



ACADEMIC BOARD

Minutes of the five hundred and fourteenth meeting of the Academic Board held in the Chamber, John Scott Meeting House, La Trobe University, Melbourne Campus on Wednesday 11 September 2019 at 9.30am.

Present: Professor Christine Bigby (Chair), Dr Brian Abbey, Dr Sarah Anderson, Dr Julie Andrews, Dr Joanna Barbousas, Professor Nick Bisley, Professor Lisa Brophy, Ms Elizabeth Capp, Dr Buly Cardak, Professor Shaun Collin, Ms Sarah Cox, Professor Kay Crossley, Professor John Dewar, Dr Michael Dillon, Professor Susan Dodds, Professor Grant Drummond, Dr Jason Dutton, Professor Simon Evans, Dr Tracey Fortune, Professor Ashley Franks, Dr Warwick Frost, Dr Anthony Gendall, Dr Deborah Gleeson, Mr Damien Hamel, Professor Jane Hamilton, Dr Emma Henderson, Professor Darren Henry, Professor Andrew Hill, Professor Katie Holmes, Mr Greg Jamieson, Ms Pam Kappelides, Professor Stephen Kent, Professor Kerri-Lee Krause, Professor Emmanuel Kuntsche, Dr Karen Lawrence, Professor Helen Lee, Professor Nicki Lee, Dr James Leipold, Professor Christopher Mackie, Dr Kate Mai, Professor Susan Martin, Dr Clare McCausland, Professor Dennis McDermott, Professor Lisa McKenna, Dr Robyn Murphy, Professor Matthew Nicholson, Professor Jennifer Oates, Professor Chris Pakes, Professor Paul Pigram, Professor Robert Pike, Dr Sonia Reisenhofer, Professor Jill Slay, Professor Brian Smith, Mr Kelly Smith, Professor Tonya Stebbins, Dr Keir Strickland, Professor Vijaya Sundararajan, Professor Marija Tabain, Dr Colleen Thomas, Dr Guinever Threlkeld, Professor Jessica Vanderlelie, Dr Suzane Vassallo, Dr Terrie Waddell, Professor James Walker, Professor James Whelan, Professor Rob Wilson, Ms Andrea Young, and Professor Suzanne Young.

Secretariat: Ms Sonia Nelson, Senior Executive Officer, Governance and Policy Services.

In Attendance: Dr Emmaline Bexley, Mr Alistair Duncan, Dr Richard Frampton, Ms Robyn Harris, Mr Simon Phillips, Mr Leon Morris, Dr Paul Ramage, and Ms Bridget Soulsby.

Acknowledgement of Country: Dr Julie Andrews acknowledged and paid respects to the traditional owners of the land upon which the La Trobe Campuses are situated: Latji and Barkindji (Mildura), Dja Wurrung (Bendigo), Dhudhuroa and WayWurru (Wodonga), 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 paid respects to Gerald Gill, a former Sociology and Aboriginal History lecturer of La Trobe who had recently passed away. Dr Andrews outlined and acknowledged Mr Gill's contributions to the Dja Dja Wurrung as an individual and in conjunction with Uncle Brien Nelson.

PART A – PROCEDURAL MATTERS

		ACTION
514.1	Welcome and Apologies	
	The Chair welcomed members to the five hundred and fourteenth meeting of the Academic Board.	

Apologies were received from:

Dr Hossam Aboel Naga, Professor Tony Bacic, Professor Paula Baron, Dr Ishaq Bhatti, Professor Irene Blackberry, Dr Narelle Black, Dr Kate Bridgman, Dr Geoff Dickson, Professor Amalia Di Iorio, Professor David Edvardsson, Professor Matthias Ernst, Mr Paul Farley, Professor Christopher Fisher, Dr Megan Fisher, Professor Paul Gustin, Dr Peter Green, Professor Russell Hoyer, Professor Fiona Kelly, Dr Prem Kurup, Dr Amy Larsen, Professor Sandra Leggat, Professor George Liu, Professor Birgit Loch, Dr Silvia McCormack, Dr Carol McKinstry, Dr Sarah Midford, Dr Deborah Neal, Dr Jodi Oakman, Professor Suzanne O'Keefe, Mr Peter Powell, Dr Luke Prendergast, Dr Rwth Stuckey, Professor Gillian Sullivan Mort, Professor Yvonne Wells, and Mr David Wishart.

514.2 Approval of the Agenda

The Chair noted that the Chair of the Academic Quality Committee was an apology for the meeting. On that basis the Board agreed to unstar the Report of the Academic Quality Committee: 5 August 2019.

The Board **resolved to approve** the agenda, as circulated (AB19/67(A)).

514.4 Out of Session Approvals on Behalf of Academic Board

The Board **received, noted and ratified** report AB19/68, a summary of matters which had been approved on behalf of the Board since the last meeting:

- a. Coursework Proposal, referred by the Coursework Committee, as detailed in Attachment A:
 - La Trobe Business School Undergraduate Course Revision
- b. Course Revision, referred by the Board of Graduate Research, as detailed in Attachment B.
 - Revisions to the Master of Science.

514.5 Report of the Chair

The Chair, Professor Christine Bigby, provided the following updates:

- The nomination period for nominations from staff and students for elected positions on Academic Board has closed and a significant number of nominations were received. An election will open within the next two weeks.
- The Call for Nominations for Chair and Deputy Chair of Academic Board will be sent shortly.
- Work by the Freedom of Expression and Academic Freedom Working Group, which is considering how the University will adopt the recommendations of the French Report, and broader issues of academic freedom, is progressing. A report on the first phase of the project –considering the implementation of the French Model Code - will be presented to Academic Board in November 2019 and University Council by the end of 2019. The second phase of the project will consider academic freedom in depth. Dr Miriam Bankovsky is

conducting research in this area and will be issuing an invitation to participate in a survey on academic freedom shortly.

514.6 Report of the Vice-Chancellor

The Board **received** and **noted** paper AB19/69, the Report of the Vice-Chancellor, which can be located at the following link:

<https://unite.latrobe.edu.au/sites/sc/sgc/abc/abmeeting2019/Paper/7/AB69-Academic%20Board%20VC's%20report%20September%202019.pdf>

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor John Dewar:

- Noted the following staff movements:
 - The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Kerri-Lee Krause will be leaving the University at the end of October. Professor Jess Vanderlelie will act in the role.
 - Professor Richard Speed will act in the new role of Deputy Vice Chancellor (International).
- Advised that three La Trobe University staff are involved in the joint Commonwealth Government/Universities Australia Foreign Interference Working Group (Professors Dewar, Krause and Slay).
- Drew the Board's attention to Memorandums of Understanding relating to digital technology, which had recently been signed with the National Australia Bank and Cisco.
- Highlighted the University's recent positive performance in the ARWU rankings.
- Congratulated Dr Miriam Bankovsky who was elected to University Council.
- Noted work by a group of interested academics, led by Professor Katie Holmes, to develop the focus on what the University is doing in research and teaching in relation to the climate and environment. A proposed statement of the University's position will be submitted to University Council. It was also noted that the discussion panel for the October 2019 meeting of Academic Board will discuss climate change.

PART B – MATTERS FOR APPROVAL

514.7 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Academic Board **confirmed** the minutes of the 513th meeting held on 14 August 2019 were a true and accurate record (AB19/65(M)).

514.8 Award of Degrees and Diplomas

The Board received paper AB19/70 and **resolved to approve** the conferring of awards and the award of research degrees, as detailed therein.

AEGTO
GRS

514.9 Proposed Academic Board Meeting Dates 2020

The Board received paper AB19/71 and **resolved** to **approve** the meeting dates for 2020.

514.10 Academic Promotions Committee: Levels B and C – Academic Board Nominee

The Board received paper AB19/72 and **resolved** to **approve** the nomination of Professor Lisa Brophy to the membership of the Academic Promotions Committee: Levels B and C.

EO(APC)

514.11 Academic Quality Committee – Academic Board Nominee

The Board received paper AB19/78 and **resolved** to **approve** the nomination of Dr Sarah Midford to the vacant position as an Academic Board nominee from the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce on Academic Quality Committee.

EO(AQC)

514.12 Standing Committees of Academic Board

514.12.1 Report of the Academic Quality Committee: 5 August 2019

The Board received report AB19/73 and **noted** that the Academic Quality Committee had considered the following items at a meeting on 5 August 2019:

EO(AQC)

- a) Policy Compliance Reports
 - Graduate Research Supervision Policy
 - Timetabling of Teaching and Learning Spaces Policy
 - Student Workload Policy
 - Honorary Degree Policy
- b) Annual Review Reports against Terms of Reference from the Research and Graduate Studies Committee.
- c) Third Party Teaching Arrangement Annual Reports
- d) Monitoring Quality Interventions in Third Party Teaching Arrangements
- e) School and Divisional Review Reports.

514.12.2 Report of Coursework Committee: 15 August 2019

The Board received report AB19/74 and **noted** that the Coursework Committee had considered the following items at the meeting held on 15 August 2019:

EO(CC)
GenMgrs
DD SSA
APVC(CW)

- Course Submissions from the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce.
- Course Submissions from the College of Science, Health and Engineering.

Members queried whether the subject name changes proposed in the La Trobe Business School Undergraduate Course Revision would also alter content and were advised that the content will not change.

The Chair of Coursework Committee spoke to the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference of the Committee, noting the changes will allow for co-opting members, establish a Deputy Chair and include the Executive Director, Quality and Standards as an ex officio member.

The Board **resolved to approve:**

- a) *College of Science, Health and Engineering Course Revisions, as detailed in Attachment A to AB19/74*
 - Bachelor of Oral Health Science (HBOHSB) Bendigo
 - Master of Information and Communication Technology (SMICT)
 - Bachelor of Science (SBSC/SBSCB/SBSCW)
 - Bachelor of Science (SBSCSI) Singapore.
- b) *College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce Course Revisions, as detailed in Attachment A to AB19/74*
 - Bachelor of Criminology
 - Bachelor of Criminology/Bachelor of Psychological Science
 - Bachelor of Criminology/Bachelor of Laws
 - Bachelor of Urban, Rural and Environmental Planning (ABURPB)
 - Bachelor of Outdoor Education (EBOEB)
 - Bachelor of Outdoor Education (Extended) (EBOEXB)
 - Bachelor of Physical, Health and Outdoor Education (EBPHOB)
 - Bachelor of Technology Education (EBTE/EBTEB)
 - Change of IELTS for the Bachelor of Media and Communication (ABMC) and Master of Communication (Journalism Innovation).
- c) *Course Closures proposals from the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce, as detailed in Attachment A*
 - Bachelor of Early Learning – EBEL/EBELB/EBELD/EBELM/EBELO/EBELS/EBELW
 - Graduate Certificate in Management (Public Sector) (LCMPS).
- d) *Proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference for the Coursework Committee, as detailed in Attachment B.*

**513.12.3 Report of the Research and Graduate Studies Committee:
15 August 2019**

The Board received report AB19/75 and noted the Research and Graduate Studies Committee had considered the following items at the meeting held on 15 August 2019:

- a) Research Performance Report
- b) Research Centres Update
- c) Annual Reports of Research Centres and Institutes
- d) Graduate Research Load and Completions
- e) BGR Annual Report 2018
- f) Graduate Research and RTP Scholarships – change to Schedule A
- g) Higher Doctorates Committee - Terms of Reference
- h) Report of the Board of Graduate Research meeting of 21 April 2019
- i) Animal Ethics Committee – Chair’s Update
- j) Report of the Animal Ethics Committee meetings of 9 May, 13 June, 11 July 2019
- k) University Human Ethics Committee – Chair’s Update
- l) Report of the University Human Ethics Committee meetings of 2 May, 6 June, 4 July 2019

EO(RGSC)

- m) Report of the La Trobe Institutional Biosafety Committee meeting of 20 June 2019.

The Chair of the Research and Graduate Studies Committee advised that there was a high degree of variability in the annual reporting of Research Centres. Changes to the approach to Research Centre approval and annual reporting were foreshadowed.

The Board **resolved to approve** the revised Higher Doctorate Committee Terms of Reference, as detailed in Attachment A.

513.12.4 Report of Education Committee: 21 August 2019

The Board received report AB19/76 and **noted** that the Education Committee had considered the following items at a meeting held on 21 August 2019:

- a) Honorary Degree Policy
- b) Educational Partnerships Procedure – Third Party Arrangements
- c) Student Success and Retention Implementation Plan
- d) English Language Support
- e) Jisc Digital Insights Survey 2018 and 2019
- f) Request for Policy Waiver – Bachelor of Criminology/Bachelor of Laws
- g) Retention Analysis
- h) Student Feedback 2019 – Progress Report Summary
- i) University Appeals Committee Working Group Report.

EO(EC)
ED,SS
Policy Adv.

Further detail in relation to the Student Success and Retention Implementation Plan was requested. The Pro Vice-Chancellor, Student Success noted the Plan outlines high level institutional activities. The Plan seeks greater focus in the way in which areas of the University collaborate and the consistency of support provided across the University. Members discussed the processes involved in providing support to students through academic progress reviews. The Pro Vice-Chancellor, Student Success outlined the types of support provided to students at each stage. From 2020 more detailed reports will be provided to Schools and Colleges to reduce the incidence of stage 3.

The Chair of the Education Committee spoke to the report and outlined the proposed changes to the Honorary Degree Policy, and the background to the development of the Educational Partnerships Procedure – Third Party Arrangements.

The Board **resolved to approve** the:

- Honorary Degree Policy, as detailed in AB19/76.
- Educational Partnerships Procedure – Third Party Arrangements, as detailed in AB19/76.

513.13 Panel Discussion: Research and Industry Engagement

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Industry Engagement) introduced the topic, indicating that panellists would discuss different aspects of partnerships and engagement.

Professor Jim Whelan (Professor, Plant Science & Director, Research Collaborations (China and India)) described the Zhejiang University/La Trobe University Partnership. The Partnership was used as an example to highlight the benefits of partnerships, including joint research grants and publications and access to outstanding PhD students. Professor Whelan noted that successful partnerships need to be a real collaboration, involve an investment of time and require commitment and funding from both partners.

Professor Chris Pakes (Dean, Graduate Research School) outlined the priorities for research internationalisation, including the University's priorities of internationalising the publication award scheme, establishing formal partnerships which bring a variety of benefits, joint and collaborative PhD programs, and coordinating the promotion of the University's global research.

Ms Yeshe Smith (Programs and Partnership Manager, Institute for Human Security and Social Change) described two existing institutional partnerships, noting that the University could increase opportunities in this area. The partnership training and support activities available to staff were highlighted.

Dr Kelly Farrell (Manager, Research Impact) explained the implementation of the ARC Engagement and Impact Assessment in 2018. The University's approach to that exercise was outlined and the need for local/disciplinary impact strategies in preparation for the 2021 exercise were highlighted.

The Panel discussed lessons learned from their experience with partnerships and industry engagement, noting the need to:

- Manage partner expectations
- Understand negotiations can be time intensive
- Recognise the commitment from staff involved in partnership activities, particularly travel
- Avoid key point dependencies
- Understand the purpose and benefits of individual partnerships.

The Board discussed the challenges in translating engagement to impact, particularly as there can be time lags involved in the realisation of impact. Designing research projects to include engagement and impact facilitates reporting. It was agreed that not all projects will have research impact and navigating the differing definitions of research impact used by Research Councils can be difficult. It was also agreed that there is a need to celebrate smaller partnerships and collaborations.

The Chair thanked the panel on behalf of the Board.

PART C – MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

513.14 Report of the Academic Promotions Committee: August 2019

The Board **received** and **noted** paper AB19/77, the Report of the Academic Promotions Committee: August 2019.

EO(APC)

513.14 Next Meeting

The next meeting of Academic Board will be held at 9.30am on Wednesday 9 October 2019 in the Chamber, John Scott Meeting House, Melbourne Campus.

The meeting closed at 11.00am.