

**LA TROBE UNIVERSITY**  
**ACADEMIC BOARD**

Minutes of the four hundred and fortieth meeting of the Academic Board held in the Council Chamber, John Scott Meeting House, La Trobe University, Bundoora Campus on Wednesday 12 May 2010 at 9.30am.

**Present:** Professor Malcolm Rimmer (Chair), Professor Carol Adams, Ms Lee Ann Bassar, Dr Meeuwis Boelen, Professor Andrew Brennan, Professor Philip Broadbridge, Professor Tim Brown, Professor Lin Crase, Professor Simon Crowe (Deputy Chair), Professor Ainslie Dewe, Ms Kirsty Duncan, Ms Roxan Fabiano, Mr Neil Fetting, Professor Paul Fisher, Dr Kerry Fitzmaurice, Ms Margarita Frederico, Dr Elspeth Frew, Professor Sandy Gifford, Professor Noel Gough, Ms Cham Thuy Ha, Dr Jim Hammerton, Dr Trevor Hogan, Dr Peter Hughes, Dr Julie Jackson, Dr Tony Jarvis, Dr Elizabeth Johnson, Professor Paul Johnson (Vice-Chancellor), Dr Terri Joiner, Dr Stephen Kent, Professor Jae Kim, Professor Dianne Kirkby, Professor Marilyn Lake, Ms Liz Lavender, Dr Katherine Legge, Professor Lorraine Ling, Dr Norva Lo, Dr Geoffrey Mayer, Professor Brian McGaw, Professor Tim Murray, Mr Venkat Narayanan, Professor Roger Parish, Ms Kathleen Pleasants, Dr Doug Rogers, Dr Ewen Silvester, Dr Kay Souter, Mr Robert Stephenson, Professor Hal Swerissen, Dr Glyn Thomas, Dr Pamela Wallace, Dr Julie White and Dr David Wilkinson.

**Secretariat:** Angela Cowburn, Executive Officer (Academic Board), Governance Policy and Planning Unit

**In Attendance:** Professor Allan Borowski, Professor Judith Brett, Professor Jim Cameron, Mr Bruce Carboon, Mr David Ensor, Professor Richard Freadman, Professor Don Harding, Professor Gavin Jack, Dr Mary Kennedy-Jones, Ms Marian Obenchain, Professor Leann Tilley and Professor Yvonne Wells.

**PART A – PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

	<b>ACTION</b>
<p><b>(i) Apologies</b></p> <p>Apologies were received from Professor Tom Angelo, Dr Andrew Brookes, Professor Jianfu Chen, Dr Megan Davidson, Dr Kerry Ferguson, Professor Tanya Fitzgerald, Professor Nick Hoogenraad, Dr Linsey Howie, Dr James McArdle, Dr Jenni Oates, Dr Sue O’Keefe, Professor Belinda Probert, Professor John Rosenberg, Dr Jennifer Sheed and Professor David Spencer.</p>	
<p><b>(ii) Approval of Agenda</b></p> <p>The Board resolved to approve the Agenda, as circulated.</p>	
<p><b>(iii) Outstanding Matters</b></p> <p>The Board received and noted report AB10/62.</p>	

**(iv) Matters Approved on Behalf of Academic Board**

The Board received report AB10/63 and noted the following matters which had been approved on its behalf since the last meeting:

- (a) Award of degrees and diplomas and conferring of awards *in absentia*, as detailed in Attachment A to AB10/63.
- (b) A proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to establish the Lamisil Best Final Year Podiatry Award, as detailed in Attachment B to AB10/63.

**(v) Report of the Vice-Chancellor**

The Board received and noted tabled paper AB10/64, the Report of the Vice-Chancellor, which can be located at the following link: <https://intranet.latrobe.edu.au/academicboard/assets/downloads/vc-reports-2010/VC's-report-May2010.pdf>. The report included information regarding the following matters:

- (a) *Enrolments*
  - Undergraduate domestic enrolments
  - International enrolments
- (b) *Strategic Operational Planning*
- (c) *Structural Adjustment Fund*
- (d) *Sustainable Research in Excellence (SRE) and Joint Research Engagement (JRE) Funding*
- (e) *Accolades*
  - *Professor Tim Murray*: elected as one of the two Vice-Presidents of the Academy of the Humanities.
  - *Professor Leann Tilley and Dr Andrew Peele*: awarded funding of \$275,000 from the Australian Research Council's "Super Science Fellowships" scheme.
  - *Professor Graeme Clark AC*: awarded an honorary doctorate by Zaragoza University, Spain, in recognition of his pioneering work in developing the multi-channel cochlear implant.
  - *Professor David Vaux*: awarded the 2010 Macfarlane Burnet Medal by the Australian Academic of Science.
- (f) *Meeting with the ambassador of Greece*

**PART B – MATTERS FOR APPROVAL**

**440.1 Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2010 [AB10/60(M)] were confirmed.

**440.2 Items for Approval not requiring discussion**

**440.2.1 Award of Degrees and Diplomas**

The Board received report AB10/65 and **resolved** to endorse the award of degrees and diplomas, higher degrees, conferring of awards *in absentia* and rescission of award, as detailed therein.

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RGSO

#### 440.2.2 Establishment of Prizes

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

- (a) Science, Technology and Engineering: RS Components Prize for Quality Project Management, as detailed in report ABI0/66.
- (b) Alumni and Advancement Office: The La Trobe University B. Manjee Memorial Scholarships, as detailed in report ABI0/67.
- (c) Alumni and Advancement Office: The La Trobe University Founding Cohort Scholarships, as detailed in report ABI0/68.
- (d) Law and Management: Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Forensic Accounting Prize, as detailed in report ABI0/69.
- (e) Law and Management: SAP Australian User Group Prize, as detailed in report ABI0/70.
- (f) Law and Management: Logie-Smith Lanyon Lawyers 'Top Student', as detailed in report ABI0/71.

Dir.O&P  
A&AO  
Ms D Lynn  
Ms K Allitt

#### 440.2.3 Membership of Committees

(a) *Committee on Outside Studies Program*

The Board **resolved** to approve the membership of the Committee on Outside Studies, as detailed in ABI0/72.

Ms H  
Panagidis

#### 440.2.4 Course approvals

- (a) Academic Board **resolved** to endorse the proposal from the Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering to amend the course structure of the Bachelor of Psychological Science, as detailed in ABI0/73.
- (b) Academic Board **resolved** to endorse the proposal from the Faculty of Law and Management to enter into an international agreement for a new double qualification: La Trobe University Master of Business Administration/European Business School Master of Management, as detailed in ABI0/74.

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### 440.3 Standing Committees of Academic Board

#### 440.3.1 Report of Regional Committee: 14 April 2010

The Board received report ABI0/75 and noted that the Regional Committee had considered the following items at their most recent meeting:

- Regional growth in EFTSL had been very strong in 2010.
- A review of regional costs had been completed. Across the regional operation, revenue and expenditure were close to being balanced, nevertheless, for the regional operation to adhere to the university profit margin of 5% the regions would need to raise an additional \$4 million.
- All faculties reported some progress in the development of their diplomas.
- Course Advisory Boards and Regional Advisory Boards were being reviewed in respect of their place in the developing industry and community engagement strategy.
- A subgroup would be established to develop a marketing framework for 2011.

#### 440.3.2 Report of Research and Graduate Studies Committee: 28 April 2010

The Board received report AB10/76.

- (a) *Research and Graduate Studies Committee: composition*  
The Board **resolved** to endorse the addition of the University Librarian (or nominee) to the composition and membership of the Research and Graduate Studies Committee, as detailed in Attachment A to AB10/76.
- (b) *Institute of Advanced Studies*  
The Board **resolved** to endorse, for referral to Council, the proposal that the name 'Institute of Advanced Studies' no longer be used by the University.
- (c) *Human Ethics Committee applications*  
The Board **resolved** to endorse the proposals regarding Human Ethics Committee applications, as detailed in Attachments RGS/10/65, RGS/10/66 and RSG/10/67 to AB10/76.
- (d) *Professor Annabelle Duncan, Executive Director (Science Collaboration)*  
The Board noted that Professor Annabelle Duncan, Executive Director (Science Collaboration) had accepted the position of Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) at the University of New England.
- (e) *Open Access Publications Incentive Scheme*  
The Board noted that the Research and Graduate Studies Committee had endorsed the proposal for the Open Access Publications Incentive Scheme and recommended to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) that a six month trial of funding open access journal publications, up to a limit of \$20,000 be instigated.
- (f) *Quality Publication Reward Scheme*  
The Board noted that the Research and Graduate Studies Committee had not endorsed the proposal for a Quality Publication Reward Scheme (publication in A\* journals) and recommended that funds should be used to support the University's research strengths.
- (g) *Review of the Research Centre for Linguistic Typology*  
The Board noted that the Research and Graduate Studies Committee had endorsed the terms of reference for the Review and the Review Panel composition.
- (h) *The Day Report on Animal Usage*  
The Board noted that the Day Report on Animal Usage had been presented to the University on 15 April and would be considered by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) and the Planning and Resources Committee.

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#### 440.4 Other Matters

##### 440.4.1 2009 Annual Report of the Committee on Outside Studies Programs

The Board **resolved** to endorse the Annual Report of the Committee on Outside Studies Programs for the year 2009, as detailed in report AB10/77.

Ms H  
Panagidis

The Board also **noted** that the Committee intended to review the HRM, Section 8.2.2, *Eligibility Criteria*, and Section 8.2.3, *Eligibility*, in order to consider the possibility of offering Outside Studies Programs to some research-only staff.

Ms H  
Panagidis

## **PART C – MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

### **440.5 Items for Information**

#### **440.5.1 Adjunct Appointments**

The Board received report ABI0/78 and noted that the Vice-Chancellor had recently made the following adjunct appointments:

Dr J Carr

- (a) Adjunct Professor: Dr Freya Mathews, Philosophy Program, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (appointment – three years).
- (b) Adjunct Professor: Professor Jean-Charles Pinoli, Electronic Engineering, Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering (appointment – three years).
- (c) Adjunct Professor: Professor Sidney Morris, Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering (appointment – three years).

#### **440.5.2 Report of Academic Promotions Committee: May 2010**

The Board received the Report of the Academic Promotions Committee: May 2010 and noted that the persons named therein had been promoted, as detailed in report ABI0/79.

#### **440.5.3 Senior Academic Appointments**

The Board received report ABI0/80 and noted that the following senior academic appointments had recently been made:

- Dr Tim Majoribanks, Professor of Management.
- Professor Paula Baron, Chair in Common Law.
- Dr Robert Nyamori, Associate Professor in Accounting.
- Dr Sue O’Keefe, Associate Professor in Management.
- Dr Roger Douglas, Chair in Law.

#### **440.5.4 Centre for Dialogue 2009 Annual Report**

The Board received and noted report ABI0/81, the 2009 Annual Report of the Centre for Dialogue.

#### **440.5.5 Minutes of the Faculty Boards**

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

- (a) Law and Management: 27 April 2010 [FLM/FB10/03(M)]

## **PART D – DISCUSSION**

### **440.6 The Implications of ERA**

#### **Discussion Panel:**

- (a) Professor Tim Brown, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
- (b) Professor Marilyn Lake, Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

- (c) Professor Gavin Jack, Professor of Management, Faculty of Law and Management

Professor Tim Brown, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), opened the discussion regarding the implications of ERA and spoke to a presentation which can be accessed at the following link:

<https://intranet.latrobe.edu.au/academicboard/assets/downloads/discussions-2010/ERAAcademicBoard-May2010.pdf>.

Professor Marilyn Lake advised that she had been Chair of the HCA cluster for the trial in 2009 and was currently Chair of HCA this year. She reported that they had five 2 digit codes for which to write background statements and eleven 4 digit FORs to prepare for submission for peer review and made the following points regarding the ERA process:

- Comparative survey across the country.
- Comparative survey across the University.
- The disciplinary categories cannot be easily mapped onto the University's programs.
- There will be implications for strong researchers who fall outside the strong FORs.
- Need to work together across the University and across programs.
- Review how to reward outstanding achievers.

Professor Gavin Jack advised that he was the Chair of Cluster 4 which included 5 subject disciplines (Education, Economics, Social Sciences, Psychology, Commerce/Management). He spoke about the implications of ERA on the sector as a whole; the University and its constituent Faculties, Schools, Centres etc; the individual and the ARC. The following points were highlighted:

- ERA may foster a strategic drive for greater focus on resource allocations to research strengths.
- Reputational outcomes and star researchers being bought.
- May create difficulties for early career researchers.
- Likely to create a greater chase for funding and reputational success.
- Clusters do not map easily onto existing programs, which may create cross-Faculty fields of research.
- University should be careful regarding how ERA data is used.
- May foster new areas of research.
- University should lobby ARC regarding how they gather data and what type of data they use.

Discussion:

Professor Tilley asked the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) how many FOR codes at 4 or above the University would have? Professor Brown advised that it would be disappointing if the University didn't get a decent number of 4s, but that he was not terribly optimistic about being in the top 5 of Australian universities.

Professor Brett suggested that the University needed to think about the recruitment and retention of research excellent staff and that in this context the following issues needed to be taken into account:

- Rapidly declining infrastructure.
- Barrage of change from Design for Learning.
- Uncertainty due to the Administrative Change Program.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) advised that the workload model would be a key tool regarding the issues raised.

Professor Parish commented that historically a drop in morale could affect research output and advised that the University should be mindful about the poaching of staff that the ERA process would likely create.

The meeting closed at 10.50am.

**440.7 Next Meeting**

9.30am

Wednesday 9 June 2010

Council Chamber

John Scott Meeting House

Bundoora Campus

Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_