CHARTER OF AUSTRALIA INDIA INSTITUTE
Made under Section 13(3) Council Regulation

1 Establishment

The Australia India Institute (“AII”) was established by resolution of Council on 20 October 2008.

2 Objectives of AII

The objectives of AII are to facilitate the coordination and development of studies in Australia of Indian culture and its social, scientific and economic dimensions, and to enhance understanding and cooperation between Australia and India in these matters, including:

(a) facilitating collaborative study and research in Australian and Indian higher education institutions in disciplines concerned with Indian culture, society, science and economy;

(b) facilitating the growth of talented graduates in Australia familiar with the Indian sub-continent;

(c) deepening the understanding of India in Australia, including its business and general communities;

(d) strengthening relations between Australia, India and the Asia-Pacific region;

(e) providing opportunities for leading Australians and Indians to make substantial contributions to public discourse in both countries concerning cultural, social, scientific and economic issues of mutual interest to both countries;

(f) contributing to finding solutions to address fundamental challenges in such areas as food production, education, public health and the environment in India; and

(g) pursuing income generating opportunities to support the activities of AII, including philanthropic donations and selected fee for service activities.

3 Board of AII

(1) The Board is constituted as follows:

(a) Chancellor or nominee (chair);

(b) Vice- Chancellor or nominee;

(c) Director, Australia India Institute or nominee;

(d) one member with skills relevant to the activities of the AII, nominated by the Commonwealth Department of Education and Training;

(e) one member with skills relevant to the activities of the AII, nominated by the Victorian State Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources;

(f) up to three members with skills relevant to the activities of the AII, appointed by the Vice-Chancellor from time to time.

(2) Members of the Board under categories (1) (a) – (c) who are nominees:

(a) may have their membership withdrawn at any time at the discretion of the nominating member; or
(b) cease to be a member three years from commencement of their appointment or at the expiration of the nominating member’s term whichever occurs first.

(3) Members of the Board under category 1 (d) – (f) are appointed for a period of three years.

(4) Nothing in this section prevents the re-appointment of a member.

4 Functions and Duties of the Board

Subject to statutes, regulations, policies, procedures of the University and this Charter, the Board:

(a) formulates an annual budget for AII, for approval by Council or a committee of Council;

(b) exercises governance oversight of the operations of AII;

(c) sets the strategic directions of AII, including consideration and approval of its strategic plan and annual program of activities, and will monitor performance against those plans and programs.

(d) monitors performance by AII of the conditions of any grants from the Commonwealth of Australia or other sources.

(e) may establish an international advisory committee to assist in priority setting and building international linkages, the composition and terms applicable to any such committee to be as determined by the Board from time to time.

(f) the Board regulates its own proceedings.

5 Reporting

(1) The Board will report at least annually to Council through the Vice Chancellor on the operations of AII.

(2) All reports from AII as required by funding bodies and to the University will be presented for noting to the Board.

(3) The Board must publish an annual report on the activities of AII.

6 Staff of AII

(1) The Director and Chief Executive Officer of AII is appointed by Council on the recommendation of the Board and reports to the Vice-Chancellor or nominee on operational and academic matters and to the Board on governance matters.

(2) The Director of AII must lead and manage the academic and administrative activities of AII in accordance with University statutes, regulations, policies and procedures.

(3) Appointments of AII staff are made by the Director, and such appointments are reported by the Director to the Board as appropriate.

7 Review

On an annual basis, the Director of the Institute must review this Charter in consultation with the Board, and request Council to approve any amendments.