

COUNCIL MEETING

Report of the Chancellor

The Chancellor advised he has participated at the following events since the last Council meeting:

- Attended the Inaugural La Trobe University China Studies Oration by the Honourable Kevin Rudd (13/2)
- Participated in the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) Governance in the University Sector Panellist Case Study (8/2)

Council noted that Mr Furphy, Commissioner Gay and Mr D'Angelo attended the AICD Governance in the University Sector Program that ran from 7-9 February. This was a trial course, commissioned by the University Chancellors Council. Commissioner Gay advised that this was a condensed version of the AICD Standard five day Company Directors Course, tailored to the University sector. The Course provided good coverage of the governance and fiduciary responsibilities of a University Council member. It also provided an opportunity to network with fellow Australian council members.

Report of the Vice-Chancellor

The Vice-Chancellor advised that:

- an in-principle agreement has been reached with the National Tertiary Education Union for the La Trobe Collective Agreement. Management is anticipating contacting staff for a vote in the next few weeks
- Professor Tanya Fitzgerald will conclude her term as Head of the School of Humanities and Social Science on 23 February. To ensure a smooth transition, an announcement regarding her successor is anticipated prior to, or shortly after, the conclusion of her term.
- the 'Make a Difference' fundraising campaign has met its initial target of raising \$50 million two years ahead of schedule. Council noted the significant work of the Chief Advancement Officer, Dr Alan Watkinson in this campaign and congratulated all involved on this remarkable achievement. Council noted a new target has been set to raise another \$50 million by 2022 and a thank you to donors event will be organised to celebrate the success of the campaign.

Industry and Engagement Report

Dr Dan Grant, PVC Industry Engagement spoke to this item and advised the Industry and Engagement portfolio was very productive in 2017 and has achieved the following:

- designed and implemented a '5C' approach to industry engagement; creating industries of the future, co-locating industry on campus, collaborating to grow research, capturing value from intellectual property and consulting to transfer knowledge to end users.
- established the La Trobe Accelerator Project to support the development of start-up ventures from the La Trobe community. There has been strong interest in the program, however a number of applications come from businesses that are too small to scale up
- assisted in establishing 34 new research collaborations with a total value of approx. \$10 million
- the La Trobe Strategic Innovation Fund has approved two investments in 2017:
 - initiating steps towards the commercialisation of FN-14 (a monoclonal antibody for the treatment of cachexia)
 - converting Associate Professor Clare Wright's award winning book 'the forgotten rebels of eureka' into a mini-series.

Council highlighted the importance of ensuring research strengths and activities are widely communicated to the university community to ensure all collaborations and opportunities are maximised. Council **noted** the report.

2018 SSAF Student Consultation Mechanisms

Council:

- **approved** the 2018 SSAF consultation mechanisms and timeframes as outlined
- **noted** the 2017 Student consultation report and accompanying recommendations.

Human Resources Report to Council

Council **noted** the report of the Human Resources Committee from the meeting of 4 December 2017.

Infrastructure and Estates Planning Committee (7 Feb)

Council **noted** the minutes of the Infrastructure and Estates Planning Committee meeting held on 7 Feb 2018.

Changes to the MDFRC LTU – CSIRO Partnership

Council **noted** the key issues relating to the upcoming changes to the LTU and CSIRO partnership agreement in the MDFRC, and steps for progressing the partnership in the future.