LBCF Joint Program
Bachelor of Information Technology

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Overview of joint UniSA/TAFESA Degree offering

- History
- Educational Features
- Pathway version
- Structure Detail
- Issues
- Questions

History

- Based on years of articulation work
- Detailed analysis of relationship between TAFESA and UniSA IT delivery content and assessment approach leading to a detailed competencies/course bi-directional articulation agreement.
- 50% of the 3 year UniSA degree through TAFE credit from the Diploma in IT – Software Development

History (cont)

- Developed through
  - Commitment to task by both parties
  - Trust and respect
  - Flexibility by UniSA and TAFESA
  - Understanding and acceptance of differences in assessment approach
  - Similar overarching educational philosophies (eg. Integrity of assessment, importance of graduate qualities/employability skills)

Educational Features

- Three years full-time study as per standard degree at UniSA

- Students are issued a degree by UniSA

- Students can exit with vocational qualifications (Training Package qualifications) from TAFESA.

- Students can switch to AQF level 5 vocational qualification from TAFESA without any time penalties

Educational Features (cont)

- Different to a standard articulation arrangement where a complete TAFE qualification allows credit in a University program– a linear approach with credit application instigated by the student.

- UniSA courses and TAFE competencies are done in parallel with credit instigated and organised by the Institution.

- Combines the vocational delivery & assessment approach of TAFE with the delivery and assessment approach of university.

Educational Features (cont)

- Students are given the opportunity to experience the two styles of delivery and assessment so

  – The cultural shock between school and university is minimised.

  – Alternatives are created to minimise time lost if they have trouble coping

Degree Pathway Version

Variety of ways to meet minimum entrance requirements (MER)

Two of which are

- SACE and appropriate score (ATAR)
- Completed a Certificate IV or higher

What options exists for those not meeting the MER?

Degree Pathway (cont)

- Alternative pathway emerged.
- Students demonstrate capability by successfully completing a Certificate IV then moving onto joint program with no loss of time.
- Slightly increased TAFE load spread across final 4 semester
- A linear approach would not give as much credit or allow completion within the 3 yr time frame

Bachelor of Information Technology

Diploma of Information Technology (Software Development)

3rd Year, 2nd Sem

3rd Year, 1st Sem

2nd Year,2nd Sem

2nd Year,2nd Sem

2nd Year, 1st Sem

2nd Year, 1st Sem

Certificate IV in Information Technology (Programming)

1st Year, 2nd Sem

1st Year, 2nd Sem

1st Year, 1st Sem

1st Year, 1st Sem

UniSA LBCF
Enrol through SATAC (434621)

TAFESA Degree Pathway
Enrol through SATAC (701322)

Example - Semester 2

TAFE – Beginning Java

TAFE - SQL

TAFE – Intermediate C#

TAFE – Systems Analysis 2

TAFE – Team Software Development

TAFE – Managing Simple projects

UniSA - Network Fundamentalsa
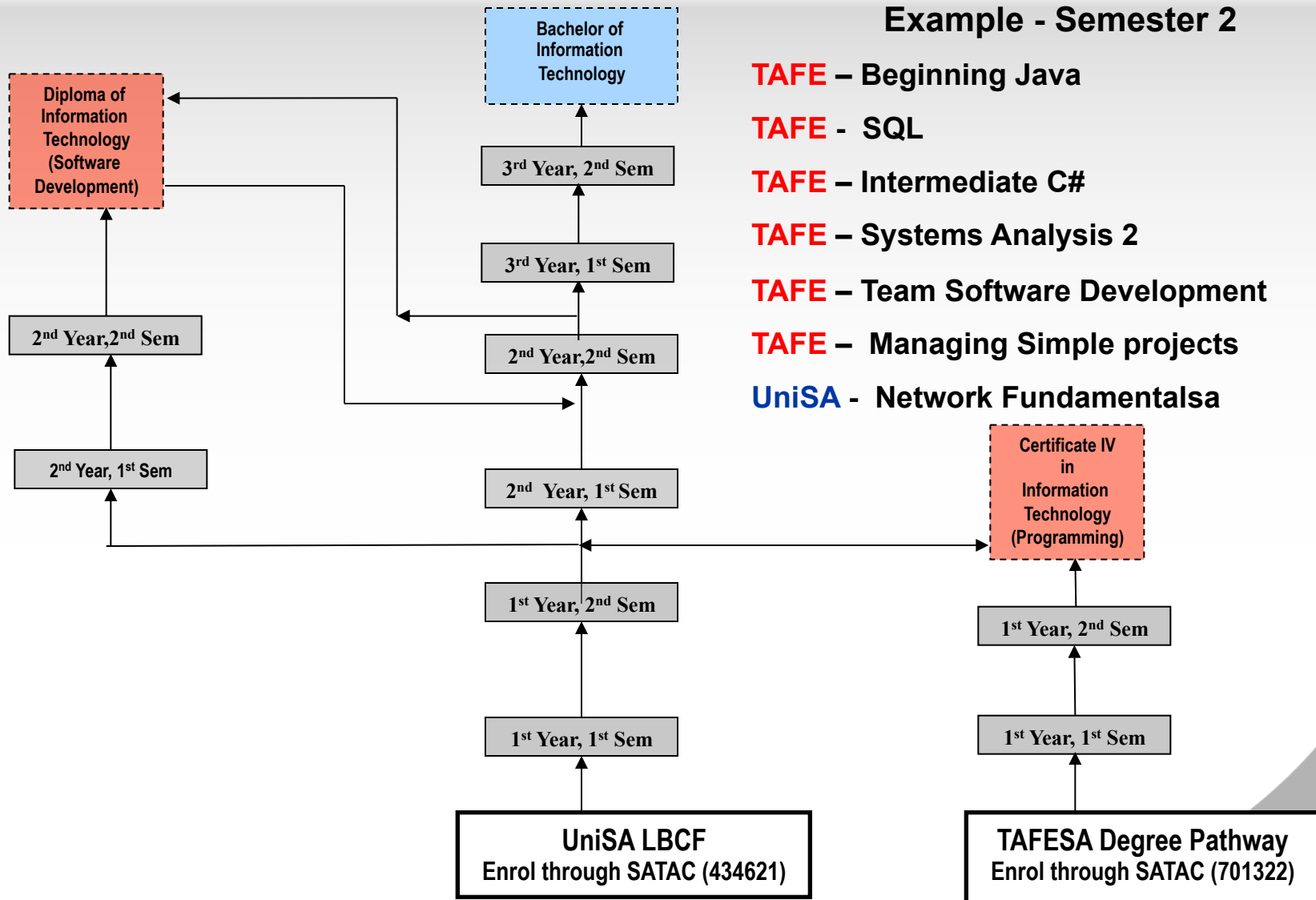
Advantages to Institutions

- Improved and ongoing interaction between Uni and TAFE.
  - Joint marketing efforts
  - Joint quality assurance efforts.
  - Forced communication of changes to content on either side (UniSA - revised programs, TAFESA – new TP)
  - Ongoing student feedback on content and delivery differences, similarities, positives and negatives

Issues

- The goal: to provide a set of administrative procedures for students to follow that will make dealing with two educational sectors seamless – difficult as students are enrolled on both the UniSA and TAFE SA student management systems and considered both a TAFE and Uni student.

- Steep learning curve for admin staff due to terminology differences, different student management systems and process differences

- Timetabling – ensuring sensible timetable for students at each stage across Institutions is a huge challenge.

Issues (cont)

- Program changes – these are amplified as they are affected by developments in both sectors and Institutions.

- Over a period of 5 years
  - TAFE SA– 3 Training Package changes, 4 management changes
  - UniSA – 2 program re-writes, retirement of original Program Director
  - All occurring at different times in the 5 year period

- Feedback from students is that changes and the transition complications are the greatest frustrations.

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Questions?