

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Minutes** of meeting 08/3 of the Board of Trustees of the University of Western Sydney, held at 9.00 am on **Wednesday 30 July 2008**, in the Boardroom, Building AD, Werrington North.

**Present:**

- Mr John Phillips AO (Chancellor)
- Professor Janice Reid AM (Vice-Chancellor)
- Ms Saba Ambreen
- Ms Jennifer Brown
- Ms Jan Burnswoods
- Professor Anne Cusick
- Mr Roy Medich OAM
- Ms Carolyn Sappideen
- The Hon Kim Yeadon

**In Attendance:**

- Mr Arthur Bozikas, UWSSA Executive Officer
- Mr Mark Croucher
- Mr Tony Geange, General Manager, uwsconnect
- Ms Rhonda Hawkins
- Mr David Holmes, UWSSA President
- Professor John Ingleson
- Associate Professor Robyn McGuiggan
- Ms Sharon Rigney
- Mr Paul Woloch
- Ms Marian Alleyn
- Ms Rebecca Fantini
- Ms Jo Maguire (minutes secretary)

## 1 OPENING AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

### 1.1 Welcome

The Chancellor welcomed those present. He congratulated Mr Eric Sidoti, Director of the Whitlam Institute, and UWS Foundation staff for the very successful birthday celebrations held recently for the Honourable E. G. (Gough) Whitlam. He also commended the University's awards ceremonies to Board members and congratulated the organisers of the recent College events.

### 1.2 Apologies

Apologies were received from Ms Jan Brown, Ms Mary Foley, Ms Vivienne James, Mr Glen Sanford, Mr Ian Stone and Mr Gang Zheng.

### 1.3 Starring of Items

The following items were starred: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 3.1, 3.3, 3.4.1, 3.4.2, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 5.2 and all items under 4.

## **Resolution**

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*It was resolved:*

**that all unstarred items be taken as considered and all recommendations in the attachments for them as adopted.**

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### **1.4 Arrangement of Business**

Items 3.1, 3.3 and 4.1.3 were listed for discussion in the Closed Session.

### **1.5 Confirmation of Minutes**

## **Resolution**

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*It was resolved:*

**that the Confidential Minutes and Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held on 9 April 2008 are confirmed.**

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## **2 BUSINESS ARISING**

**2.1** There was no business arising.

## **3 NEW GENERAL BUSINESS AND MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION**

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

This report was discussed in the closed session.

### **3.2 Uses of the University Seal**

## **Resolution**

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*It was resolved:*

**That the uses of the University Seal since 29 March 2008 be approved.**

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### **3.3 Cases Under Management**

This matter was discussed in the closed session.

### **3.4 Report of the Board Strategy Day 11 June 2008**

This report was noted without discussion.

#### **3.4.1 Student Satisfaction by Campus**

The Board noted this report and the correction that Campbelltown received the highest overall student satisfaction.

The low student satisfaction of Blacktown campus is expected to improve with the injection of funds and student population to be achieved by the transfer of UWS College to that campus. The University needs to remedy

the low student satisfaction of Parramatta campus. It also needs to continue considering to what extent it is willing to alter students' experience of University life for the transfer of University courses to e-learning.

#### **3.4.2 Research Strategy Review Plan**

The Board congratulated Professor Cheetham on the proposed model for a review of research to be undertaken in 2008. It noted that the review underpins strategic directions of UWS research funding for 2009-2013, which will be brought back to the Board for approval.

#### **3.5 College of Business**

Associate Professor Robyn McGuiggan, Executive Dean of the College of Business, provided a presentation on key strategies, significant achievements and key directions of the College. Regarding SMExcellence, the Board agreed on the importance of corporate social responsibility and providing the services that companies need. Associate Professor McGuiggan was commended on the College of Business' achievements since her last presentation to the Board and on the synergies being developed via community engagement.

#### **3.6 uwsconnect**

Mr Tony Geange, General Manager of uwsconnect, presented an overview of the company's activities of the past three years.

In response to Board members' questions, he advised that it will not be possible for uwsconnect to achieve full self-sustainability with its current range of business and campus facilities; that retail is uwsconnect's most successful operation at the moment and that the company is working to improve the viability of the gymnasiums and food & beverage. He would like to see facilities for students improved on all campuses and the improvement of student life, which have been affected by the introduction of VSU.

The Board congratulated Mr Geange on what he and uwsconnect have achieved to date.

#### **3.7 Student Representation Review – Progress Report**

The Board noted this paper and GA Research's report. The University has been addressing the Board's October 2007 request that it receive advice on the most effective way to ensure a viable and vibrant model for student representation and advocacy.

Ms Hawkins provided a verbal progress report including the key concepts, structural considerations and the review process discussed at the workshop held on Monday 28 July. The following groups were represented at the workshop: UWSSA, PAUWS, Medical Students Society, Law Students Society, Golden Key, Muslim Students Association, uwsconnect and the postgraduate member of the Board of Trustees.

The review is progressing and there remains a number of matters of detail and implementation process to be resolved. These include the relationships of the new organisation with uwsconnect, the future of PAUWS, recognition of the work done by office holders and student representatives including resourcing student time; the legal structure of the organisation; the relationship and oversight the University will be required to have in light of its financial support and uncertainty about the new Federal government's position on VSU. Mr Bozikas (UWSSA Executive Officer) and Mr David Holmes (UWSSA President) advised the Board

that the review process is progressing well and UWSSA are happy with the directions. Mr Geange advised the Board that uwconnect are more than happy to work with the structure being developed.

### **Resolution**

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*It was resolved:*

**That the Board note the report and the proposed process to develop a student organisation structure and implementation plan using the principles and framework outlined in the recommendations for consideration at the October Board meeting.**

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## **4 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARD STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **4.1 Strategy and Resources Committee Reports**

#### **4.1.1 Strategy and Resources Committee – 22 May 2008**

The Board noted this report. With regard to tobacco-related investments, it requested more details about the phased approach and target exit date of the TCorp investment portfolio and suggested that the University should investigate the merit of an ethical investments policy.

#### **4.1.2 Strategy and Resources Committee – 2 June 2008**

The Board noted this report without discussion.

#### **4.1.3 Strategy and Resources Committee – 21 July 2008**

Part of this report was discussed in the closed session. In Ms Foley's absence, Ms Hawkins advised the Board that the latest projected surplus for 2008 is \$10m. Investment income has fluctuated, but the transfer of long term investments into cash has offset the loss.

The University Executive at its 15 August workshop, and the SRC at its 25 September, will be modelling scenarios for projected 2009 budget outcomes and these will be included in the SRC's report to the Board's October meeting.

The Board noted that the estimated \$5.2m decrease in income for Health and Science was due to incorrect budget projections for Nursing and that this is being corrected. The future of Cadre is subject to review over the next few months and, as they were not included with this report, the Board also requested that entity reports on TVS and Phytonova be submitted to its next meeting via the SRC.

### **4.2 Audit and Risk Management Committee**

The Board noted the reports of the Audit and Risk Management Committee meetings held on 14 May and 2 July 2008.

In discussion about the changes to the Administrative Delegations, the Board requested that a brief outline of the new staffing structure in Innovation and Consulting be provided to the next meeting.

## **Resolution**

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*It was resolved:*

**That the Board of Trustees approves the changes to the Administrative Delegations.**

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### **4.3 Report from the Chair of Academic Senate**

The Board noted this report and particularly that the UWS Indigenous Graduate Attribute was approved by the Academic Senate. The attribute demonstrates knowledge of Indigenous Australia through cultural competence and professional capacity.

### **4.4 Board Standing Committee and Remuneration and Nominations Committee**

The Board noted the action taken by these committee's since its last meeting including the review of Board committees. The decision has been made for the Board Standing Committee to retain its name and that 'standing committees of the Board' will now be referred to as 'committees of the Board'.

## **Resolution**

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*It was resolved:*

**That the Board of Trustees approves:**

- a) **the Protocols for Committees of the Board;**
  - b) **the amendments proposed to the terms of reference of the –  
Remuneration and Nominations Committee (RNC)  
Audit and Risk Management Committee (ARMC)  
Campus Development Committee (CDC)  
Strategy and Resources Committee (SRC); and**
  - c) **the re-setting of terms of office for the current external members of the SRC: Alan Zammit; Emma Stein; and Genevieve Gregor, so that they each have a term of office of two years from 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2009.**
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### **4.5 Joint Meeting of the Campus Development Committee and the Strategy and Resources Committee**

The Board noted the report of the first annual joint meeting of these committees and that the development of the Information Technology Strategy is being overseen by the IT Strategy Committee.

## **5 OTHER REPORTS**

### **5.1 Occupational Health and Safety**

This report was noted without discussion.

**5.2 Staffing Matters**

The Board noted this report and Ms Hawkins' brief presentation outlining staffing trends. The Board will be advised at its next meeting about the clarification of data for general staff appointments in 2007.

**5.3 Higher Education Review**

Board members had been provided with an opportunity to provide feedback and comment on the draft preface and executive summary of the University's submission to the Higher Education Review prior to the meeting. The University's response will be submitted to the Government by 4 August.

**5.4 *CampusLife* – Online Student Newsletter**

This item was noted without discussion.

**5.5 Meeting Dates – Board of Trustees 2009**

This item was noted without discussion.

**6 MATTERS TO BE RAISED BY BOARD MEMBERS**

There were no other matters raised by Board members.

**7 OTHER BUSINESS**

The Board noted that UWS Law students had won the Australian Mooting Competition and will now compete in England.

**8 NEXT MEETING AND CLOSURE**

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled to be held at 9.00 am on **Wednesday 8 October 2008**.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.15pm

Confirmed by:

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Chair

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Date