

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

COUNCIL

Meeting 11/11

MINUTES

A meeting of the Council was held at 4.00pm Monday 12 September 2011 in the Council Chamber, Level 1, Old Quadrangle, The University of Melbourne, Parkville.

PRESENT

Members

Acting (Hon Justice Susan Crennan)
Deputy Chancellor (Mr Robert Johanson)
Vice-Chancellor (Professor Glyn Davis)
President of the Academic Board (Professor Ron Slocombe)
Mr Joshua Anderson Professor Glenn Bowes
Mr Michael Griffith Mr Ross McPherson
Dr Virginia Mansour Hon Justice John Middleton
Mr Martyn Myer Mr Tony Peake
Ms Eda Ritchie Ms Marian Schoen
Dr Frederik Vervaeet Hon David White
Mr John Wilson

Others Attending

Provost (Professor John Dewar)
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Global Engagement) (Professor Sue Elliott)
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) (Professor James McCluskey)
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (University Affairs) (Professor Warren Bebbington)
Vice-President of the Academic Board (Professor Ruth Fincher)
Acting Senior Vice-Principal (Mr Allan Tait)
Executive Director (Student Services) and Academic Registrar (Mr Neil Robinson)
Vice-Principal, Advancement (Ms Sue Cunningham)
Executive Director, IT and Chief Information Officer (Mr Sendur Kathir)
University Secretary (Dr Christopher Stewardson)
Director, Corporate Affairs (Mr John Dubois)
Director, HR Specialist Services (Ms Julia McQuillan)
General Manager, Academic Governance & Academic Secretary, University Secretary's Department (Ms Penelope Pepperell)
Executive Officer, Office of the Vice-Chancellor (Ms Liz Fazio)
Senior Executive Officer, University Secretary's Department (Ms Karen Roe)
UMSU President (Ms Rachel Lim)
GSA President (Mr Ziauddin Ahmed)
Principal, Balwyn High School (Ms Deborah Harman)

BUSINESS

A. FORMAL BUSINESS

A01 Apologies and Leave of Absence Requests

Council approved leave of absence for Mr Martyn Myer and Professor Glenn Bowes for the October meeting. It was noted that leave of absence had been approved earlier for the

Chancellor for the September meeting.

A02 Previous Meetings

(a) Minutes – Meeting 10/2011

Minutes of Council meeting 10/2011 held on Monday 8 August 2011 were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Acting Chancellor.

(b) Action Sheet

The action sheet from meeting 10/2011 was received and noted.

A03 (a) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chancellor called for any declarations of interest for items on the agenda for the current meeting. No declarations were received.

(b) Starring of Additional Items

Items A01, A02, A04, B02(b02,b04), B03(b02,b04), B04(b01) and C02(a01-a02) were starred for discussion.

(c) Motion to Adopt or Receive “Unstarred” Items of Business

Council resolved to adopt unstarred items of business where containing recommendations and to receive unstarred items where containing reports.

A04 Key Issues

Council received a presentation by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Global Engagement) entitled ‘International Strategy’. The principal points made during the presentation were as follows:

- the international strategy for the University encompasses international curriculum, international communication, international research collaboration and recruitment of international students.
- after two decades of growth, international student recruitment declined significantly in 2008, particularly in the school sector and international language centres which affected the tertiary education sector.
- factors such as the high Australian dollar, increases in tuition fees, high cost of living in Melbourne and the financial requirements to support a visa application for Australia acted as disincentives to prospective international students. Council noted the US and UK offered a simpler process with a lower financial threshold for visa applications. Negotiations with the government are underway with the aim of making the Australian process comparable to its overseas competitors.
- however despite market instability, the University of Melbourne exceeded its target for international student enrolments, increased study abroad intake and achieved good results in international scholarships during 2010-2011. Council discussed the expected results of the international recruitment strategies for 2012 and requested a report on the final results at a later meeting.

- while there is a strong commitment to major markets, identified diversity markets are being explored for additional recruitment opportunities. Council noted the strong competition from other Australian universities within the same markets and the expanding capacity of universities in the USA and UK which may take market share from Australian universities.
- recruitment strategies include the utilisation of e-recruitment and website information on courses, student experience, housing, employment etc, interaction with schools, presence of University representatives in overseas offices and exploration of ways to expand the scholarship program. Council noted that universities offering work placements are regarded favourably by international students.

B. REPORTS OF SENIOR OFFICERS

B01 Chancellor's Report

The Acting Chancellor reported orally that:

- in view of the number of conferring ceremonies scheduled for December 2011, the Chancellor may deputise other members of Council to preside at ceremonies.
- six people were appointed to the Alumni Council following their election under the provisions of regulation 3.1.R1. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (University Affairs) undertook to provide a report on the full membership of the Alumni Council to the next meeting.
- a memorial service for former Vice-Chancellor, Professor David Caro, will be held at 3.00pm Monday 3 October 2011.

Council received a tabled invitation to the Dungala Kaiela Oration, 'Defining Shepparton', to be held on 20 September 2011 in Shepparton. A letter dated 29 August 2011 from the Dean of the Faculty of the VCA and Music was tabled also. Council resolved to approve the appointment of John Calvert-Jones, Lorraine Elliott, Peter Jopling and Fiona Myer as members of the VCA Foundation Board.

B02 Vice-Chancellor's Report

Council received and noted the Vice-Chancellor's written report to Council. The report covered the following:

(a) Recommendations

Nil.

(b) Major/ Strategic Developments

The major/ strategic developments section of the Vice-Chancellor's report (items b01-b08) which included:

- appendix A, 'Vale – Professor David Caro'.
- appendix B being a confidential letter dated 26 August 2011 from the Assistant Treasurer of Victoria.
- appendix C, 'School of Historical and Philosophical Studies: 24-26 May 2011 Review of the Disciplines of History, Australian Studies and the History and Philosophy of Science'. Council discussed the review report and possible steps to be taken. Additional funding has been allocated in the university budget 2012 to support the humanities. The President of the Academic Board expressed the view that such disciplines should survive in an appropriate form at an institution of academic excellence. The Vice-Chancellor noted that history at the University is of world standing. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (University Affairs) reported orally as a member of the implementation committee that, following input from relevant staff, a report will be submitted to the Academic Board. Council requested a progress report at the November Council meeting.
- appendix D, 'Faculty of Arts History Student Load 2005-2010 (EFTSUL)'.
- appendix E, 'Uni Plan to Slash Australia Course'.
- appendix F, 'Uni Brought to Book for Snub to Local Literature'.

(c) Research and Research Training

The research and research training section of the Vice-Chancellor's report (items c09-c15) which contained appendix G, the research report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research).

(d) Learning and Teaching

The learning and teaching section of the Vice-Chancellor's report (items d16-d18).

(e) Engagement

The engagement section of the Vice-Chancellor's report (item e19-e20).

(f) Advancement

The advancement section of the Vice-Chancellor's report (item f21).

(g) Senior Appointments

The senior appointments section of the Vice-Chancellor's report (items g22-g24) which included appendix H, 'Indigenous Opera Star Appointed Head of Wilin Centre'. Council noted that Professor John Dewar will leave the University at the end of the year to take the position of Vice-Chancellor of La Trobe University. Mr Joshua Anderson agreed to be the student representative on the selection committee for the new Provost.

(h) Infrastructure and Management

The infrastructure and management section of the Vice-Chancellor's report (items h25-h26) which included appendix I, 'Governance, Leadership and Management in Universities', and appendix J, 'University Compliance Program – September 2011'.

B03 Provost's Report

Council received and noted the Provost's written report to Council. The report covered the following:

(a) Recommendations

Nil.

(b) Reports

(b01) Graduations Status Report

Appendix A to the Provost's report, 'Graduations – Status Report' and attached statute 11.5, which provided a status report on the implementation and agreed changes to graduation arrangements, progress in relation to decision making and decision/ consideration requirements.

(b02) New Student Services Management Structure

Appendix B to the Provost's report, 'Student Services Organisational Chart', which outlined the new management structure for student services as of Monday 1 August 2011 resulting from an extensive review of student services that was undertaken in summer 2010-2011 to improve services and engagement with the University community. The Executive Director (Student Services) and Academic Registrar assured Council that qualified counsellors would be available to students 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

(b03) Student Complaints and Grievances Summary

Appendix C to the Provost's report, 'Student Complaints and Grievances Report', which provided an overview of data recorded on the student complaints escalated to the Academic Registrar between September 2010 and August 2011. The President of the Academic Board reported orally the Board strongly supports the work done in this area. He cautioned that any policy changes that introduce an informal process for student feedback should be conversant with existing policies relating to formal feedback processes for students.

(b04) Library Re-Developments

Details of the development of the Giblin Eunson Library and the

redevelopment of the ground floor of the Baillieu Library which have made a significant contribution to the student experience at the University.

(b05) 'Discovery' Launched

Notification of the launch of 'Discovery', a state-of-the-art scholarly search system at the University that replaces the SuperSearch system.

(b06) Australian Learning and Teaching Council Grants

Details of three projects involving University staff who have been awarded Innovation and Development grants from the Australian Learning and Teaching Council.

B04 Senior Vice-Principal's Report

Council received and noted the Senior Vice-Principal's written report to Council. The report covered the following:

(a) Recommendations

Nil.

(b) Reports

(b01) Assessment of Impact of Global Economic Conditions

An update on the potential impact upon the University of the volatile global economic conditions.

(b02) Staff Survey

A summary of the results of the Melbourne Staff Survey conducted during March-April 2011.

(b03) Themis Improvement Project Update

A briefing on the upgrade of the enterprise human resources and finance system (Themis) from Oracle eBusiness Suite Release 11 to Release 12 by re-implementing the system and undertaking significant business process re-engineering.

(b04) Enterprise Reporting and Strategic Analysis (ERSA)

Notification that, in parallel with the Themis Improvement Project, the University is considering its Enterprise Reporting and Strategic Analysis (ERSA) capability as set out in appendix A, 'Enterprise Reporting and Strategic Analysis (ERSA)', to the Senior Vice-Principals' report.

(b05) 2011 Strategy and Performance Review

Advice that an overview of the 2011 Strategy and Performance Review (SPR) will be provided at the November meeting of Council for information as part of a briefing package on the consideration of the 2012-14 University Budget, which flowed from the business planning and SPR processes.

(b06) Head of University Services Recruitment Update

Notification that first round of interviews were completed for the Head of University Services position with further interviews planned later in the month.

C. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND OTHER GOVERNING BODIES

C01 Finance Committee

Council received and noted the written report from meeting 5/2011 of the Finance Committee held on 29 July 2011 which included confidential appendix A, 'The University of Melbourne Financial Performance Report for the Period Ended 30 June 2011'.

C02 Academic Board

Council received the written report from meeting 5/2011 of the Academic Board held on 11 August 2011 and resolved to adopt the following recommendations contained therein:

- pursuant to statute 11.5.4, the award of a Doctor of Veterinary Science *honoris causa* to the person whose citation was tabled as confidential appendix A.
- pursuant to statute 11.5.4, the award of a Doctor of Visual and Performing Arts *honoris causa* to the person whose citation was tabled as confidential appendix B. The President of the Academic Board reported orally the above two nominees were endorsed warmly by the Board.
- establishment of the Ian Malkin Internship Scholarship as outlined in appendix C, 'Coursework Scholarships and Awards Committee: Proposal for New Student Award'.

C03 Audit and Risk Committee

No meeting was held.

C04 Buildings and Estates Committee

No meeting was held.

C05 Council Nominations and Governance Committee

No meeting was held.

C06 Honours Committee

Council received and noted the written report from meeting 4/2011 of the Honours Committee held on 1 September 2011 and resolved to adopt the following recommendations contained therein:

- appointment of Professor Geoff Stevens, Melbourne School of Engineering, as a Melbourne Laureate Professor for a period of five years commencing 13 September 2011–12 September 2016 and in receipt of both the title and an annual loading (confidential appendix A).
- appointment of Dr Arnold Zable as a Vice-Chancellor's Fellow commencing in 2012 (confidential appendix B).

C07 Remuneration and Employment Conditions Committee

No meeting was held.

C08 Legislation and Trusts Committee

No meeting was held.

D. REPORTS FROM SEMI-AUTONOMOUS BODIES' BOARDS OF MANAGEMENT

D01 Melbourne Theatre Company Board of Management

Council received and noted the written report from meeting 7/2011 of the Melbourne Theatre Company Board of Management held on 19 August 2011.

D02 Ian Potter Museum of Art Board of Management

Council received and noted the written report from meeting 4/2011 of the Ian Potter Museum of Art Board of Management held on 2 August 2011.

E. REPORTS OF MATTERS DEALT WITH BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR ON BEHALF OF COUNCIL

E01 Approval of Changes to Regulations under Authority of Statute

Nil.

E02 Sealed Documents Report **Confidential**

Council received a tabled report summarising the documents approved on behalf of Council by the Vice-Chancellor both under University seal and not under University seal.

E03 Appointments Report **Confidential**

Council received a tabled report summarising the appointments approved on behalf of Council.

E04 Other Matters Report **Confidential**

Council received a tabled report summarising the other matters approved on behalf of Council.

F. OTHER BUSINESS

F01 Any Other Business

Council received a report, 'Council Meeting and Conference Dates 2012'. It resolved to approve the schedule of Council meeting dates for next year as follows: 4.00pm Monday 26 March, 7 May, 4 June, 9 July, 13 August, 10 September, 8 October, 12 November and 10 December 2012 in the Council Chamber, level 1, Old Quadrangle, The University of Melbourne, Parkville. It further approved the Council Planning Conference to be held on Friday 3-Saturday 4 February 2011 at the Sebel Heritage, Yarra Valley.

Council received tabled fliers for the Australia India Institute's annual oration to be delivered this year by Professor Amitabh Mattoo on 26 September 2011 and the Australia India Institute's conference, 'The Reluctant Superpower: Understanding India and its Aspirations', to be held at the University on 22-23 September 2011.

F02 Forthcoming Meetings

Council noted that forthcoming meetings this year are scheduled for 4.00pm Monday 10 October, 7 November and 5 December 2011 in the Council Chamber, level 1, Old Quadrangle, The University of Melbourne, Parkville.

The meeting closed at 5.45pm.