

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE
ACADEMIC BOARD
MEETING NO. 5/08

A meeting of the Academic Board was held in the Council Chamber on Thursday, 26 June, 2008 at 2.15 p.m. in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Old Quadrangle.

Present:

President, Professor P Pattison, in the Chair

Vice-Chancellor, Professor G Davis

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International), Professor F Larkins

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Graduate Research), Professor R Strugnell

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor L Yates

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Teaching, Learning and Equity) Professor S Elliott

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Global Relations) Professor W Bebbington

Deputy Vice-President, Professor R Slocombe

Senior Vice-Principal, Mr I Marshman

Vice-Principal (Information), Ms L O'Brien

Vice-Principal and Academic Registrar, Ms G Luck

Professor M Abernethy, Professor S Aranda, Professor A Bacic, professor J Borland, Ms E Buckingham, Professor D Clarke, Associate professor C Cobbett, Professor M Considine, Professor J Damousi, Professor P Desmond, Professor K Dovey, Professor P Ebeling, Associate Professor J Evans, Professor C Falk, Ms M Fee, Professor B Fehlberg, Professor B Galligan, Professor K Ghiggino, Professor A Goodwin, Professor J Gunn, Professor M Hargreaves, Professor L Hawthorne, Professor P Harris, Associate Professor J Hergt, Professor L Hollenberg, Ms L Howard, Associate professor S Howard, Professor A Hull, Professor C Humphreys, Professor A Jackson, Professor R James, Professor D Jamieson, Ms T Jonas, Professor G Lakomski, Professor V Mackie, Associate Professor H Malano, Professor N McBrien, Professor J McCalman, Professor P Mendis, Associate Professor R Misson, Professor A Moffat, Professor M Moris, Professor A Nirmalathas, Professor N Olekalns, Associate Professor M Patterson, Ms A Perez, Professor S Prawer, Professor S Rees, Professor F Rickards, Professor R Roush, Professor D Samson, Professor P Scales, Professor F Separovic, Professor A Shulkes, Professor B Singh, Professor P Smith, Professor L Sonenberg, Professor R Speed, Professor L Sterling, Professor P Taylor, Professor D Thomas, Professor P Vinden, Professor R Webster, Professor A Wearing, Professor G Whitwell, Professor G Wigglesworth, Professor M Zukerman.

Observers Mr S Bloodwater, Dr A Brigland, Mr M Brodsky, Dr R Cappai, Ms D Coleman, Mrs B Green, Mr M Coyle, Ms S Daroesman, Ms L Gilbert, Ms K Harris, Associate Professor C Harvey, Associate Professor B Hughes, Ms A McCredie, Dr P Mendis, Ms S Newton, Ms J Reese, Ms M Ruwoldt, Associate Professor A Smith, Associate Professor P Taylor, Ms J White, Mr G Williams,

In Attendance Ms P Pepperell (Academic Secretary)

Business

I Welcome

The President welcomed Professor Jonathan Manton and Professor Harry Paarsch as new members of the Board.

The President also welcomed participants in the HeadStart Program and members of the Expert Group, Project Team and Steering Committee Group on the Information Futures Commission.

2 Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Provost, Professor P McPhee,
Deputy Vice-Chancellor(Research)Professor P Rathjen
Vice-President, Professor G Stevens

3 Tabled Papers

The following papers were tabled:

Revised President's Report
Citations for Honorary Degree recipients
Citations for new Professors
Vice-Chancellor's Report
Selection Entry Pathways Sub-committee Report
Joint Committee of Academic Board and Heads of Colleges Report 1/08

4 Starring of Additional Items (item A.0)

The following additional items were starred – C1.5, C.5(a)

5 Minutes (item A.1)

The Board approved the minutes of meeting 4/08 held on 22/5/2008. The Board also approved the minutes of Academic Board Appeals committees held on 18/3/2008, 19/3/2008, 20/3/2008, 21/4/2008, 24/4/2008 and 13/5/2008.

6 Matters Arising from the Minutes (item A.2)

There were no matters arising.

7 Reports to Council (item A.3)

The Board received the following report:

7.1 Report from 22 May Board meeting to 12 May 2008 Council meeting (item A.3(a))

8 President's Report (item A.4)

8.1 The Board received a written report from the President.

8.2 Honorary Degrees

8.2.1 Award of Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters

The Board approved the award of an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters to a person named in the tabled citation.

8.2.2 Award of Honorary Degree of Doctor of Architecture

The Board approved the award of an honorary degree of Doctor of Architecture to a person named in the tabled citation.

8.2.3 Award of Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science

The Board approved the award of an honorary degree of Doctor of Science to a person named in the tabled citation.

8.3 Academic Board Working Group (Appendix A of the report)

The Board received a preliminary report from the working group.

The Board agreed to **recommend** the following amendment to the Legislation and Trusts Committee for the subsequent approval of Council. That Statute 4.1 be amended as follows to add a second postgraduate member:

“(m) the president and the education officers of UMSU and the president of UMPA and one nominee of the president of UMPA.”

The Board **approved** the recommendations for revisions to some of the Board’s committee structure from the beginning of 2009 including:

- Combining the Undergraduate Programs Committee (UGPC) and the Postgraduate Coursework Programs Committee (PCPC) to form the Academic Programs Committee (APC). The terms of reference for the new committee were approved.
- The Access Programs Sub-Committee and Student Entry Pathways Sub-Committee of Selection Procedures Committee would be disestablished and that Selection Procedures Committee (SPC) would assume the functions of those sub-committees.
- The Undergraduate and Postgraduate Coursework Scholarships Sub-committee of the SPC would become a Board committee in its own right. The committee would be named the Coursework Scholarships and Awards Committee and would advise the Board on policy for postgraduate coursework and undergraduate scholarship selection and related quality assurance processes and on the establishment of student awards related to these programs.
- The Examinations Working Group would be established as a sub-committee of the APC.

The Board **approved** the recommendations for the following revisions to the committee structure effective immediately:

- The Research and Research training Committee (R&RTC) would be disestablished as a Board Committee and be reconstituted as an advisory Research Committee to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research).
- The Research Higher Degrees Committee (RHDC), previously a sub-committee of the R&RTC, would become a committee of the Board.
- The Postgraduate Scholarships Committee would remain a sub-committee of RHDC, with unchanged terms of reference and composition, but renamed the Graduate Research Scholarships Committee (GRSC). Its purview would be extended to include those research scholarships that are specifically earmarked for indigenous students.

A central function of Academic Board is the determination and publication of policies and guidelines on academic matters in the University. As part of the Taking Responsibility for Making Melbourne Manageable review of University governance, the Board agreed that there would be a review of the academic policies and guidelines and the manner of their dissemination.

8.4 Concurrent Diplomas (Appendix B of the report)

The Board noted the report from the Academic Programs Management Committee Working Group on Concurrent Diplomas and an initial first draft of a Policy on Concurrent Diplomas. The Board **approved** the development of a policy on concurrent diplomas that would allow the undertaking of the diplomas by adding an additional full year of study and an additional 100 points to a student’s undergraduate degree.

8.5 Mater of Engineering and Bachelor of Engineering (Appendix C of the report)

The Board received a report from Professor Mareels and noted that the proposal therein had been considered at a meeting of the Selection Entry Pathways sub-committee at its 25 June 2008 meeting and that a report arising from that meeting had been included in the tabled papers (C.5 a refers).

The Board **approved** a proposal on guaranteed entry pathways into the proposed Master of Engineering noting that a course proposal would be forthcoming. The Board further

approved the proposal that the last intake of students into the Bachelor of Engineering would be in Semester 1, 2010 and that a formal request to discontinue the program would follow.

8.6 Action Taken by the President on Behalf of the Board (Appendix D of the report)

The Board noted action taken executively by the President on behalf of the Board.

9 Vice-Chancellor's Report (item A.5)

9.1 The Board received a written report from the Vice-Chancellor who highlighted selected parts of the report.

9.2 Supercomputer and Optiportal

The Vice-Chancellor acknowledged the efforts of Professor Geoff Taylor, Professor Peter Rathjen and Winsome McCaughey, who were instrumental in making the supercomputing facility that the University would soon develop a reality. He noted that it would be supporting life sciences research and would be accessible to researchers from the Parkville Precinct, Monash University and other Victorian research institutions. The University would also establish a Life Sciences Computational Centre staffed by computer science personnel who will build the computational capabilities required by life science researchers. Skills development and training programs for scientists and technicians to support research institutions throughout the Parkville Precinct will be provided.

The facility would be enhanced by the OptiPortal joint venture between the University and the State Government with the two complementing each other, allowing interactive visual analysis of massive datasets generated by a remote supercomputer. The OptiPortal would allow results from the new Life Sciences Computation Centre to be discussed interactively with collaborating researchers. Both these developments would enhance the research capabilities of the University attracting world class researchers.

9.3 Bradley and Cutler Reviews

The Vice-Chancellor advised that a discussion paper had been released by the Bradley Review's expert panel which called for submissions by 31 July 2008. The review had very broad terms of reference and covered all policy areas relating to the delivery of higher education and VET. The Vice Chancellor urged Board members to read the discussion paper, available on the web, and encouraged people to put in a submission.

9.4 Eddington Report

The Vice-Chancellor encouraged Board members to read the Eddington report on transport infrastructure which contained implications for the University.

9.5 Clunies Ross Award

The Vice-Chancellor noted that Professor Iven Mareels was one of five recipients of the 2008 Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) Clunies Ross Award, Australia's pre-eminent award for scientists and technologists which recognises research excellence and projects which make a significant economic, environmental and social impact. He further noted that Professor Mareels had been appointed, ongoing, as Dean of Melbourne School of Engineering.

9.6 Melbourne Scholarships Program 2009 (Undergraduate and Postgraduate Scholarships)

The Vice-Chancellor advised the Board that changes to the scholarships program would be recommended to Council. The aim of the changes was to better target the scholarships and

would empower the Provost to allocate coursework scholarships and to budget according to need, demand and strategic priorities.

10 Question Time (item A.6)

The President noted that a seminar series on Investing in the Future had been organised by the Centre for the Study of Higher Education in collaboration with the Martin Institute and that flyers on the series were available for members to collect.

11 General Discussion Items (item A.7)

11.1 Melbourne's Scholarly Information Future (item A.7 (a))

The Board received the final report of the Information Futures Commission Steering Committee and a further paper, Melbourne's Information Future, a 10 year strategy for the Development of the University's Scholarly Information Environment. The Vice-Principal, Ms O'Brien, made a presentation summarising the research and consultation process. Evidence gathered and feedback received during that process was included in the final findings of the Information Futures Commission and the proposed 10 year strategy. The Board noted the following points:

- Following the broad ranging consultation process and the publication of the draft findings, presented to the May meeting of the Board, members of the University were invited to review the draft documents and submissions were received in response to the draft strategy.
- The proposed 10 year strategy was a result of the consultation process and the subsequent responses. The strategy was before the Board for endorsement prior to submission to Council for approval.
- The timeline of the 10 year strategy was important with a 3 timeline strategy to show immediate, medium and long-term aims.
- One of the more immediate matters for consideration was improvement to research infrastructure required to attract and retain scholars, manage research data and improve research tools.
- Improvements are required to the storage and access to collections that are not catalogued or publicly accessible with valuable collections and archives of international significance that remain under-utilised and inadequately housed and library shelves stacked beyond their capacity. The digitalising of print and other materials would allow them to be accessible to staff, students and researchers.
- The University needs high-quality services and spaces, including libraries, to bring teaching and learning in line with the expectations of students and researchers.
- Many universities are finding the pressures of space require new ways to house collections and create research spaces.
- The University's proposed 10 year strategy attempts to resolve the issues of access to data, housing of collections and provision of spaces for study.

The following matters were raised in discussion:

- Digitising research papers, such as theses, and making these publicly available may contradict the University's Intellectual Property policy. The University would need to consider how to consider and resolve the tension between open access to research papers, IP policy and copyright issues.
- Not all researchers and students wanted digital copies of texts and journals; there was still very significant demand for print materials.
- Issues raised in the report included maintaining quality as well as improving access to collections and libraries.
- The strategy identified gaps in the current provision of information including, physical and electronic access, space and the lack of investment in currently held collections.

It was noted that the strategy, if adopted by the Board, would then go to Council for approval. Following Council approval a capital and infrastructure plan would be developed and governance arrangements for information and library systems would be considered which

would allow the University to meet the goals of the strategy.

The Board **noted** the Final Report of the Steering Committee and **adopted** the 10-year strategy.

12 Undergraduate Programs Committee Report of Meeting 4/2008 (item C.1)

12.1 The Board received the report from the Undergraduate Programs Committee

12.2 Proposals for Major Changes (Appendices A to K of the report)

The Board **approved** major changes to the following programs:

Bachelor of Arts minor in Politics and International Studies

Bachelor of Arts major in Politics and International Studies

Bachelor of Arts minor in Sociology

Bachelor of Arts major in Sociology

Bachelor of Arts major in Cinema and Cultural Studies

Bachelor of Arts major in Japanese

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in English

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Creative Writing

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in French Studies

Bachelor of Arts Honours in Cultural Studies

Bachelor of Arts Honours (Media and Communications) (Pending confirmation from SPC regarding entry requirements, the Committee)

12.3 Proposals for Discontinuation

The Board **approved** the discontinuation of the Bachelor of Arts minor in Socio-legal Studies.

12.4 Proposals for New University Breadth Subjects (Appendices L and M of the report)

The Board **approved** the breadth subjects:

Poetics of the Body 2

Poetics of the Body 3

12.5 Discontinuation of Head of School Undergraduate Prize – Shepparton (Appendix N of the report)

The Board **approved** the discontinuation of the Head of School Undergraduate Prize – Shepparton noting that the prize was awarded annually on academic merit to the student who had achieved the highest grade point average in the academic year for studies in the Bachelor of Nursing Science and that the course was no longer offered at the Shepparton campus.

12.6 Policy Proposals (Appendices O,P and Q of the report)

The Board received the following three proposed policies:

- Commencing Students at Risk Policy
- Students Experiencing Academic Disadvantage Policy
- Assessment Policy

and noted that the Students Experiencing Academic Disadvantage Policy and Assessment Policy had also considered by the Postgraduate Coursework Programs Committee and comments made were incorporated into subsequent revisions.

The Board noted that the policy relating to student disadvantage clarified the role of the student centres and changes to who would provide support. There had been wide

consultation in the drafting of the policy which had received general acceptance.

The Students At Risk policy was aimed at early intervention and targeted support and was not part of the unsatisfactory progress policy. The policy would apply to undergraduate students only.

The assessment policy had been through a number of iterations and a broad consultation process. The aim had been to develop a common and consistent approach to assessment across the University. It was noted that the document was complex and a process was required to ensure it became embedded in practice.

The Board **approved** the policies as recommended for publication and promulgation.

13 Research Higher Degrees Committee Report of Meeting 3/2008 (item C.2)

13.1 The Board received the report from the Research Higher Degrees Committee.

13.2 Renaming of Research Higher Degrees Theses Subjects

The Board **approved** the renaming of PhD, MPhil and all research higher degree theses subjects.

13.3 Prizes for Research Students

The Board agreed to **recommend** to Council the Harold Luntz Graduate Research Thesis Prize in the Melbourne Law School and **noted** the amendment to the Emeritus Professor Judith Parker Prize in the School of Nursing and Social Work, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences.

14 Legislation and Trusts Committee Report of Meeting 3/2008 (item C.3)

The Board approved the following legislation and resolved to recommend approval by Council:

- 14.1** Statute 9.56 – The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research
- 14.2** Statute 9.57 - Centre for Eye Research Australia
- 14.3** Regulation 7.1.R2 Addition of Chair
- 14.4** Regulation 17.1.R11 Disestablish Planning and Budget Committee
- 14.5** Regulation 17.1.R12 Disestablish the Committee of Deans
- 14.6** Regulation 17.1.R6 Purchasing Procedures and Delegations
- 14.7** Regulation 5.1.R1 Faculty of Arts Membership
- 14.8** Regulation 6.1.R7 Faculty of Arts Schools
- 14.9** Trust Regulation The Yvonne Aitken Bursary
- 14.10** Trust Regulation The Olive Battersby Scholarship Fund
- 14.11** Trust Regulation The Bebbington Prize
- 14.12** Trust Regulation The Miltiades and Alkistis Chryssavgis Scholarship
- 14.13** Trust Regulation The Katharine Ellis Memorial Fund
- 14.14** Trust Regulation The University of Melbourne French Trust Fund
- 14.15** Trust Regulation The Haasz Family Fund
- 14.16** Trust Regulation The Bruce C Hartnett Bursaries
- 14.17** Trust Regulation The Gerry Higgins Chair of Irish Studies
- 14.18** Trust Regulation The National Gallery of Victoria Arts Prizes Fund
- 14.19** Trust Regulation The Danny Sandor Prize in Children's Rights

- 14.20 Trust Regulation The BJ Shaw Law Prize
- 14.21 Trust Regulation The Sheridan Family Student Assistance Fund
- 14.22 Trust Regulation The ML Urquhart Prizes
- 14.23 Trust Regulation The Elizabeth Claire Wellisch Bequest

15 Selection Procedures Committee Report of Meeting 3/2008 (item C.5)

15.1 The Board received the report from the Selections Procedures Committee.

15.2 Resolutions on Selection (Appendix A of the report)

The Board agreed to **recommend** that Council approve the new selection resolutions and amendments to current selection resolutions for University programs.

15.3 STAT English Requirements

The Board received advice concerning the appropriate minimum for STAT written English scores for entrants to University courses. The Board agreed to **recommend** that Council approve the following:

- For non-school leaver entry applicants who have completed VCE English (or equivalent), but who have not met the required study score, the English language requirement may be satisfied by completing the Written English section of the STAT and achieving a score of at least 160.
- Students who achieve a score of 160-165 will also be required to undertake the DELA, and on the basis of that test may be advised or directed to take specific subjects permissible within their course structure (for example, through specified breadth subjects) or to use appropriate university-provided English-language development resources and activities.

15.4 Ameson Chinese Elite Scholars Scheme

The Board **approved** the recognition of the Ameson Chinese Elite Scholars Scheme as an entry pathway for a trial three-year period from 2009.

16 Student Entry Pathways Sub-committee (item C.5(a))

16.1 The Board received a report from the Student Entry Pathways Sub-committee.

16.2 Entry pathways to the Master of Engineering

The Board noted that this matter had been considered at item 8.5.

17 Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance Committee Report of Meeting 5/2008 (item C.7)

17.1 The Board received the report from the Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance Committee

17.2 Melbourne Experience Survey 2007: Report on First Year Experience (Appendix A of the report)

The Board received a report on the outcomes of the first year experience survey noting that students had expressed concerns relating to academic confidence, time available to devote to study and social connectedness. The Board further noted that the survey would be repeated in August and it was hoped there would be improved results in some areas.

17.3 Student Advice Program: Report to TALQAC (Appendix B of the report)

The Board received a report on the roll out of training offered to staff in the student advice program. The Board noted that there had been variability of take up between the faculties with more professional than academic staff being trained. The Board further noted that feedback about the program had been positive.

18 Teaching and Learning Development Committee Report of Meeting 3/2008 (item C.8)

18.1 The Board received the report from the Teaching and Learning Development Committee.

19 Postgraduate Coursework Programs Committee report of Meeting 4/2008 (item C.10)

19.1 The Board received the report from the Postgraduate Programs Coursework Committee.

19.2 Special Arrangements in Phasing-out Courses (Appendix A of the report)

The Board **approved** the provisions for the phasing-out of courses as recommended noting that the proposed arrangements had been developed in consultation with the President of Academic Board, Professor Pip Pattison, and with the coordinator of teaching-out, Dr Janet Hergt.

19.3 Proposal to Exchange Outgoing Exchange Eligibility Criteria (Appendix B of the report)

The Board approved the amendment to the criteria for outgoing student exchange as recommended.

19.4 Proposals for Discontinuation of Courses

The Board agreed to **recommend** to Council the discontinuation of intake into the following courses in the Faculty of Economics and Commerce:

Graduate Diploma in Economics

Master of Applied Commerce (Accounting) 12 Subject Program

Master of Applied Commerce (Marketing) 12 Subject Program

Master of Applied Commerce (Business Analysis and Systems) 12 Subject Program

Master of Applied Commerce 12 Subject Program

Master of Applied Commerce (International) 12 Subject Program

Master of Applied Commerce (International) 16 Subject Program

Master of Applied Commerce (Management) 12 Subject Program

Graduate Diploma in Management Studies

19.5 Proposals for Amendment to Existing Courses

The Board **approved** amendments to the following courses:

Melbourne Business School (Appendix C of the report)

Master of Business Administration

Faculty of Economics and Commerce (Appendices D to H of the report)

Master of Management [formerly known as the Master of Applied Commerce (Management)]

Master of Management (Accounting) [formerly known as the Master of Applied Commerce (Accounting)]

Master of Management (Marketing) [formerly the Master of Applied Commerce (Marketing)]

Master of Management (Business Analysis and Systems) [formerly the Master of Applied Commerce (Business Analysis and Systems)]

19.6 Proposals for New Courses

The Board agreed to **recommend** to Council the following new courses:

Faculty of Economics and Commerce (Appendices I to K of the report)

Master of Management (Economics)

Master of Management (Finance)

Master of Professional Accounting and Graduate Diploma in Professional Accounting

The following exit awards will be available in all Master of Management programs in the Faculty, as outlined in the respective appendices:

Graduate Diploma in Management

Graduate Certificate in Management

Faculty of Land and Food Resources (Appendix L of the report)

Master of Animal Science and

Postgraduate Diploma in Animal Science and Management

Faculty of Arts (Appendix M of the report)

Master of Islamic Studies and the

Postgraduate Diploma in Islamic Studies

Melbourne School of Engineering (Appendix N of the report)

Master of Mining Engineering

20 Joint Committee of Academic Board and Heads of Colleges Report of Meeting I/2008 (item C.11)

- 20.1** The Board received the report from the Joint Committee of Academic Board and Heads of Colleges.

21 Adoption or Receipt of Unstarred Items (item D.1)

The Board resolved that recommendations and reports that had not been starred should be adopted or received respectively.

22 Acknowledgement of the Secretary

The President thanked Mr Chris Reid for his valuable service to the Board during his time as Secretary and particularly acknowledged his care and thoughtfulness in dealing with Board matters and his valuable contribution to the Academic Board Working Group.

The meeting closed at 3.55 pm.