CONFIRMED

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

INTERIM BOARD OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

MEETING 03/07

A meeting of the Interim Board of Undergraduate Studies was held at 2.15pm on **Thursday 15 February 2007** in the **Melbourne Institute Boardroom, Level 7, Alan Gilbert Building.**

Secretary: Dr George Duke
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(8344 6147)

Present: Professor Loane Skene (Chair), Professor Margaret Abernethy, Professor Cathy Falk, Professor Ruth Fincher, Professor Bill Griffiths, Professor Mark Hargreaves, Associate Professor Steve James, Professor Thomas Kvan, Associate Professor Michelle Livett, Ms Gillian Luck, Associate Professor Ian Malkin, Professor Iven Mareels, Ms Carmel Murphy (observer), Ms Linda O'Brien, Professor Pip Pattison, Professor Belinda Probert, Professor Peter Rathjen, Ms Joan Reese, Professor Richard Roush, Professor Jonty Stockdale and Associate Professor Christine Ure.

In attendance: Dr George Duke (Secretary) and Ms Karen Cairns (Melbourne Model Implementation).

MINUTES

1. Formal Matters

1.1 Apologies

The Board received apologies from Ms Bree Ahrens, Professor James Angus, Professor Glenn Browning, Dr Pat Mclean and Professor Field Rickards.

2. Minutes and Action Sheet

2.1 Minutes

The revised minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2007 (01/07) were confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2007 (02/07) were confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting subject to an amendment to item 3.1.2 to reflect that (a) it is necessary for every new generation degree to have honours and (b) masters programs should have an exit year after one year of study resulting in a postgraduate diploma which provides appropriate preparation for a research higher degree.

2.2 Action sheet

The action sheet was received.

3. Business arising

3.1 Verbal report from the Chair (standing item)

The Chair reported on the following issues:

3.1.1 Breadth

The Chair noted the following with respect to the breadth component of new generation degrees:

All proposals for breadth subjects from Course Standing Committees (CSCs) must be approved by the Interim BUGS. Acceptable breadth subjects must fall into one of the following three categories:

1. University breadth subjects;
2. Subjects taken from outside the relevant new generation degree that reflect a different "way of knowing"; and
3. Subjects taken from within the relevant new generation degree but from a stream that reflects a different "way of knowing".

The Chair emphasised that the role of the Interim BUGS is to consider prospective breadth subjects based on pedagogical considerations without regard to resource and budget issues. The Chair also noted that she would circulate a list of the principles agreed to date on the determination of what is a breadth subject as an aide memoir for Interim BUGS members.

The Director of Melbourne Model Implementation reported that the new generation degree course proposals would need to provide an outline of where breadth subjects fit within course structures but that a definitive list of breadth subjects would not be necessary for the 23rd February meeting. It was nonetheless noted that some examples of breadth subjects would be helpful for the promotion of the Melbourne Model at the upcoming launch.

3.1.2 Joint Meeting of Interim BUGS and Undergraduate Programs Committee (UGPC)

At the previous meeting Interim BUGS members discussed the possibility of holding a joint meeting between Interim BUGS and the UGPC on 1 March. The Chair has discussed the possibility of the joint meeting with the Chair of UGPC and arrangements will be confirmed at a later date.

3.1.3 Number of Subjects under the Melbourne Model

The Chair informed members that she has requested data from the Academic Registrar on the number of undergraduate subjects currently offered by the University so that a comparison can be made with the number of subjects that will be offered under the Melbourne Model.

3.1.4 New Generation Degree Champions

The Chair noted a proposal that each new generation degree have one champion each for infrastructure, new student system liaison and knowledge transfer and three champions each for marketing, promotion and recruitment.

3.2 Verbal reports from Chairs of Course Standing Committees and progress towards development of new generation undergraduate degrees (standing item)

3.2.1 Bachelor of Arts

The Chair of the Bachelor of Arts (BA) CSC and the Dean of the Faculty of Arts reported on an important structural change in the BA course proposal. The BA CSC is proposing that subjects in psychology and economics be considered as breadth subjects. The academic rationale for including psychology and economics in the BA breadth component is that both disciplines contain content which reflects a "different way of knowing" from the core BA program.

The Chair of the Interim BUGS noted that the pedagogical merits of the BA proposal to include psychology and economics subjects as breadth subjects would be considered at the next meeting.

The BA CSC will examine a draft proposal for the new generation BA on 19th February. This will then be forwarded to the Interim BUGS for consideration on 23 February.

3.2.2 Bachelor of Commerce

The Chair of the Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) CSC reported on progress in the development of the new generation BCom. The BCom CSC will meet on 16 February to prepare the new generation BCom course proposal for submission to the Interim BUGS.

3.2.3 Bachelor of Environments

The Chair of the Bachelor of Environments (BEnv) CSC reported on progress in the development of the new generation BEnv. The BEnv CSC is finalising its course proposal for submission to the Interim BUGS.

3.2.4 Bachelor of Science

The Chair of the Bachelor of Science (BSc) CSC reported on progress in the development of the new generation BSc.

The BSc Chair noted that the CSC has agreed to allow BSc students to take (a) History and Philosophy of Science subjects as breadth subjects (b) more than 75 credit points of breadth subjects. Discussions are also taking place regarding majors in biotechnology.

The Chair of the BSc CSC noted that tight timelines have made the development of the new generation BSc challenging.

3.2.5 Bachelor of Bioscience (pending formal approval of name change to Bachelor of Biomedicine)

The Chair of the Bachelor of Bioscience (BBioSc) CSC reported on progress in the development of the new generation BBioSc. The basic architecture of the degree is in place and further discussions are taking place on (a) the trade-off between content and flexibility (b) the breadth component (c) the possibility of students enrolled in biomedical engineering courses accessing course content from the BBioSc.

3.2.6 Bachelor of Music

The Chair of the Bachelor of Music (BMus) CSC reported on progress in the development of the new generation BMus. The BMus CSC is finalising its course proposal for submission to the Interim BUGS.

3.3 "Orphan" Subjects

The Dean of the Faculty of Land and Food Resources requested clarification on arrangements for subjects which faculties wish to offer despite the fact that they do not fit in either the core program or the breadth component of any of the new generation degrees. It was agreed that the issue should be further considered at a future Interim BUGS meeting.

4 Reports of activities relating to the Interim BUGS

None.

5 For information

None.

6. Date of Next Meeting

2.15pm, Friday 23rd February 2007 in the Melbourne Institute Boardroom, Level 7, Alan Gilbert Building.

The meeting closed at 4.00pm

Distribution
Professor Loane Skene, Melbourne Law School (Chair)
Ms Joan Reese, Director, Melbourne Model Implementation
Professor Pip Pattison, President (Academic Board)
Ms Gillian Luck, Vice-Principal and Academic Registrar
Ms Linda O'Brien, Vice-Principal (Information Services)
Professor Tom Kvan, Dean, Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning
Professor Iven Mareels, Faculty of Engineering
Professor Belinda Probert, Dean, Faculty of Arts
Professor Margaret Abernethy, Dean, Faculty of Economics and Commerce
Professor Field Rickards, Dean, Faculty of Education
Professor Richard Roush, Dean, Faculty of Land and Food Resources
Professor Michael Crommelin, Dean, Faculty of Law
Associate Professor Ian Malkin, Associate Dean (Undergraduate), Faculty of Law
Professor James Angus, Dean, Faculty of MDHS
Professor Cathy Falk, Dean, Faculty of Music and Chair, Bachelor of Music Standing Committee
Professor Peter Rathjen, Dean, Faculty of Science
Professor Glenn Browning, Acting Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Science
Professor Jonty Stockdale, Head, School of Music, Victorian College of the Arts
Associate Professor Steve James, Chair, Bachelor or Arts Standing Committee
Professor Bill Griffiths, Chair, Bachelor of Commerce Standing Committee
Professor Ruth Fincher, Chair, Bachelor of Environments Standing Committee
Associate Professor Michelle Livett, Chair, Bachelor of Science Standing Committee
Professor Mark Hargreaves, Chair, Bachelor of Bioscience Standing Committee
Associate Professor Christine Ure, Associate Dean (Teacher Education), Faculty of Education
Ms Bree Ahrens, President, University of Melbourne Student Union
Ms Carmel Murphy, Director of Academic Programs (Student Access) (observer)
Dr Pat McLean, Manager, Growing Esteem Strategy Office (observer)

For Information
Professor Bruce Grundy, Deputy-Dean, Faculty of Economics and Commerce
Professor David Smith, Associate Dean (Academic), Faculty of Engineering
Professor David Chapman, Faculty of Land and Food Resources
Professor Bruce Singh, Associate Dean (Planning), Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences
Associate Professor Ian Holtham, Faculty of Music
Professor Andrea Hull, Director, Victorian College of the Arts