

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Minutes** of the meeting 2016/3 of the Board of Trustees of Western Sydney University held at 2pm on **Tuesday 14 June 2016 in the Heritage Room, InterContinental Hotel, Sydney.**

**Present:** Professor Peter Shergold AC (Chancellor)  
Professor Barney Glover (Vice-Chancellor)  
Mr Michael Pratt (Deputy Chancellor)  
Ms Elizabeth Dibbs (Deputy Chancellor)  
Ms Genevieve Gregor (Pro Chancellor)  
Associate Professor Paul Wormell (Chair Academic Senate)  
Mr John Banks  
Professor MaryAnn Bin-Sallik  
Dr Ben Etherington  
Mr Tim Ferraro  
Ms Vivienne James  
Ms Winnie Jobanputra  
Ms Sophie Kobuch  
Ms Jenny Purcell  
Mr Ian Stone

**Apologies:** Mr Christopher Brown and Ms Gabrielle Trainor

**In Attendance:** Ms Sophie Buck (Director, Policy and Governance)  
Ms Helen Fleming (University Secretary and General Counsel)  
Professor Denise Kirkpatrick (Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic)  
Professor Scott Holmes (Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Development)  
Mr Angelo Kourtis (Vice President, People and Advancement)  
Mr Peter Pickering (Vice President, Finance and Resources)  
Ms Sharon Rigney (minutes)

### **1. OPENING AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

#### **1.1 Welcome**

The Chancellor welcomed members.

#### **1.2 Apologies**

The Board accepted apologies from Christopher Brown and Gabrielle Trainor.

#### **1.3 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made.

#### **1.4 Confirmation of Minutes**

#### *Resolution*

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**The Board of Trustees resolved to approve the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of its 6 April 2016 meeting [14/6/2016:1]**

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#### **1.5 Action Sheet from Previous Meetings**

The Board noted the actions from previous meetings without discussion. The Chancellor noted the calendar of events and reminded Board members about the Annual Thank You dinner on 28 November and the Town and Gown dinner on 29 October.

## **1.6 Starring of Items**

In addition to procedural items (items 1.1 to 1.7), the following items were starred: 2.1, 2.2, 3.2, 3.4, 4.1, 4.1.1, 4.2, 4.4, 4.4.1, 4.4.2, and 4.5.

### *Resolution*

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**The Board of Trustees resolved that all unstarred items be taken as considered and all recommendations in the attachments for them as adopted.**

**[14/6/2016:2]**

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## **1.7 Arrangement of Business**

The Board agreed with the Chair's suggestion that Items 3.2, 3.4, 4.1, 4.1.1, 4.4, 4.4.1 and 4.5 be discussed under closed session. The remainder of the items were discussed in open session.

## **2. CHANCELLOR'S & VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORTS**

### **2.1 Chancellor's Report**

The Chancellor provided the Board with a video presentation and brief overview of the University's Fast Forward program. This program operates in high schools across Western Sydney and aims to advise students from Years 9-12 about the opportunities to receive a university education and the varied pathways available.

The Foundation Council has been successful in significantly increasing philanthropic support for the University's scholarship program, and the Chancellor thanked the Council members for their efforts in helping to achieve these commendable results. The Town and Gown Dinner will be held on 29 October and this event is also anticipated to generate some funding towards scholarships.

### **2.2 Vice-Chancellor's Report**

The Vice-Chancellor briefed the Board on the range of policy issues contained in the Federal Government's Higher Education Reform Options Paper, including reform of the HELP debt, partial deregulation and cuts to HEP funding.

An additional item was discussed under closed session and a resolution made.

## **3. SIGNIFICANT MATTERS FOR DELIBERATION OR APPROVAL**

### **3.1 Scholarships for Asylum Seekers**

The Board discussed the policy framework for awarding scholarships to asylum seekers. The scholarships will target those students who have a reasonable chance of being able to study in Australia and will also enable access to education for students wishing to upgrade their existing overseas qualifications and experiences for recognition in the Australian context. The Board approved the proposal, subject to changes relating to eligibility criteria for previous qualifications and the 2 year minimum period of residence in Australia.

### *Resolution*

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**The Board of Trustees resolved to note the proposal to establish scholarships for asylum seekers under the existing Scholarships for Undergraduates Policy which will be submitted to Academic Senate for approval. [14/6/2016:4]**

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### **3.2 1PSQ Sub-Lease**

This item was discussed under closed session.

### **3.3 Institute for Infrastructure Engineering**

The Board endorsed the recommendation that the Institute of Infrastructure Engineering be re-designated as the Centre for Infrastructure Engineering. The Centre will be aligned with the School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics to provide greater focus for research activities.

#### *Resolution*

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**The Board of Trustees resolved to approve the re-designation of the Institute for Infrastructure Engineering to the Centre for Infrastructure Engineering. [14/6/2016:6]**

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### **3.4 Proposed Sale – Lots 4 and 5, Westmead Campus**

This item was discussed under closed session.

## **4 BOARD COMMITTEES & ADVISORY BODIES**

### **4.1 Finance and Investment Committee (FIC)**

This item was discussed under closed session.

#### **4.1.1 Quarter 2 2016 Financial Outlook**

This item was discussed under closed session.

### **4.2 Audit and Risk Management Committee (ARMC)**

The Chair of the ARMC, Ms Elizabeth Dibbs, spoke to the minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2016. The ARMC regularly reviews the risk rating relating to visa processing for international students and the University's current risk rating is good and being closely managed. The Strategic Risk Register has been updated and was provided to the Board for information. It was noted that three of the risk ratings have been upgraded from "moderate" to "high".

#### *Resolution*

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**The Board of Trustees resolved to:**

- **approve the revised terms of reference for ARMC, including a change of its name to Audit and Risk Committee; [14/6/2016:9]**
  - **note the changes to and upgrade in ratings in the Strategic Risk Register – May 2016; [14/6/2016:10]**
  - **approve the Risk Management Policy. [14/6/2016:11]**
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### **4.3 Academic Senate**

The Chair of Academic Senate, Associate Professor Paul Wormell spoke to his report including:

- the proposed amendments to membership of Academic Senate and some of its standing committee memberships and terms of reference to improve academic governance;
- the continual promotion and monitoring of academic quality, standards and values;
- the review of the course approvals process; and

- the promotion of the quality and development of research.

#### **4.3.1 Red Tape Taskforce**

The Board noted approvingly the report of the Red Tape Taskforce. A range of e-forms are being introduced to streamline business processes, and a review of the plagiarism detection software Turnitin is also under way.

#### **4.4 Board Standing and Remuneration and Nominations Committees (BSC/RNC)**

This item was discussed under closed session.

##### **4.4.1 Board Membership**

This item was discussed under closed session.

##### **4.4.2 Board Charter**

The Board Charter is a new, high level document that outlines the constitution and structure of the University and the Board as well as the respective roles of the Board and management. This document has been developed in consultation with the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor and has been endorsed by both the Audit and Risk Management Committee and the Board Standing Committee.

The Chancellor also advised the Board that the University had been notified that the legislation to change the University's name to Western Sydney University, had now been assented to and would come into force shortly.

#### *Resolution*

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**The Board of Trustees resolved to approve and adopt the Governance Charter as set out in the paper provided to the meeting. [14/6/2016:14]**

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#### **4.5 University Infrastructure Committee (UIC)**

This item was discussed under closed session.

### **5 OTHER MATTERS FOR APPROVAL OR NOTING**

#### **5.1 Uses of the University Seal**

The Board made the following resolution without discussion.

#### *Resolution*

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**The Board of Trustees approved the uses of the University Seal as detailed in the report provided to the meeting. [14/6/2016:19]**

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### **6 PRESENTATIONS**

#### **6.1 School Performance Report**

The Dean of the School of Education, Professor Michele Simons, gave a presentation about the School's successes and challenges. She highlighted the work that is being done through regional and rural placements in collaboration with the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Engagement and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education). The School successfully weathered the trend in the downturn in enrolments in teacher education nationally and Professor Simons was congratulated for this excellent achievement. The Dean acknowledged the outstanding efforts of her staff in the School and for their role in helping to produce quality teachers for Western Sydney and beyond.

**6.2 The Refugee Action Support Program**

Associate Professor Loshini Naidoo (School of Education) gave a presentation about the program that links pre-service teachers with refugee students. This program places students in schools to provide individual tutoring for refugee students in the areas of language, literacy and numeracy and is now active in over 30 primary and high schools across urban and rural NSW.

**7 NEXT MEETING AND CLOSURE**

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled to be held on 10 August 2016. There being no other business, the meeting closed at 6.00pm

Confirmed by:

  
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Chair

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Date 12/8/16