

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC BOARD

Minutes of the four hundred and thirteenth meeting of the Academic Board held in the Council Chamber, John Scott Meeting House, La Trobe University, Bundoora Campus on Wednesday 14 February 2007 at 9.30am

PRESENT: Professor C Handley (Acting Chair), Mr T Bajaj, Professor H Clarke, Dr R Croome, Professor S Crowe, Professor D de Vaus, Professor G Durden, Professor D Finlay, Professor J Fitzgerald, Ms M Frederico, Ms C Freebody, Mr B Goddard, Professor E Gow, Ms J Gwynn, Professor R Harbridge, Dr K Holmes (*vice* Professor T Murray), Professor N Hoogenraad, Dr L Howie, Dr J Jackson, Dr D Kirkby, Professor D Kirkpatrick, Professor M Lake, Ms L Lang, Ms L Lavender, Professor G Leder, Dr R Lewis (*vice* Professor L Ling), Dr J McArdle, Ms V Mansel Lees, Dr G Mayer, Dr J Oates, Professor R W Parish (Acting Vice-Chancellor), Professor S Paxton, Mr K Reed, Mr P Richardson, Professor M Rimmer, Dr M Ryan, Ms F Sheean, Dr K Souter, Professor G Stephenson, Professor H Swerissen, Dr D Tillet, Dr A Vongalis-Macrow, Professor G Walker, Professor R Walker, Professor H Westerbeek, Professor E Weigold and Mr Y Yang.

SECRETARIAT: Ms A Cowburn

IN ATTENDANCE: Professor R Adams, Professor D Altman, Professor R Brownlee, Mr B Carboon, Mr R Cook, Dr K Ferguson, Professor B Graetz, Professor F Hardman, Professor G Lamb, Professor R La Polla, Professor G Magee and Ms J Martin.

PART A: PROCEDURAL MATTERS

(i) Membership

The Board noted that Professor Chris Handley had been declared elected to the position of Acting Chair, Academic Board, for the period 14 February 2007 to 16 April 2007.

The Acting Chair welcomed the following new members of Academic Board:

- Mr Tarun Bajaj, Undergraduate Student – metropolitan campus
- Professor John Fitzgerald, Head, School of Social Sciences
- Mr Peter Foreman, Acting Head, School of Public Health
- Ms Margarita Frederico, Head, School of Social Work and Social Policy
- Ms Charon Freebody, Postgraduate Student – regional campus
- Ms Johanna Gwynn, Undergraduate Student – regional campus
- Professor Frank Hardman, Head, School of Educational Studies
- Dr Katie Holmes, Acting Head, School of Historical and European Studies
- Dr Diane Kirkby, Deputy Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Mr James McArdle, Interim Head, School of Visual Arts and Design
- Mr Andrew Plaisted, Undergraduate Student – regional campus
- Mr Yunbao (George) Yang, Postgraduate Student – metropolitan campus

(ii) Apologies and Attendance

Apologies were received for Dr Lin Crase, Mr Peter Foreman, Professor Noel Gough, Professor T Murray, Mr Antonio Pagliaro, Mr Andrew Plaisted, Professor Vaughan Prain, Professor Ian Robinson and Dr John Russell.

(iii) Approval of Agenda and ordering of Agenda Items

The Board resolved to approve the Agenda, as circulated.

The Board received the following tabled papers:

- AB07/03 *Attachment Q*, Report of the Library Promotions Committee
- AB07/03 *Attachment R*, Report of an appointment by invitation: Chair in Law
- AB07/03 *Attachment S*, Report of an appointment by invitation: Chair in Law (Consumer Law and Policy)
- AB07/03 *Attachment T*, Report of an appointment by invitation: Professor of Dentistry and Head of Department of Oral Health, Bendigo
- AB07/03 *Attachment U*, Report of the Selection Committee: Director, Health Sciences, Bendigo
- AB07/03 *Attachment V*, Report of the Selection Committee: Associate Dean, Health Studies
- AB07/03 *Attachment W*, Report of an appointment by invitation: Professor of Health Services Management
- AB07/03 *Attachment X*, Report of the Selection Committee: Director, Health Sciences, Albury-Wodonga
- AB07/03 *Attachment Y*, Report of: Chair in Civil Engineering
- AB07/05 Award of Degrees and Diplomas
- AB07/13 Report of the Selection Committee: Chair in Finance

(iv) Outstanding Matters

The Board received and noted report AB07/02.

(v) Matters approved on behalf of Academic Board

The Board received report AB07/03 and noted the following matters which had been approved on its behalf since its last meeting:

(a) Establishment of Prizes:

- (i) Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering: Azurn Scholarship, as detailed in Attachment A to report AB07/03;
- (ii) Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering: Murray Irrigation/La Trobe University Civil Engineering Scholarship Program, as detailed in Attachment B to report AB07/03;
- (iii) Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering: SJE Consulting/La Trobe University Civil Engineering Scholarship Program, as detailed in Attachment C to report AB07/03;
- (iv) Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering: Hema and Bala Kumble Family Award for third year Medical Science, as detailed in Attachment D to report AB07/03;
- (v) Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering: Hema and Bala Kumble Family Award for Bachelor of Medical Science (Honours), as detailed in Attachment E to report AB07/03;
- (vi) Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering: Coleambally Irrigation/La Trobe University Civil Engineering Scholarship Program; as detailed in Attachment F to report AB07/03;
- (vii) Bendigo Campus: La Trobe University Bendigo Unibank Postgraduate Scholarship, as detailed in Attachment G to report AB07/03;

(b) Membership of Committees:

- (i) *Selection Committee: Associate Dean, Health Studies*, as detailed in Attachment H to report AB07/03;
- (ii) *Selection Committee: Associate Dean, Allied Health*, as detailed in Attachment I to report AB07/03;
- (iii) *Selection Committee: Associate Dean, Research and Professor, Health Sciences*, as detailed in Attachment J to report AB07/03;
- (iv) *Selection Committee: Director, Health Sciences, Bendigo*, as detailed in Attachment K to report AB07/03;
- (v) *Selection Committee: Director, Health Sciences, Albury-Wodonga*, as detailed in Attachment L to report AB07/03;
- (vi) *Selection Committee: Associate Dean, Health Studies [amendment]*, as detailed in Attachment M to report AB07/03;

- (vii) *Selection Committee: Associate Dean, Allied Health [amendment]*, as detailed in Attachment N to report AB07/03;
- (c) Report of Academic Committee:
- (i) *Posthumous Awards Policy and Procedure*, as detailed in Attachment O to report AB07/03;
- (d) Report of the Research and Graduate Studies Committee, as detailed in Attachment P to report AB07/03;
- (e) Report of the Library Promotions Committee, as detailed in confidential tabled Attachment Q to report AB07/03;
- (f) Report of Selection Committees:
- (i) *Chair in Law [establishment of position and appointment by invitation]*, as detailed in confidential tabled Attachment R to AB07/03;
- (ii) *Chair in Law (Consumer Law and Policy) [establishment of position and appointment by invitation]*, as detailed in confidential tabled Attachment S to AB07/03;
- (iii) *Professor of Dentistry and Head of Department of Oral Health, Bendigo [establishment of position and appointment by invitation]*, as detailed in confidential tabled Attachment T to AB07/03;
- (iv) *Director, Health Sciences, Bendigo*, as detailed in confidential tabled Attachment U to AB07/03;
- (v) *Associate Dean, Health Studies*, as detailed in confidential tabled Attachment V to AB07/03;
- (vi) *Professor of Health Services Management [appointment by invitation]*, as detailed in confidential tabled Attachment W to AB07/03;
- (vii) *Director, Health Sciences, Albury-Wodonga*, as detailed in confidential tabled Attachment X to AB07/03;
- (viii) *Chair in Civil Engineering [appointment by invitation]*, as detailed in confidential tabled Attachment Y to AB07/03; and
- (g) Award of degrees and diplomas, as detailed in Attachment Z to AB07/03.

(vi) Report of the Acting Vice-Chancellor

The Acting Vice-Chancellor reported on a number of matters of current interest.

- (a) *Research*
- DEST research funding provided to the University in 2007 (IGS, RTS, RIBG, APAs) had decreased by \$796,000 from 2006. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) has been developing strategies to improve research performance and funding.
 - Congratulations to Professor Nick Hoogenraad who will be leading the CRC for Biomarker Translation. La Trobe University is the only university involved in the CRC; some \$30m has been awarded over seven years.
 - La Trobe is negotiating membership of the CRC for National Plant Biosecurity. La Trobe University would be the only university in south eastern Australia to be involved.
 - The Prime Minister has announced that as part of the approved funding from the Australian Government Water Fund, the Murray Darling Basin Freshwater Research Centre will receive a contribution of over \$1.8 million. This strengthens La Trobe's research in a topical area which will further enhance the University's profile as a leader in water research.
 - Negotiations are continuing with DPI and the State Government regarding the proposed National Biosecurity Centre.
- (b) *Learning and Teaching*
- Professor Denise Kirkpatrick, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic), will be leaving the University at the end of July to take up an appointment as Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching) at The Open University, UK. One of Professor Kirkpatrick's major goals in her remaining time with the University is to review promotions policies and procedures.
 - Only one Faculty made it into the top 10 in the Learning and Teaching rankings.
 - Faculties should be examining their units and ensuring they are in the correct clusters. A process is to be put in place to assist Faculties to ensure this is the case.

- (c) *Enrolments(% of target load at 13/2/07)*
- | | |
|--|--------|
| Faculty of Health Sciences | 107.8% |
| Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering | 96.3% |
| Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences | 95% |
| Faculty of Law and Management | 104% |
| Faculty of Education | 100% |
- The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Planning) advised that student commencements for the whole University were currently at 101.3%.
- (d) *Student One*
- It was planned to replace the Callista system with Student One. The original implementation date of Student One was September 2007. As a consequence of Technology One's software and delivery expectations being "stretched" as a result of its marketing success, problems with migrations from older to newer architecture, and the errors in recent releases, the implementation date will be delayed by up to four weeks. Since an October/November implementation coincides with our busiest time, implementation will need to be delayed until April 2008.
- (e) *Reviews*
- The University will be conducting a Review of the Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering, which will take place from 7-9 March.
 - A Review of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences will occur in May/June 2007.
 - The Regional Review report was endorsed by Council on Monday 5 February 2007.
 - A scoping review of the University Council was carried out late in 2006.
- (f) *Marketing and Communications*
- Ms Christine Morriss had been appointed to the new position of Executive Director, Marketing and Promotion to lead the restructured and enhanced Marketing Division).
- (g) *Workplace Productivity Program*
- A grant of \$8.8m has been requested from the Federal Government. Senior staff have met with an advocate in Canberra to assist in the application to DEST.
 - Reviews/Quality Assurance Assessments of the IPO, RGSO, Buildings and Grounds and Human Resources are to be held.
- (h) *Campus*
- The University has applied for a government grant to upgrade the sporting facilities .
 - Sewerage has been leaking into the Moat, which may need to be drained.
- (i) *External Meetings*
- The Acting Vice-Chancellor will be meeting next Tuesday with Jacinta Allen, Minister for Education Services and Employment and Minister for Women's Affairs.
 - The Acting Vice-Chancellor will be meeting with the Minister for Agriculture next Wednesday to discuss the NBC.
 - AVCC next meets in mid-March.
 - The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Planning) will be organising a campaign with other regional universities to lobby for additional funding for regional programmes.
- (j) *Vice-Chancellor Elect*
- Professor Paul Johnson, the Vice-Chancellor elect, visited the University for two weeks at the end of January. Senior Management is in regular contact with Professor Johnson.

PART B: MATTERS FOR APPROVAL

413.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2006 [AB06/172(M)] were confirmed.

413.2 ITEMS APPROVED WITHOUT DISCUSSION

413.2.1 Award of Degrees and Diplomas

The Board received tabled report AB07/05 and **resolved** to recommend to Council the award of degrees and diplomas as detailed therein.

EO(AB)

413.2.2 Establishment of prizes

The Board **resolved** to establish formally the following Prizes:

- (a) Health Sciences: The Orthoptic Association of Australia Inc Prize for Second Year Orthoptics, as detailed in report AB07/06;
- (b) Health Sciences: The Orthoptic Association of Australia Inc Prize for Third Year Orthoptics, as detailed in report AB07/07;
- (c) Science, Technology and Engineering: Nancy Millis PhD Excellence Prize, as detailed in report AB07/08;
- (d) Science, Technology and Engineering: Shire of Campaspe/La Trobe University Civil Engineering Scholarship Program, as detailed in report AB07/09;
- (e) Science, Technology and Engineering: Dean's Medal for Outstanding Service to Science and Engineering, as detailed in report AB07/10; and
- (f) Humanities and Social Science: First-Year American History Prize *[amendment]*, as detailed in report AB07/11.

Fac. Reg.
Ms L Smith
Ms A Forden

413.2.3 Adjunct Professorial Appointments

The Board received report AB07/12 and noted that the Vice-Chancellor and Acting Vice-Chancellor had recently made the following adjunct professorial appointments and **resolved** to report this to Council:

EO(AB)

- (a) Adjunct Professor: Dr James Luk, Department of Electronic Engineering, Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering (initial appointment);
- (b) Adjunct Associate Professor: Dr Mary Ell, School of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences (initial appointment);
- (c) Adjunct Associate Professor: Dr Rosemary Roberts, School of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences (re-appointment);
- (d) Adjunct Associate Professor: Dr Stephen Chu, School of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences (initial appointment);
- (e) Adjunct Associate Professor: Dr Kathy Alexander, School of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences (re-appointment);
- (f) Adjunct Professor: Dr Alison McClelland, School of Social Work and Social Policy, Faculty of Health Sciences (initial appointment);
- (g) Adjunct Associate Professor: Dr Bruce Smyth, School of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences (initial appointment);
- (h) Adjunct Associate Professor: Professor Randall Ellis, School of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences (initial appointment);
- (i) Adjunct Associate Professor: Dr Terri Jackson, School of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences (initial appointment);
- (j) Adjunct Professor: Dr Michael Lawriwsky, School of Business, Faculty of Law and Management (re-appointment); and
- (k) Adjunct Professor: Professor Hao Ping, Centre for China Studies (re-appointment).

413.2.4 Report of the Selection Committee: Chair in Finance

The Board received confidential tabled report AB07/13 and noted that the position of Chair in Finance had been offered to a candidate who decided not to take up the appointment. The Dean, Faculty of Law and Management, advised that further steps would be taken to fill the position within the next twelve months.

EO(AB)

413.2.5 Report of the Personal Chairs Committee

The Board received report AB07/14 and **resolved** to recommend to Council that the procedures for the award of a personal chair should be amended to reduce the minimum number of referee reports that must be obtained from eight to six.

Dr J Carr/
EO(AB)

The Board also noted that the Personal Chairs Committee would strongly support the introduction of promotion to Level E.

Mr Reed queried whether criteria could be added to make provision for staff members who reached outstanding performance, but not in research or learning and teaching.

The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) advised that the introduction of promotion to Level E would provide a different pathway for staff members. The Board noted that the criteria for promotion to Level E had not yet been developed.

413.3 STANDING COMMITTEES OF ACADEMIC BOARD

413.3.1 Report of Research and Graduate Studies Committee: 24 November 2006

The Board received report AB07/15.

(a) *Research Higher Degree Supervision*

The Board noted that the recommendations from the meeting of the Higher Degrees Committee (Research) had already been endorsed out-of-session [*see item 413(v)(d)*].

(b) *Research Quality Framework*

The Board noted that the RQF Development Advisory Group's recommendations had been released by the Minister on 14 November 2006. It was noted that the census date to determine eligible staff had been changed to 31 March 2007, membership in multiple groups was now possible, a moderating committee and a reference committee would be established, a new panel for professional discipline would be formed and the relationship between scores and funding would be linear, but the slope or gradient remained to be determined.

The Committee had agreed to modify the membership of the RQF Steering Committee and Portfolio Review Committee, as follows:

RQF Steering Committee:

- Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) (Chair);
- one Dean; and
- Director, Research and Graduate Studies Office.

Portfolio Review Committee:

- Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) (Chair);
- Separate membership for each Faculty comprising: the Associate Dean (Research) one outstanding researcher from the Faculty and one outstanding researcher from another Faculty.

Mr Reed noted that RQF deadlines were rapidly approaching and asked what additional resources or steps were being taken by the University to improve our RQF rating.

The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) advised that a number of resource issues had been addressed; the Arrow system had been introduced in the Library; and an RQF Task Force, co-ordinated by Robert Leckey had been established. It was noted that there were still a lot of unknowns with regard to the RQF guidelines.

Mr Reed queried whether the administrative and teaching loads of academic staff could be reduced to increase research outputs. The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) advised that this would be a desirable outcome, but that it would be up to the Heads of Schools and Deans to make these types of decisions.

The Vice-Principal (Resources and Administration) advised that there were two principles the University was committed to:

1. A Research Investment Fund had been created, with \$15million allocated to stimulate research;
2. The Workplace Productivity Program would identify savings and channel these into learning and teaching and research.

(c) *Membership*

Publications Committee

The Board noted that the Committee had approved the following appointments to the Publications Committee:

- Dr R Lewis, Faculty of Education (1 November 2006 – 31 October 2008); and
- Professor L Cahill, Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering (1 December 2006 – 30 November 2008) (alternate: Dr J Devlin).

Genetic Manipulation Supervisory Committee

The Board noted that the Committee had approved the following appointments, for the period 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2008, to the Genetic Manipulation Supervisory Committee:

- Dr V Stanisich (Category A, Microbiologist);
- Dr A Gendall (Category B, Biologist);
- Mr K Singh (Category D, Engineer);
- Dr I Swift (Category G, Science & Engineering, Bendigo);
- Dr S Herd (Category I, Co-opted member); and
- Mr Z Poulos (Category J, Occupational Health and Safety).

Human Ethics Committee

The Board noted that the Committee had approved the appointment of Mr M Sullivan and Mr B Shallies as Category E (Solicitor) members of the Human Ethics Committee, for the period 7 November 2006 to 31 December 2007.

413.3.2 Report of Academic Committee: 29 November 2006

The Board received report AB07/16.

(a) *Proposal to revise the Master of Coursework Teaching Program*

The Board **resolved** to endorse, for referral to Council, a proposal from the Faculty of Education to introduce a two year full time Master of Teaching course to replace the existing one year full time Master of Teaching course, as detailed in Attachment A to report AB07/16.

EO(AB)

(b) *Proposal to amend the nomenclature of the Graduate Certificate in Family Sensitive Practice*

The Board **resolved** to endorse, for referral to Council, a proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to amend the nomenclature of the Graduate Certificate in Family Sensitive Practice to the Graduate Certificate in Family Therapy (GradCertFamilyTher), as detailed in Attachment B to report AB07/16.

EO(AB)

(c) *Proposal to revise the Master of Clinical Family Therapy alternative exit*

The Board **resolved** to approve a proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to revise the Master of Clinical Family Therapy alternative exit, as detailed in Attachment C to report AB07/16.

Fac. Reg.

(d) *Proposal to introduce a Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Business*

The Board **resolved** to endorse, for referral to Council, a proposal from the Faculty of Law and Management to introduce a Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Business (LLB/BBus), as detailed in Attachment D to report AB07/16.

EO(AB)

(e) *Proposal to implement a Marketing major in the Bachelor of Business offered at Hanoi*

The Board **resolved** to approve a proposal from the Faculty of Law and Management to implement a marketing major in the Bachelor of Business offered at Hanoi, as detailed in Attachment E to report AB07/16.

Fac. Reg.

<p>(f) <i>Proposal to amend courses in the Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering</i></p> <p>The Board resolved to approve a proposal from the Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering to amend the following courses through the amendment of CSE4THA and CSE4THB, as detailed in Attachment F to report AB07/16:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Network Engineering • Bachelor of Software Engineering • Bachelor of Computer Systems Engineering • Bachelor of Computer Science in Games Technology • Bachelor of Computer Science (Hons)/Bachelor of Electronic Engineering • Postgraduate Diploma in Computer Science • Master of Computer Science • Master of Computer Networks • Master of Information Systems • Master of Software Engineering • Master of Information Technology – Bendigo • Master of Information Technology (Computer Networks) • Master of Information Technology (Intelligent Systems and Internet Computing) 	<p>Fac. Reg.</p>
<p>(g) <i>Proposal to change the nomenclature of the Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) to the Bachelor of Civil Engineering</i></p> <p>The Board resolved to endorse, for referral to Council, a proposal from the Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering to change the nomenclature of the Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) to the Bachelor of Civil Engineering (BCivEng), as detailed in Attachment G to report AB07/16.</p>	<p>EO(AB)</p>
<p>(h) <i>Proposal to offer the Science Double Degree program at the Bendigo campus</i></p> <p>The Board resolved to approve a proposal from the Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering to offer the Science Double Degree program at the Bendigo campus, as detailed in Attachment H to report AB07/16.</p>	<p>Fac. Reg.</p>
<p>(i) <i>Proposal to amend the Postgraduate Diploma in Computer Science</i></p> <p>The Board resolved to approve a proposal from the Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering to vary the structure of the Postgraduate Diploma in Computer Science, as detailed in Attachment I to report AB07/16.</p>	<p>Fac. Reg.</p>
<p>(j) <i>Proposal to introduce a Bachelor of Arts in Contemporary European Studies Honours degree</i></p> <p>The Board resolved to endorse, for referral to Council, a proposal from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences to introduce a Bachelor of Arts in Contemporary European Studies Honours degree, as detailed in Attachment J to report AB07/16.</p>	<p>EO(AB)</p>
<p>(k) <i>Proposal to discontinue the Master of Arts (Business)</i></p> <p>The Board noted that Academic Committee had endorsed a proposal from the Faculty of Law and Management to discontinue the Master of Arts (Business). There had been no new enrolments in this course for the past four years.</p>	
<p>(l) <i>Proposal to establish a Working Party to develop the University Assessment Policy</i></p> <p>The Board noted that Academic Committee had considered a proposal to establish a working party to develop the University Assessment Policy.</p> <p>The draft terms of reference were listed as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To develop a comprehensive university-wide assessment policy that reflects best practice in the assessment of student learning. 2. To consult the international literature on quality assessment practices. 3. To communicate the policy effectively to the university community. 	

The Working Party would report to Academic Committee.

(m) *Multi Campus Teaching Working Party*

The Board noted that Academic Committee had received the final report from the Multi Campus Teaching Working Party and the executive summary was detailed in Attachment K to AB07/16.

413.4 OTHER MATTERS

413.4.1 Introduction of Promotion to Level E proposal

The Board received report AB07/17, a proposal to introduce promotion to Level E.

Professor Clarke advised that he was not comfortable with the wording in the covering paper that *“It is proposed that the University introduce Promotion to Level E allowing staff to gain promotion on the basis of outstanding performance in research or teaching.”*

Members of the Board agreed that the recommendations were clear that promotion to Level E would be on the basis on outstanding performance in research and scholarship or research and scholarship and learning and teaching.

The Board **resolved** to endorse, for referral to Council, that:

- the University introduce promotion to Level E on the basis of outstanding performance in research and scholarship or research and scholarship and learning and teaching;
- the University promotions policy and procedures be amended to include promotion to Level E; and
- a sub committee be established to develop criteria for promotion to Level E.

Dr J Carr
PVC (A)
EO (Sec)

413.4.2 Professorial Reports

(a) *Professor John Gatt-Rutter (Italian Studies)*

The Board received and noted, for referral to Council, a professorial report submitted by Professor John Gatt-Rutter (Italian Studies), as detailed in report AB07/18.

EO(Sec)

Dr Reed noted that Professor Gatt-Rutter had made a point of the impact of semesterisation on teaching language and culture and queried whether it was in the University's interests to continue with a one size fits all approach to semesterisation.

The Vice-Principal (Resources and Administration) agreed to review this issue and bring an issues paper back to the Board.

VP(R&A)

The Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, advised that the Faculty had no intention of reviewing semesterisation.

413.4.3 Committee on Outside Studies Programs: Annual Report for 2006

The Board received report AB07/19 and **resolved** to accept and endorse the Annual Report for 2006 of the Committee on Outside Studies Programs.

Sec. COSP

413.4.4 2005 Annual Reports of the Faculties

(a) *Education*

The Board received and noted the 2005 Annual Report of the Faculty of Education, as detailed in report AB07/20.

(b) *Humanities and Social Sciences*

The Board received and noted the 2005 Annual Report of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, as detailed in report AB07/21.

413.4.5 2006 Annual Report of the Philippines Australia Studies Centre (PASC)

The Board received and noted report AB07/22, the 2006 Annual Report of the Philippines Australia Studies Centre (PASC).

413.4.6 2006 Annual Report of the Thesis Eleven Centre for Critical Theory

The Board received and noted report AB07/23, the 2006 Annual Report of the Thesis Eleven Centre for Critical Theory.

PART C: MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

413.5 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

413.5.1 Regulation 7.1, Composition, Procedures and Election of the Academic Board

The Board received and noted report AB07/24, Regulation 7.1, Composition, Procedures and Election of Academic Board, which had been revised and approved by Council.

413.5.2 Minutes of the Faculty Boards

The Board received and noted the following minutes of the Faculty Boards:

(a) Humanities and Social Sciences: 4 October 2006 LHUSS/FB2006/124M

413.5.3 Minutes of the Library Committee: 27 October 2006

The Board received and noted the minutes of the Library Committee, as detailed in report LIB06/38.

PART D: QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

There were no "Questions with Notice" provided.

PART E: DISCUSSION

413.6 REGIONAL REVIEW

The Board received and noted AB07/25, the executive summary of the Regional Review Report.

The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Development) spoke to the report and advised that Council had accepted all the recommendations in the report at a meeting held on Monday 5 February 2007.

The Pro Vice-Chancellor reported that key issues in the Report included:

- A stronger strategic framework would be necessary, linked to the University and Faculty strategic plans, to support an unequivocal commitment to the regions.
- Campus Heads position descriptions needed to be reviewed.
- The University should maintain a presence at all four regional sites: Bendigo, Albury-Wodonga, Mildura and Shepparton.
- More flexible teaching approaches were required.
- Better marketing and communications in the region were required (the restructure of Marketing and Engagement would assist).
- The development of closer partnerships with government at all levels was essential.
- There was no evidence that the regional campuses were hindering the University in its aspiration, as stated in the Strategic Plan, to be within the top ten universities nationally.
- The Working Party did not agree with the supposition that the regions were holding back University research. There were seen to be many opportunities for increased research in the regions ie. water.

- The costs of course delivery in the regions were greater than in metropolitan Melbourne and that the current levels of government loading were inadequate to cover these. The Working Party recommended that the University take full advantage of the coming federal election year to target the many targeted seats in which regional campuses were located with the strong support which had been offered by local communities.
- The financial analysis which had been undertaken for the review had not been able to identify precisely indirect costs. The Working Party recommended that, as it was vital that the proposed political campaign be informed by accurate and objective data, an expert consultant be engaged to undertake a more detailed analysis of the indirect costs of regional and metropolitan operations.
- Community engagement should feature prominently in the recommended regional strategy. In particular, the Regional Advisory Boards should be given a more active role through revised terms of reference.

It was queried why there had been a general decrease in student numbers in Bendigo this year. The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Development) was not convinced that this was a trend and advised that the Bendigo campus assisted the University with their enrolment quota in 2006. It was agreed that the University's profile in Bendigo and other campuses needed to be improved.

The Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, queried what would happen with regard to the regions if additional funding was not provided by the government. The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Development) advised that there were a number of programs running 'profitably' regionally and that the University would be looking at what changes could be made to other programs to reduce costs. This would occur irrespective of funding arrangements

Ms Gwynn was concerned about the commitment being made to nursing, accounting and teaching and stated that there needed to be a wide range of offerings at the regional campuses. The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Development) advised that the University needed to be mindful of the costs of provision and needed to be assured of strong and sustained demand for any courses offered. Ms Hughes suggested that marketing in the regions should be reviewed prior to any rationalisation of offerings.

Mr Bajaj asked what initiatives were being taken by regional campuses to encourage international students. The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Development) advised that there would be strategies articulated in the international strategic plan once the review of the international functions of the University had occurred.

The Chair queried if a marketing plan would be provided and if this would impact on the regions. The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Development) advised that a marketing plan would be developed as part of the restructure of the marketing area and that this plan would have regional elements.

The meeting closed at 10.55am.

NEXT MEETING: **9.30am**
 Wednesday 21 March 2007
 Council Chamber
 John Scott Meeting House
 Bundoora Campus

CONFIRMED BY CHAIR _____

DATE _____