



ACADEMIC BOARD

MINUTES

Meeting 509 of the Academic Board was held, on Wednesday 13 February 2019 at 9.30am in the Chamber, John Scott Meeting House, Melbourne Campus.

Present:

Professor Christine Bigby (Chair), Professor Paula Baron (Deputy Chair), Professor John Dewar, Dr Hossam Aboel Naga, Dr Julie Andrews, Dr Kate Ashman, Ms Carolyn Ballagh, Dr Josie Barbaro, Dr Joanna Barbousas, Dr Pauleen Bennett, Dr Ishaq Bhatti, Professor Nick Bisley, Professor Irene Blackberry, Professor Lynn Bosetti, Dr Narelle Brack, Dr Kate Bridgman, Professor Lisa Brophy, Ms Donna Burnett, Dr Edgar Burns, Ms Elizabeth Capp, Dr Buly Cardak, Professor Leeanne Carey, Professor Mike Clarke, Ms Sarah Cox, Professor Amalia Di Iorio, Dr Michael Dillon, Dr Elly Djouma, Professor Grant Drummond, Dr Jason Dutton, Professor David Edvardsson, Dr Nicole El-Haber, Professor Simon Evans, Dr Christopher Fisher, Professor Margarita Frederico, Dr Warwick Frost, Dr Deborah Gleeson, Dr Peter Green, Professor Jane Hamilton, Mr Abdul Haseeb, Professor Andrew Hill, Mr Brad Hodge, Professor Katie Holmes, Professor Russell Hoye, Professor Patrick Humbert, Professor Helen Irving, Mr Greg Jamieson, Dr Katherine Jukic, Mr Akesh Kakarla, Dr Sejal Kendal, Professor Amanda Kenny, Professor Stephen Kent, Mr Mohsin Khawaja, Ms Julie Kiroloch, Ms Spomenka Krizmanic, Professor Emmanuel Kuntsche, Dr Prem Kurup, Professor Nicki Lee, Professor Birgit Loch, Professor Christopher Mackie, Dr Kate Mai, Professor Susan Martin, Professor James Maxwell, Dr Clare McCausland, Professor Dennis McDermott, Professor Lisa McKenna, Dr Sarah Midford, Dr Robyn Murphy, Dr Deborah Neal, Professor Matthew Nicholson, Professor Mary Anne Noone, Dr Jodi Oakman, Professor Jennifer Oates, Professor Chris Pakes, Professor Robert Pike, Dr Luke Prendergast, Dr Sonia Reisenhofer, Dr Tania Romano, Professor Miranda Rose, Ms Fiona Salisbury, Dr Jeremy Seward, Dr Mahsood Shah, Mr Abd Al Rahman Shehada, Professor Brian Smith, Mr Kelly Smith, Professor Richard Speed, Dr Evelien Spelten, Mr Robert Stephenson, Mrs Emma Stirling, Dr Rwth Stuckey, Professor Vijaya Sundararajan, Dr Gwenda Tavan, Dr Colleen Thomas, Dr Guinever Threlkeld, Professor Jessica Vanderlelie, Dr Suzane Vassallo, Dr Terrie Waddell, Professor James Walker, Professor Yvonne Wells, Mr David Wishart, Ms Andrea Young, Professor Lawrie Zion.

In Attendance:

Dr MaryAnne Aitken, Dr Emmaline Bexley, Dr Richard Frampton, Ms Robyn Harris, Dr Andrew Harvey, Ms Fiona Reed, Mr James Richardson.

Secretariat:

Ms Samantha Ashton, Senior Executive Officer, Governance and Policy Services

Apologies:

Professor Kerri-Lee Krause, Professor Michael Angove, Professor Jordana Bayer, Dr Melanie Bish, Professor Nick Bond, Mr Michael Carney, Professor Jill Cook, Professor Kay Crossley, Dr Geoff Dickson, Professor Bircan Erbas, Professor Matthias Ernst,

Apologies continued:

Professor Tanya Fitzgerald, Dr Tracy Fortune, Professor Paul Gastin, Professor Anthony Gendall, Professor Mark Gussy, Mr Simon Hall, Mr Damien Hamel, Dr Emma Henderson, Professor Rachel Huxley, Professor Catherine Itsiopoulos, Professor Petro Kalev, Professor Fiona Kelly, Professor Patrick Keyzer, Professor Sandra Leggat, Professor Susan Martin, Dr Silvia McCormack, Professor Susan McDonald, Mr Leon Morris, Dr Suzanne O'Keefe, Dr Greg Powell, Mr Peter Powell, Ms Georgia Seth, Professor Jill Slay, Mr Mark Smith, Professor Pamela Snow, Ms Mira Stammers, Dr Keir Strickland, Professor Angela Taft, Professor Anne Wallace, Professor Jim Whelan, Professor Carlene Wilson, Dr David Wilson, Professor David Winkler, Professor Suzanne Young.

Acknowledgement to Country:

Dr Julie Andrews acknowledged and paid respects to the traditional owners of the land upon which the La Trobe Campuses are situated: Latji Latji and Barkindji (Mildura), Dja Dja Wurrung (Bendigo), Dhudhuroa and WayWurru (Wodonga), Yorta Yorta and Bangerang (Shepparton), Wurundjeri (Bundoora), Wurundjeri and Boonerwung (City) and Gadigal (Sydney). On behalf of the University Dr Andrews paid respects to the elders past and present, emerging leaders and future generations.

Dr Andrews informed the Board that on Friday 15 February 2019 at the Bundoora Campus, Aboriginal Studies will host a Public Lecture by visiting Central Queensland University Professor, Gracelyn Smallwood. She has over 50 years experience as an aboriginal midwife and her lecture is titled 'My Life Journey - 50 years of Nursing, Midwifery and Human Rights'. Professor Smallwood has also become an Adjunct Professor of Aboriginal Studies here at La Trobe University.

Dr Julie Andrews and Professor Christine Bigby welcomed the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous) Professor Dennis McDermott to the Board and to La Trobe University.

PART A - PROCEDURAL MATTERS**509.1 Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed members to the five hundred and ninth meeting of the Academic Board. Apologies were noted.

509.2 Approval of the Agenda

The Academic Board approved the agenda AB19/01(A).

509.3 Matters Outstanding – November 2018

The Academic Board received paper AB19/02.

Resolution 509.3

The Academic Board noted the report.

509.4 Out of Session Approvals on behalf of Academic Board

The Academic Board received paper AB19/03.

The Board noted the summary of matters approved by the Academic Board Executive Committee on its behalf since the last meeting:

- Award of Degrees and Diplomas, Award of Research Degrees, Nancy Millis Medal Awardees, Conferring of Awards in Absentia;
- Report of the Coursework Committee from a meeting held on 15 November 2018. The following proposals were considered for approval:
 - a) New Courses
College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce
 Bachelor of Digital Business (LBDB)
 Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Biomedicine (LWLBM)
 Master of Financial Analysis (CPA Program) (LMFCPA)
 Exit Only Graduate Certificate in Marketing (LCMKT)
 Exit Only Graduate Diploma in Marketing (LGMKT)
 - b) Course Revisions
College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce
 Bachelor of Educational Studies (EBEST, EBESTB, EBESTP, EBESTM)
 Master of Marketing (LMMKT, LMMKTC)
College of Science, Health and Engineering
 Bachelor of Applied Science and Master of Physiotherapy Practice (HZPHPP, HZPHPB, HZPHPM, HZPHPS, HZPHPW), Master of Physiotherapy Practice (HMPYP, HMPYPB)
 - c) Course Closures
College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce
 Master of Laws (Bendigo) (LMLAWB)
 - d) Academic Course Review Panel Report and Action Plan
College of Science, Health and Engineering
 Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours) (SHPB)
- Report of the Education Committee from a meeting held on 21 November 2018
 The following proposals were considered for approval:
 - a) Update to the Educational Partnerships Procedure – Third Party Teaching Arrangements;

- b) Policy Waiver request to the Double, Combined, Dual and Joint Qualifications Policy for the Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Arts (LZCOMA) for three potentially complete students only;
 - c) Policy Waiver request to the Double, Combined, Dual and Joint Qualifications Policy for the Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Science (LZCOMS) for four potentially complete students only;
 - d) The 2019 Education Committee Business Schedule
- Emeritus Professor Nomination - Philip Broadbridge
 - Academic Board Nominees to School Review Panels
 - School of Allied Health
 - School of Molecular Sciences

Resolution 509.4

The Academic Board received, noted and ratified the out of session approvals on behalf of the Board.

509.5 Report of the Chair

The Chair did not provide a verbal report.

509.6 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Academic Board confirmed the minutes of the 508th meeting held on 14 November 2018 were a true and accurate record AB18/116 (M).

PART B - MATTERS FOR APPROVAL AND/OR DISCUSSION**509.7 Improving teaching in universities: the UK's Teaching Excellence Framework and what can be learnt from it.**

La Trobe University has entered into a strategic partnership with Sheffield Hallam University in the UK that will foster international student exchange, research and innovation projects in some key areas of common interest. Professor Sir Chris Husbands, Vice Chancellor, Sheffield Hallam University spoke about *Improving teaching in universities: the UK's Teaching Excellence Framework and what can be learnt from it*.

Sir Chris is a university leader, academic, educationist, public servant and has served as Vice-Chancellor of Sheffield Hallam University since 2016.

He was appointed by the Government as the Inaugural Chair of the Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework (TEF) in 2016 and was recently reappointed until August 2021.

In 2018, he was awarded a knighthood in the Queen's Birthday Honours for services to higher education.

Sir Chris provided some policy context to the members stating that from 1989 onwards periodic assessments in UK higher education research excellence was a basis for allocating research funding, and the perception was that it had driven university behaviour to focus increasingly on research at the expense of teaching in terms of resource allocation, staff growth areas and staff development. Between 1998 and 2012 there was a progressive withdrawal of government funding for student fees and from 2012, the full cost was met through student loans. Between 2012 and 2015 the abolition of student number controls allowed an open market in student recruitment and the governments perception that it needed some policy indications on quality in relation to teaching.

The Teaching Excellence Framework Design Principles were summarised:

- **differentiate:** it should identify differences between institutions;
- **focus on outcomes:** it should be concerned with the consequences of teaching provision;
- **focus on performance gaps:** explicit concern with outcomes for disadvantaged groups;
- **metrics driven:** drawing on benchmarked performance supplemented by institutional submission with peer judgement;
- **non-intrusive:** draw on already existing data sets.

As well as the Teaching Excellence Framework Assessment Domains:

- **teaching quality:** teaching that stimulates and challenges students, and maximises engagement with their studies (National Student Survey metrics);
- **learning environment:** resources and activities to support learning and improve retention, progression and attainment (NSS/Higher Education Statistics Agency);
- **student outcomes:** the extent to which all students achieve their goals, in particular those from disadvantaged backgrounds (Destination of Leavers survey).

Sir Chris also discussed the lessons that emerge from the TEF experience. Some examples of these included:

- The importance of benchmarking as a powerful tool, as universities differ profoundly;
- TEF focuses on things surveys say matter to students like routes to work, retention, assessment, quality of teaching and how it is based on outcomes;
- At the core of TEF is a strategic clarity: the relationship between institutional policies, institutional practices and student outcomes;
- Differences within universities matter – perhaps as much as between universities.

The presentation slides can be accessed through the following link:

[Academic Board February 13 2019](#)

509.8 Report of the Academic Board Evaluation Survey 2018

The Academic Board received paper AB19/04.

In May 2009, the Academic Board endorsed an annual self-review. In 2012, there was a noticeable reduction in the response rate and a decision was made to run the survey every two years instead of annually. The seventh of these anonymous self-assessment surveys was circulated to the Board members after the November 2018 meeting.

The survey consisted of a number of structured evaluative questions which sought responses on a 6 point Likert scale (a five point grading scale going from 'strongly agree' to 'strongly disagree', the sixth point recording 'don't know').

This timeseries report reflected a comparative look at responses received over the last three surveys completed in 2014, 2016 and 2018 with key changes noted for 2018.

Some of the key changes identified which had a significant positive shift between 2016 and 2018 were:

- The 2018 membership of the Board provided appropriate representation from across the University.
- The reports from policy committee and sub-committees of Academic Board provide enough detail for informed discussion.

The full results from the Academic Board Self-Assessment Survey can be accessed at the following link:

<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/academicboard/survey>

Resolution 509.8

The Academic Board noted the report.

509.9 Award of Degrees and Diplomas

The Academic Board received paper AB19/05.

The Board raised concerns regarding a possible oversight in relation to the inclusion of four Master of Ergonomics, Safety and Health students who may not have completed the requirements for their degree.

The Executive Director, Student Services and Administration will investigate and resubmit this paper to the Academic Board for approval.

Action 509.9

The Academic Board did not approve the award of degrees, diplomas and higher degrees, detailed therein.

509.10 Standing Committees of the Academic Board

509.10.1 Report of the Coursework Committee - 13 December 2018

The Academic Board received paper AB19/06.

The Board considered the following proposals from the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce and the College of Science, Health and Engineering:

a) New Course

College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce

Bachelor of Business Analytics (LBBA)

b) Course Closure

College of Science, Health and Engineering

Bachelor of Healthcare (Nursing Foundation) (HBNDK, HBNDB, HBNDK, HBNDM, HBNDW)

c) Academic Course Review Panel Report and Action Plans

College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce

Undergraduate Business Suite

Bachelor of Business (LBB, ECBBW, RBB, RBBM, LMBBP, LMBBSY, RBBMO, LBBH)

Diploma of Business (LDBW, LDBB, LDBM, LDBS, LDBE, LDBH, LDBM, LDBSC, LDBSY)

Bachelor of Business (Event Management and Marketing) (LBBEMB, LBBEMT)

Bachelor of Business (Human Resource Management) (LBBHR)

Bachelor of Business (Marketing) (LBBMK)

Bachelor of Business (Sport Development and Management) (LBBSB)

Bachelor of Business (Sport Management) (LBBS)

Bachelor of Business (Tourism and Hospitality) (LBBTH)

Bachelor of International Business (LBIB, LBIBSY)

College of Science, Health and Engineering

Bachelor of Human Services and Master of Social Work (HZSKW, HZSKB, HZSK, HZSKM), Master of Social Work (HMSKW, HMSKB, HMSK, HMSKM)

Resolution 509.10.1

The Academic Board resolved to approve the proposals detailed above and noted the report.

509.10.2 Report of the Academic Quality Committee - 5 November 2018

The Academic Board received paper AB19/07.

Resolution 509.10.2

The Academic Board resolved to approve the 2019 Academic Quality Committee Business Schedule and noted the report.

509.11 Report of the Vice-Chancellor / State of the Nation: Vice-Chancellor's Address

The Academic Board received paper AB19/08.

The Vice-Chancellor presented his annual 'State of the Nation' address, providing an overview of La Trobe University in 2018.

Professor Dewar discussed four features that will come to define University 4.0:

1. On demand learning offered in multiple modes, with a seamless hand off between those modes;
2. A move away from degrees as the only form of credential offered, towards a more mixed offering of degrees plus shorter cycle qualifications and credentials;
3. A much stronger focus on career management for students, both while they are at university and when they become alumni;
4. Universities as physical sites of seamless co-location and collaboration between university and industry based researchers and as brokers of relationships between young entrepreneurs and potential mentors, supporters and funders.

Professor Dewar also discussed the City of the Future. In October last year, La Trobe's partnership with the Victorian Government was announced to fast-track delivery of the \$5 billion University City of the Future here at the Bundoora campus.

This plan transforms the campus into a multi-precinct City of the Future, delivering \$5B in investment, 20,000 new jobs and \$3.5 billion in Gross Regional Product (GRP) over the next ten years.

La Trobe's 'inside out' university of the future will be an engine room for ideas and economic development, particularly in health and well-being, digital and cyber innovation, agriculture and food and fibre.

These changes will compliment La Trobe's offerings across the regions; in Bendigo, Shepparton, Albury-Wodonga and Mildura. La Trobe University will blend seamlessly into the local community here in Bundoora and reach out across the state. Students will have opportunities to study across our campuses, and embedded in galleries, hospitals and businesses.

The presentation slides can be accessed through the following link:

[Academic Board February 13 2019](#)

Resolution 509.11

The Academic Board noted the report.

PART C - MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

509.12 Report of the Academic Promotions Committee - November 2018

The Academic Board received paper AB19/09.

Resolution 509.12

The Academic Board noted the report.

509.13 Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Academic Board will be held at 9.30am on Wednesday 13 March 2019 in the Chamber, John Scott Meeting House, Melbourne Campus.

The meeting closed at 11.00am.