

COUNCIL MEETING**Report of the Chancellor**

The Chancellor advised of his participation in the following events:

- A meeting with Mr Bill Forwood, Chairman of Melbourne Polytechnic regarding further opportunities for collaboration with La Trobe and Melbourne Polytechnic (28 Feb 2017)
- Australian Israel Chamber of Commerce luncheon for The Hon Stephen Harper, Canada's 22nd Prime Minister (2 March 2017)
- Hosted the John Monash Foundation Scholars Presentation Ceremony and Dinner. La Trobe is a new member of the Universities' Consortium for this Foundation. (2 March 2017)
- Opened the 'Up Close' with David Hockney exhibit at the National Gallery of Victoria (4 March 2017)
- Attended the La Trobe Lawn Lunch on Sunday 5 March 2017.

Council noted a meeting for the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor had been arranged with the Minister's office for Wednesday 15th March to discuss Council appointments.

Report of the Vice-Chancellor

The Vice-Chancellor advised that:

- the Department of Education and Training is conducting a review of university legislation, with implications for owned entities and land disposal. Feedback from Universities has been requested by the Department by March 14. Council will be kept updated on this issue
- the Lawn Lunch on Sunday 5 March was a great success; attendance levels were high and over 415 alumni provided their previously unknown details to the Alumni team
- the reunion dinner for the first cohort was held on Friday 3 March. Mr David Morgan AO hosted and funded the dinner, to which 150 alumni attended
- there are a number of 50th anniversary events scheduled for this week including the Staff and Student BBQ on Wednesday 8 March and Hyllus Maris Lecture which will include an academic procession of over 40 indigenous alumni.

TEQSA Standards Alignment Report

Council were advised that:

- Work to ensure alignment will range from minor amendments to policy and procedures to more significant business processes
- A small team has been recruited to support progress and reporting and senior staff are highly supportive of the work required.
- The University currently faces significant challenges in obtaining consistent and regular data to support sustainable quality assurance, with the current system requiring resource intensive manual processes. A full data warehousing system is currently being scoped and a business case will be developed.
- A further internal review of the University's alignment with standards is scheduled for 2018. The next scheduled TEQSA review will be 2023.

Council **noted** the importance of this report and offered their full support to the University's approach to ensuring the alignment of its operations with requirements of the *Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2015*.

Finance and Resources Committee Report to Council

Council noted:

- the Report of the Finance & Resources Committee from its meeting on 22 February 2017
- the Financial Management Report and quarterly investment report as at 31 December 2016.

Council were advised the Environmental Protection Authority has issued a Pollution Abatement Notice that requires noise remediation on equipment in the Boiler House by 1 May 2017. The Boilers were identified as the primary source of the noise and due to their condition a replacement is required.

Infrastructure and Estates Planning Committee

Council noted the Report of the Infrastructure and Estates Planning Committee meeting held on 14 February 2017.

Dr Moors advised the storms of 29 December 2016 resulted in some of the highest rainfall ever recorded in Victoria and resulted in approx. \$3M in damages, recoverable from the insurer. Council noted the increased likelihood of weather events of this nature and highlighted the importance of long term strategies to deal with heavy rain events. Council noted the fantastic work of the Infrastructure and Estates team over the Christmas and New Year's period to ensure smooth operations for staff and students on their return to campus.

Academic Board Report to Council

Council **noted**:

- the Academic Board report to Council from a meeting held on Wednesday 8 February 2017
- the revised Timetabling of Teaching and Learning Space Policy was approved by the Board
- that Academic Board approved the award of Honorary Degrees, as referred by the Vice-Chancellor, to:
 - Professor Adrienne Clarke AC – DUniv.
 - Mr Bill Kelty AC – DUniv.
 - Dr Don Watson – DLitt.
 - Mr Terry Moran AC – DLitt.
 - Dr David Morgan AO – DLitt.
 - Mr Ahmed Fahour AO – DLitt.

Annual Financial Statements and Annual Report

Council **noted**:

- the written declaration of the VC and CFO that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, the figures as presented are true and accurate
- the recommendation for endorsement and sign off of the 2016 Annual Financial Statements from Corporate Governance Audit and Risk Committee
- that all members had their questions satisfactorily answered and that all changes suggested have been incorporated where appropriate.

Council **approved** the Annual Financial Statements for 2016 and authorised the Vice-Chancellor and Chancellor to sign on behalf of Council.