman added that implementation of e-Commerce system relied on programming. Further, students were encouraged to consult the subject lecturer after class.
- M24 Students appreciated the subject lecturer’s passion in teaching. Students also showed appreciation to the subject lecturer in giving them real-life examples to reinforce their understanding of the subject.

“EIE424 Distributed Systems and Network Programming”

- M25 Year 3 students felt that loading was heavy as quizzes were frequently held. The subject lecturer responded that those ten-minute quizzes were all in multiple-choice format and the answers were all in the notes. The quizzes had been served as the basis on which the subject lecturer could judge the extent students had learnt from the subject.
- M26 Currently, Year 3 students were required to submit six assignments with report writings and two laboratory reports. In view of the loading of assignments, students were encouraged to talk to the subject lecturer if they were unable to submit assignments on time. The subject lecturer stressed that report writing was important in the information technology industry. He would clarify the objective of report writing in the coming lecture. He would also state the assessment criteria on the assignments and lab reports.
- M27 Year 4 students suggested some fundamental topics such as Java Programming which they had studied could be skipped. The subject lecturer realized that students came from diverse background. But he noted students' comment and would review his teaching. The Chairman also suggested the subject lecturer to find out students' background and see if some students might require extra attention.

“COMP425 Web Information Retrieval”

- M28 Year 3 students reported that they had difficulties in studying pseudo- codes. Students, however, mentioned that they had not raised their problems to the subject lecturer before the meeting. Having been informed with the above feedback before the meeting, the subject lecturer responded via email that data structures, algorithms, hashing, trees and linked lists were pre-requisite subjects which the students should be familiar with. The subject lecturer also reported that many pseudo-codes were presented with worked out examples. The Chairman suggested students to consult subject lecturer if they encountered difficulties in studying pseudo-code.

*[Post-meeting notes: The subject lecturer encouraged students to consult him immediately whenever they encountered difficulties in studying the subject. The subject lecturer agreed to discuss with the class representative or students to find out their difficulties.]*

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M29 Year 3 students hoped the subject lecturer could speak louder as they could hardly hear his voice. The Chairman responded that it was a class of 96 students in size, he suggested students should move to the front of the lecture theatre. However, students expressed that the frequent coughing of the subject lecturer made them feel uncomfortable in sitting at the front. The Chairman would relate the above feedback to the subject lecturer.

*[Post-meeting notes: The Chairman had relayed the message to the subject lecturer, who replied that he was a bit sick in one occasion but he recovered.]*

M30 Year 4 students expressed their dissatisfaction with the disturbance caused by some of their classmates. They wished the subject lecturer could control the class discipline. Having been informed with the above feedback before the meeting, the **subject lecturer** responded via email that he would make a statement to the students to raise their awareness of keeping silence during lectures.

Subject  
Lecturer

*[Post-meeting notes: The subject lecturer had raised the issue to the students during the lecture. The Deputy Programme Leader would also pay a class visit.]*

M31 Year 4 students also found Lecture Theatre TU107 was stuffy; they hoped that the air conditioning could be improved. The subject lecturer responded that he had sought FMO assistance for the concerned issue. He would also pay more attention on air conditioning. The Chairman would see if there would be another classroom available to replace TU107.

*[Post-meeting notes: The Chairman was informed that there was no suitable classroom available at that time slot. But the subject lecturer would make sure the air-conditioning would be on all the time.]*

M32 Year 4 students were not satisfied with the tables in Lecture Theatre TU107, of which the joints were loosened. The Chairman responded that the concerned problem would be related to FMO for fixing.

*[Post-meeting notes: The Chairman reported the defects to FMO.]*

“COMP427 Professional Ethics and Practice”

- M33 Year 3 students appreciated the subject lecturer in inviting guest speakers for sharing their working experience. However, it seemed to the students that what they had been taught from lectures was of less relevance to the objectives of the subject. The Chairman responded that the topics of lectures might not be closely related to the subject, but they were still related to the issues in the information technology industry. The Chairman would relate the above feedback to the subject lecturer and suggest him giving explicit explanation on the connection between the topics of lectures and the objectives of the subject.

*[Post-meeting notes: The Chairman had reported the comments to the subject lecturer, who agreed to spend more time and efforts to strengthen those areas.]*

- M34 One Year 4 student reported that the subject was a zero-credit compulsory subject and yet they had to put effort in doing assignments. On the contrary, the class representatives found the assignments very useful. The Chairman commented zero-credit subject may also bear some workload, as long as the workload was deemed to be beneficial to students.

“EIE408 Principles of Virtual Reality”

- M35 Year 3 students appreciated the subject lecturer in arranging field trips to enhance their understanding of the subject.

**Feedback from Year 4 Students**“SD348 Introduction to Industrial Design”

- M36 Students appreciated the subject lecturer in giving them mini-projects, from which they could gain clear concept of the subject and apply what they had learnt from lectures.

“EIE406 Advanced Internet Technologies and Applications”

- M37 Students hoped that the subject lecturer could skip the teaching of basic concepts which had been learnt from other subjects. The subject lecturer responded via email that in an attempt to refresh students' memory, a brief revision on background knowledge such as Internet architecture and IP routing as stated on the syllabus was given in the first lecture. **The Chairman** would further discuss the issues with Year 4 students as the class representatives present had not taken this subject.

The Chairman

Minutes

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A.O.B.

M38      There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Janice Ng  
Secretary  
Class Feedback Meeting  
Department of Electronic and Information Engineering

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19 March 2007