



ACADEMIC BOARD

Minutes of the four hundred and eighty-seventh meeting of the Academic Board held in the Council Chamber, John Scott Meeting House, La Trobe University, Melbourne Campus on Wednesday 11 May 2016 at 9.30am.

Present: Professor Christine Bigby (Chair), Professor Paula Baron (Deputy Chair), Dr Lisa Amir (*via videoconference*), Professor Tony Baker, Dr Joanna Barbousas, Ms Emily Bariola, Ms Betty Belay, Dr John Bevaqua, Professor Philip Broadbridge, Dr Buly Cardak, Dr Naveen Chilamkurti, Professor Michael Clarke, Dr Eva Dakich, Dr Susanne Davies, Professor John Dewar (Vice-Chancellor), Professor Amalia Di Iorio, Dr Kerry Fitzmaurice, Ms Margarita Frederico, Dr Elspeth Frew, Dr Deborah Gleeson, Dr Dan Grant, Dr Peter Green, Professor Jane Hamilton, Dr Darren Henry, Professor Russell Hoyer, Dr Catherine Itsiopoulos, Dr Stephen Kent, Professor Patrick Keyzer, Dr Catherine Lang, Professor Betty Leask, Professor Jane Long, Professor Sue Martin, Professor Tony McGrew, Dr Bill McGuinness, Mrs Susan Nalder, Dr Deborah Neal (*via videoconference*), Professor Keith Nugent, Dr Jodi Oakman, Professor Chris Pakes, Ms Jennifer Peasley, Dr Luke Prendergast, Professor Wenny Rahayu, Professor Brian Smith, Mr Kelly Smith, Professor Richard Speed, Dr Martin Steinbauer, Professor Gillian Sullivan Mort, Dr Gwenda Tavan, Dr Guinever Threlkeld, Dr Peter Vitartas and Dr Lawrie Zion.

Secretariat: Angela Cowburn, Senior Executive Officer, Governance and Policy Services.

In Attendance: Dr MaryAnne Aitken, Professor Kay Crossley, Mr Mark Engel, Dr Richard Frampton, Professor Katie Holmes, Professor Helen Lee, Ms Natalie MacDonald, Professor Chris Mackie, Dr Corrine Manning, Professor Susan McDonald (*via videoconference*), Professor Hylton Menz, Mr Leon Morris, Professor Joanna Poyago-Theotoky, Ms Fiona Reed and Professor Mark Rose.

PART A – PROCEDURAL MATTERS

	ACTION
<p>(i) Apologies & Membership</p> <p>Apologies were received from Ms Julie Andrews, Professor Karen Dodd, Professor Tanya Fitzgerald, Dr Anthony Gendall, Mr Marcus Gheller, Professor Andy Hill, Dr David Hoxley, Dr Bernice Mathisen, Professor Robert Pike, Dr Greg Powell, Mr Bruce Pridham, Dr Alison Ravenscroft, Mr Brent Richie, Dr Chris Scanlon, Professor Graham Schaffer, Mr Robert Stephenson and Dr Suzanne Young.</p>	
<p>(ii) Approval of Agenda</p> <p>The Board resolved to approve the Agenda, as circulated.</p>	
<p>(iii) Outstanding Matters</p> <p>The Board received and noted report AB16/33.</p>	

(iv) Matters Approved on Behalf of Academic Board

The Board received, noted and ratified report AB16/34, a summary of matters which had been approved by the Chair or Deputy Chair on behalf of the Board:

- (a) Award of Degrees and Diplomas, Award of Higher Degrees, Rescission of Conferral and Represent Award for endorsement, as detailed in Attachment A to AB16/34.
- (b) Establishment of Prizes
 - (i) Graduate Research School: James T Riady Research Scholarship, as detailed in Attachment B to AB16/34.
 - (ii) La Trobe University Shepparton Campus: The Greater Shepparton Connected Community Bursaries, as detailed in Attachment C to AB16/34.
 - (iii) Alumni and Advancement Office: The George and Lisl Singer Scholarship, as detailed in Attachment D to AB16/34.
 - (iv) La Trobe University Shepparton Campus: Elizabeth Lavender Access Scholarship [*amendment*], as detailed in Attachment E to AB16/34.
 - (v) La Trobe University Mildura Campus: Milton Whiting Memorial Scholarship, as detailed in Attachment F to AB16/34.
 - (vi) La Trobe University Mildura Campus: LTU Mildura Chances Scholarships, as detailed in Attachment G to AB16/34.
 - (vii) La Trobe University Mildura Campus: La Trobe University – Sunraysia Football Netball League Scholarship, as detailed in Attachment H to AB16/34.
- (c) Honorary Degree Nomination: Win Scott, as detailed in Attachment I to AB16/34.
- (d) Emeritus Professor Nomination: Pei Likun, as detailed in Attachment J to AB16/34.
- (e) Coursework Committee
 - (i) The following course proposals that have been referred by the Coursework Committee from a meeting held on 17 March 2016, as detailed in Attachment K to AB16/34:

Course Revisions

College of Science, Health and Engineering

- Master of Ergonomics, Safety and Health HMERGD
- Master of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics SMBB
- Graduate Diploma of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics SGBB
- Master of Speech Pathology HMSP
- Bachelor of Applied Science and Master of Occupational Therapy Practice HZHOT
- Bachelor of Applied Science and Master of Dietetic Practice HZNDP
- Bachelor of Biological Sciences SBBIS, SBBISW
- Bachelor of Science (Wildlife and Conservation Biology) SBSWCB, SBSWCW
- Bachelor of Biomedical Science SBMS
- Bachelor of Nursing HBN, HBNPRW, RBN, HBNM, HBNU
- Bachelor of Science with Honours SHS, Bachelor of Biological Science with Honours SHBIS, Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Biosciences with Honours SHAVB, Bachelor of Science (Wildlife and Conservation Biology) with Honours SHSWCB, Bachelor of Biomedical Science with Honours SHMES
- Bachelor of Science SBSB

Course Closure

College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce

- Master of Global Communications with Honours AMGCH (non-AQF compliant course)
- (ii) A proposal from the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce, referred by the Coursework Committee, to extend the previously approved closure of the Bachelor of International Development with Honours (AHID) course to 31 March 2017, as detailed in Attachment L to AB16/34.

(v) Report of the Vice-Chancellor

The Board received and noted circulated paper AB16/35, the Report of the Vice-Chancellor, which can be located at the following link: <https://unite.latrobe.edu.au/sites/sc/sgc/abc/abmeeting2016/Paper/3/35-VCsReport-May2016.pdf>. The Vice-Chancellor briefly spoke to the report and reported the following additional items:

(a) *Federal Budget outcomes:*

- Full deregulation of fees is completely off the table.
 - A discussion/options paper was released for consultation regarding how best to address the 20% cut to higher education funding that was announced as part of the budget. It is unclear how the government will achieve savings in the sector.
 - Flagship degrees – universities may be allowed to deregulate fees in selected degrees or up to a fixed proportion of load.
 - Reconfiguring of cluster funding rates is possible.
 - Proposed tightening to the HECS system (lowering repayment thresholds, indexation etc).
 - The efficiency dividend originally proposed by Labor has been withdrawn.
 - With the Federal election announced for 2 July, the government are in caretaker mode and no decisions will be made until post-election.
- (b) La Trobe was involved in a successful Careers Expo held at Caulfield Racecourse last weekend.
- (c) List of degrees recognised in Singapore has been expanded.
- (d) Ideas and Society event featuring Australian of the Year, David Morrison, being held today.
- (e) Welcome to Lynn Bosetti, the new Head of Education, who commences in August.

Discussion:

- In response to a query regarding the likely timelines for election of student and staff members to Council, it was noted that Council had approved a new Statute and were awaiting the Minister's approval and the process should be completed by the end of July.
- Concerns were raised regarding the appointment of PWC to conduct a review into Funding Future Ready – which they had been heavily involved in implementing. The Vice-Chancellor advised that PWC were seen as well placed to conduct the review due to their familiarity with La Trobe and reported that the review was focused on the model and structural changes

and how well FFR was working. The consultation process was also queried and the Board was advised that a series of focus groups had been held and all staff had the ability to provide feedback. A request was made to extend the timelines for provision of feedback.

- It was queried what was being done to counter the negative publicity created by the article in The Age today reporting that La Trobe's student satisfaction rates were the second lowest in the state. It was noted that the survey had been conducted at the beginning of 2015 of students who had graduated in 2014 – a time of great upheaval at the University – but that these outcomes had not been great before the restructure. The Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor advised that the University was focusing on the following in an effort to increase student satisfaction:
 - Success at La Trobe: student success and retention.
 - Subject Improvement Project.
 - Teaching Scholars Program.

The Chair suggested that this would be a good topic for a Discussion Panel at a future meeting of the Board.

- In response to a query regarding what impact a 20% hike in fees would have, it was noted that marginal students would likely be discouraged by a fee increase.

VC
VPA

Chair
EO

PART B – MATTERS FOR APPROVAL

487.1 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2016 [AB16/31(M)] were confirmed.

487.2 Items for Approval not requiring discussion

487.2.1 Award of Degrees and Diplomas

The Board received circulated report AB16/36 and **resolved to approve** the award of degrees and diplomas, conferring of awards *in absentia* and award of higher degrees as detailed therein.

AEGTO
GRS

487.3 Standing Committees of Academic Board

487.3.1 Report of Academic Quality Committee: 16 March 2016

The Board **received** and **noted** AB16/37, the report of the Academic Quality Committee from a meeting held on 16 March 2016. The following items were considered:

- (a) Report of the Chair.
- (b) Outside Work Policy and Procedure.
- (c) Research Data Management Policy and Procedure.
- (d) Graduate Research Examination Policy.
- (e) Annual Reviews from Academic Board Policy Committees.
- (f) Academic Policy Monitoring and Compliance Report.

- (g) Academic Quality Committee: Review of Composition/Membership and Terms of Reference and Draft Schedule of Business.

EO(AQC)
ED(HR)

The Board **resolved to endorse** the recommendation that ownership of the Outside Work Policy and Procedure be amended to the appropriate senior officer in Human Resources as it is clearly an administrative, rather than academic policy, and that Human Resources manage the collation of data for both academic and professional staff. It was also noted that this will require amendment to the Policy and Procedure and provision to the Planning and Resources Committee (Vice-Chancellor) for approval.

The Board also **noted** the Academic Quality Committee's vote of thanks to Professor Christine Bigby for her stewardship of the Committee over the previous four years.

487.3.2 Report of Coursework Committee: 17 March 2016

The Board **received** and **noted** AB16/38, the report of the Coursework Committee from a meeting held on 17 March 2016. The following items were considered:

- (a) Chair's Report.
- (b) Matters Arising from the Minutes.
- (c) Matters Approved Out of Session.
- (d) Course Submissions from the Colleges of ASSC and SHE.

The Board also **resolved to approve** the Course Review Report and Action Plan for the Bachelor of Media and Communication, as detailed in Attachment One to AB16/38.

EO(CC)
GenMgr

487.3.3 Report of Education Committee: 23 March 2016

The Board received report AB16/39 and noted that the Education Committee had considered the following items at a meeting held on 23 March 2016:

- (a) *Acting* Chair's Report.
- (b) Academic Calendar 2017-2019.
- (c) Retention and Success Strategy.
- (d) Update from the University Experience Survey Working Group.
- (e) Australian Graduate Survey 2015.
- (f) Update on Timetable Rebuild.
- (g) Quarterly Report from the AARU.

The Board **resolved to endorse** the Student Success and Retention Strategy, as detailed in Attachment One to AB16/39.

EO(EC)
PVC(T&L)

The Board **resolved to approve** the Academic Calendar 2017-2019, as detailed in Attachment Two to AB16/39.

EO(EC)
ED(SS&A)

487.3.4 Report of Admissions Committee: 14 April 2016

The Board **received** and **noted** AB16/40, the report of the Admissions Committee from a meeting held on 14 April 2016. The following items were considered:

- (a) Expanding the Aspire Admissions Program to Non Recent School Leavers.
- (b) Articulation Agreements.

- (c) English Language Entry Requirements.
- (d) TEQSA Site Visit Presentation.

The Board also **noted** that the following Articulation Tables were approved by the Admissions Committee:

College of Science, Health and Engineering:

La Trobe Melbourne

- Diploma of Health Sciences/Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Diploma of Bioscience/Bachelor of Science
- Diploma of Bioscience/Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Biosciences and Bachelor of Biological Sciences
- Diploma of Bioscience/Bachelor of Biomedical Science

College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce

Bendigo Kangan Institute (Bendigo Campus)

- Diploma of Professional Writing & Editing/Bachelor of Arts

Chisholm Institute

- Diploma of Graphic Design/Bachelor of Creative Arts (Graphic Design)

Melbourne Polytechnic

- Diploma of Graphic Design/Bachelor of Creative Arts (Graphic Design)
- Diploma of Visual Arts – Illustration/Bachelor of Creative Arts (Fine Art)
- Diploma of Visual Arts – Painting/Bachelor of Creative Arts (Fine Art)
- Advanced Diploma of Graphic Design/Bachelor of Creative Arts

Southern Cross Education Institute

- Diploma of Interactive Digital Media/Bachelor of Media Communication (Media Industries)

Sunraysia Institute of TAFE

- Diploma of Graphic Design/Bachelor of Creative Arts (Graphic Design)

The Board **resolved to approve** the proposal to expand the Aspire Early Admissions Program to Non-Recent School Leavers, as detailed in Attachment A to AB16/40.

EO(AC)
CMO

487.3.5 Report of Research and Graduate Studies Committee: 15 April 2016

The Board received report AB16/41 and noted that the Research and Graduate Studies Committee had considered the following items at a meeting held on 15 April 2016:

- (a) Ethics and Integrity – 2015 Projects Audit Report.
- (b) Research Data Management Working Group.
- (c) Digital Research Strategy
- (d) Sub-Committee Reports

Animal Ethics Committee

- Minutes from meeting held on 10 December.
- AEC Annual Report.

Board of Graduate Research

- Minutes of meeting held on 23 March 2016.

The Board **resolved to approve**:

- the revised Research and Graduate Studies Committee Membership/Composition, as detailed in Attachment A to AB16/41. EO(RGSC)
- the establishment of a Higher Doctorates Committee as a sub-committee of the Research and Graduate Studies Committee, as detailed in Attachment B to AB16/41, **subject to** the addition of the following wording in the 'reporting' section:
 - To the Research and Graduate Studies Committee, *for referral to Academic Board*, following the admission and examination of candidates. EO
EO(RGSC)
DeanGS
- the Research Data Management Policy and the Research Data Management Procedure, as detailed in Attachment C to AB16/41. EO(RGSC)
Policy Adv
- the revisions to the Graduate Research Thesis Requirements, Submission and Retention Procedure; revisions to the Graduate Research Nomination and Appointment of Examiners Procedure; and the new Examination of Higher Doctorates Procedure, as detailed in Attachment E to AB16/41. EO(RGSC)

The Board also **resolved** to **endorse** the *Digital Research Strategy 2015-2020*, as detailed in Attachment D to AB16/41. DVC(R)

487.3.6 Report of Coursework Committee: 21 April 2016

The Board **received** and **noted** AB16/42, the report of the Coursework Committee from a meeting held on 21 April 2016. The following items were considered:

- (a) Chair's Report.
- (b) Matters Arising from the Minutes.
- (c) Matters Approved Out of Session.
- (d) Course Submissions from the Colleges of ASSC and SHE.
- (e) Presentation on SIMS.
- (f) New Course Lifecycle Procedures.
- (g) Presentation on TEQSA Re-registration Preparation Update.
- (h) Revisions to Academic Course Reviews Templates and Guidelines.

The Board **resolved** to **approve** the following course submissions, as detailed in Attachment One to AB16/42:

(a) *Course Revisions*

College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce

- Master of Business Administration LMMBA

College of Science, Health and Engineering

- Master of Exercise Physiology HMPB
- Maser of Midwifery HMMID
- Graduate Diploma in Science SGSC
- Bachelor of Biological Sciences with Honours SHBIS, Bachelor of Science (Wildlife and Conservation Biology with Honours SHWCB, Bachelor of Science with Honours SHS, Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Sciences with Honours SHA VB

(b) *Course Closure*

College of Science, Health and Engineering

- Bachelor of Nanotechnology/Bachelor of Science SZNS

(c) *New Course*

College of Science, Health and Engineering

- Master of Data Science

EO(CC)
GenMgrs
DD SAdmin
APVC(CW)

In response to a query regarding if there were any differences between the Master of Data Science and the Master of Business Analytics, the Board were advised that there were significant differences.

In response to a request that it be noted that some of the student cohort were disappointed by the closure of the Bachelor of Nanotechnology/Bachelor of Science, the Board were advised that there was still a pathway with candidates able to do the Bachelor of Science and Master of Nanotechnology.

The Board also **resolved** to **approve** the following new procedures, as detailed in Attachment Two to AB16/42:

- Course Lifecycle – External Accreditation Procedures.
- Course Lifecycle – CRICOS Registration Procedure.

EO(CC)
Policy Adv
AD(EP&Q)
SDVC

487.4 Other Matters

487.4.1 Diversity and Inclusion Policies, Procedures and Plans

The Board received report AB16/43 and **resolved** to **approve** the following policies, procedure and plan:

- Diversity and Inclusion Policy (Staff)
- Gender Equity Policy
- Transgender in the Workplace Policy
- Transgender in the Workplace Procedure
- Transgender in the Workplace Transition Plan

ED(HR)
DepDir(D&I)
Policy Adv

It was noted that the policies would also be referred to Council for their endorsement and had previously been endorsed at a meeting of Planning and Resources Committee held on Friday 6 May 2016.

It was further noted that diversity and inclusion were not cost neutral and some thought was required regarding how staff would be supported and an equity fund was suggested. The Chair suggested that time be allocated at the next meeting for a more robust discussion of this item, including whether procedures are necessary to accompany the Diversity and Inclusion Policy and the Gender Equity Policy.

Chair
EO

487.4.2 Outside Studies Program for Academic Staff – Policy and Procedure

The Board received report AB16/44 and **resolved** to **approve**:

- Outside Studies Program for Academic Staff – Policy
- Outside Studies Program for Academic Staff – Procedure

DVC(R)
Policy Adv

487.4.3 Universities Australia and Professions Australia: Joint Statement of Principles for Professional Accreditation

The Board **received** and **noted** the Universities Australia and Professions Australia: Joint Statement of Principles for Professional Accreditation, as detailed in report AB16/44.

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

487.4.4 TEQSA Reregistration Preparations Update

The Board **received** and **noted** report AB16/45, the update on the University's preparations for TEQSA reregistration. The work of all involved in the preparation of the submission was commended.

PART C – MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

487.5 Matters for Information

487.5.1 Report of the Academic Promotions Committee: March 2016

The Board received the Report of the Academic Promotions Committee: March 2016 and noted that the persons named therein had been promoted, as detailed in report AB16/47.

EO(APC)

487.5.2 Report of the Academic Promotions Committee: April 2016

The Board received the Report of the Academic Promotions Committee: April 2016 and noted that the persons named therein had been promoted, as detailed in report AB16/48.

EO(APC)

PART D – DISCUSSION

487.6 Discussion: Implications of the new policy directions for funding university research

Panel Members:

- Professor Keith Nugent, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
- Professor Chris Pakes, Dean, Graduate Research School
- Professor Sue Martin, Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research), College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce
- Dr Dan Grant, Pro Vice Chancellor (Industry Engagement)
- Dr MaryAnne Aitken, Executive Director Research Office

Research funding under the National Innovation and Science Agenda (NISA) is to be realigned to focus more on innovation and industry engagement. In the research funding sphere, Category 2-4 income will gain greater prominence and leverage than in the past. Publications will no longer be part of our HERDC monitored performance metrics (though the importance of publications to the University is undiminished). HDR completions, not load, will be the focus of the new Research Training Program (RTP). ERA will continue to focus on quality but measures of impact and engagement will be added. An *'Engagement and Impact Assessment Consultation Paper'* has just been released (2 May, 2016).

Questions for the panel:

- How should La Trobe respond to these changes?

- What are the implications for future research directions, in particular for the humanities and social sciences and other disciplines where engagement is with non-commercial partners such as small NGOs or government?
- What are the implications for the next ERA?
- What are the implications for the La Trobe HDR student?

The meeting closed at 11.00am.

487.7 Next Meeting

9.30am
Wednesday 8 June 2016
Council Chamber
John Scott Meeting House
Melbourne Campus

Chair: _____

Date: _____