

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes of the meeting 2016/4 of the Board of Trustees of Western Sydney University held at 8.30am on **Wednesday 10 August 2016 in the Chancellery Boardroom, EB 2.23, Parramatta Campus.**

Present: Professor Peter Shergold AC (Chancellor)
Professor Barney Glover (Vice-Chancellor and President)
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
Mr Christopher Brown
Dr Ben Etherington (left at 10.30am)
Mr Tim Ferraro (arrived at 9.15am)
Mr Peeyush Gupta (by video-conference) (left at 11.55am)
Ms Winnie Jobanputra
Ms Sophie Kobuch
Ms Jenny Purcell
Mr Ian Stone
Ms Gabrielle Trainor

Apologies: Ms Vivienne James and Professor MaryAnn Bin-Sallik

In Attendance: Professor Simon Barrie (Pro Vice-Chancellor Learning Transformations, item 7)
Professor Kevin Bell (Pro Vice-Chancellor, Digital Futures, item 7)
Ms Sophie Buck (Director, Governance Services)
Ms Emily Byrne (Executive Assistant)
Ms Helen Fleming (University Secretary and General Counsel)
Professor Denise Kirkpatrick (Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President, Academic)
Professor Scott Holmes (Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President, Research and Development)
Mr Angelo Kourtis (Vice-President, People and Advancement)
Mr Peter Pickering (Vice-President, Finance and Resources)
Ms Sharon Rigney (Executive Officer, minutes)

1. OPENING AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 Welcome

The Chancellor welcomed members.

1.2 Apologies

The Board accepted apologies from Ms Vivienne James and Professor MaryAnn Bin-Sallik.

1.3 Declarations of Interest

Mr Peeyush Gupta disclosed that he is a non-executive director on the Board of the National Australia Bank for the purposes of item 5.1.

1.4 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution

The Board of Trustees resolved to approve the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of its 14 and 15 June 2016 meetings. [10/8/2016:1]

1.5 Starring of Items

In addition to procedural items (items 1.1 to 1.7), the following items were starred: 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5.

Resolution

The Board of Trustees resolved that all unstarred items be taken as considered and all recommendations in the attachments for them as adopted. [10/8/2016:2]

1.6 Arrangement of Business

The Board agreed with the Chair's suggestion that items 3.2, 5.1, 5.4 and 5.5 be discussed under closed session.

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

2.1 Chancellor's Report

The Chancellor noted highlights in his report and started by thanking Peeyush and Shubhra Gupta for hosting a successful dinner to raise funds for refugee scholarships. The Chancellor's Cup was held on 25 June and the Western Sydney University Giants team won against the team from the University of Sydney. Netball teams affiliated with the GWS Giants are being established and will provide an opportunity for the University to extend its support for women's sport.

The Board also discussed the issue of ethical investments and agreed that this will be considered as part of a review of the investment strategy through the Board's Finance and Investment Committee.

2.2 Vice-Chancellor's Report

The Vice-Chancellor provided an update on the Higher Education policy landscape following the election, including the likely status of proposed major legislative reforms and budget cuts to research grants and HEPP funding. The Vice-Chancellor noted that HELP reform seems to have some support and may be passed by the Senate.

The Vice-Chancellor noted the University's intention to transition the MBBS program to a Masters level MD in line with sector trends. The 10 year review is scheduled for 2017.

The Early Voluntary Retirement Scheme is awaiting Australian Taxation Office approval and detailed briefings will be provided to staff following receipt of that approval.

The Workplace Surveillance Policy will be released to the University community for consultation toward the end of August. The new Policy re-affirms the previously

stated position that staff emails and internet usage will not be monitored as a matter of routine business practice.

3. SIGNIFICANT MATTERS FOR DELIBERATION OR APPROVAL

3.1 Matters relating to the Office of the Deputy Chancellor

The Board held an election for the position of Deputy Chancellor in accordance with the *Western Sydney University By-law 2005*, and declared Michael Pratt elected for a second term of office.

Resolutions

The Board of Trustees resolved to:

- 1. Note the report of the returning officer;**
 - 2. Declare Mr Michael Pratt as Deputy Chancellor, for a term of office commencing on 1 January 2017 and expiring on 31 December 2020 (in accordance with clause 14(b) of the Western Sydney University By-law 2005);**
 - 3. Approve the appointment of the Deputy Chancellor, Michael Pratt, as the “relevant Deputy Chancellor” for the purposes of clause 7 (3) of the Schedule 1 of the Western Sydney University Act 1997. [10/8/2016:3]**
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3.2 Reshaping the University’s Balance Sheet [commercial – in-confidence]

The item was discussed under closed session.

4. PRESENTATION

4.1 Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)

Professor Denise Kirkpatrick presented on the portfolio of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Academic). This portfolio has undergone change in the past 18 months and the recent recruitment of key senior leadership roles in the areas of digital futures and learning transformation has cemented a talented and experienced team. Major challenges facing the Division include limitations on the resourcing of projects and the magnitude of cultural change that is required through the *Transforming Western Sydney University* plan.

4.2 School Performance Report School of Science and Health

This matter was deferred.

During the morning tea break the Board attended the unveiling ceremony for the Chancellor’s portrait.

5. BOARD COMMITTEES & ADVISORY BODIES

5.1 Finance and Investment Committee (FIC)

This item was discussed under closed session.

5.2 Audit and Risk Committee (ARC)

The chair of the ARC, Ms Elizabeth Dibbs, spoke to the minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2016. The emphasis on resolving audit and financial accounting issues as they arise is working well. The strategic risk areas cross over into the work of the Finance and Investment Committee. The work to reduce the untaken leave liability is well under control and the next

area that will be targeted is long-service leave. The ARC membership is being refreshed as some members finish their terms of office, and new members will be identified and proposed for the Board's consideration. The Committee noted that the three areas of strategic focus are the School of Business, the online environment and International strategies.

Resolutions

The Board of Trustees approved the following changes to Delegations Schedule F:

- 1) Inclusion of new delegation**
 - a) Minor textual amendments to University rules where there is no change to content or meaning, as follows:**
 - i) Update references to position, unit or division titles where those titles have changed;**
 - ii) Correct typographical, grammatical and numbering errors;**
 - iii) Update references to policies and/or legislation where the names of those instruments have changed.**
 - 2) That delegations will be held by the following positions:**
 - a) For position, unit and division titles changes: Vice-Chancellor;**
 - b) For errors and changes to names of instruments: General Counsel and Director Governance Services. [10/8/2016:6]**

5.3 Academic Senate

The Chair of Academic Senate, Associate Professor Paul Wormell, spoke to his report. Professor Wormell is acting Deputy Dean of the School of Science and Health, and this opportunity provides a different perspective on the challenges faced by the Schools.

The Board discussed the process for the development of new courses and noted that the role of Academic Senate is to consider the academic merit of the course. Business cases for new courses are considered by the Business and Infrastructure Development Committee of the Executive Committee. It was also noted that some courses offered as part of the University's social contract may not generate revenue. The Board requested that a paper outlining the course approval process be prepared for a future meeting of the Finance and Investment Committee.

The Office of Quality and Performance provides valuable data as a basis for decision making and is assisting Academic Senate to map its activities to ensure compliance with the Higher Education Standards Framework. Academic Senate looks forward to the University's re-registration with TEQSA in 2018, and this is being led from the portfolio of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic). Academic Senate has endorsed the new Learning and Teaching Futures Plan, presented by the PVC Learning Futures, which is a very forward-looking document that aims to give effect to Securing Success.

5.4 Board Standing and Remuneration and Nominations Committees

(BSC/RNC) The Board noted the minutes of the BSC and RNC held on 12 July 2016 and considered proposals to confer Honorary Awards under closed session.

5.5 University Infrastructure Committee (UIC)

This item was discussed under closed session.

6. OTHER MATTERS FOR APPROVAL OR NOTING

6.1 Uses of the University Seal

The Board made the following resolution without discussion.

Resolution

The Board of Trustees approved the uses of the University Seal as detailed in the report provided to the meeting. [10/8/2016:12]

6.2 University Seal

The Board noted that the name of the University has now been formally changed and approved the design of the new University Seal. The seal is used to execute and authenticate documents in the University's name, including graduation testamurs and legal contracts.

Resolution

The Board of Trustees noted the change of name of the University, including the changes to the Western Sydney University Act and by-law, and approved the new University Seal design. [10/8/2016:13]

7 NEXT MEETING AND CLOSURE

The Board welcomed the new Pro Vice-Chancellor (Digital Futures), Professor Kevin Bell, and Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning Transformations) Professor Simon Barrie. Both will be invited to a future Board meeting to present on their respective portfolios.

Confirmed by:



Chair

12/10/16

Date