



ACADEMIC BOARD

Minutes of the four hundred and eighty-third meeting of the Academic Board held in the Council Chamber, John Scott Meeting House, La Trobe University, Melbourne Campus on Wednesday 14 October 2015 at 9.30am.

- Present:** Professor Simon Crowe (Chair), Professor Paula Baron, Dr John Bevacqua, Professor Michael Clarke, Professor John Dewar (Vice-Chancellor), Professor Jane Farmer, Dr Elspeth Frew, Dr Anthony Gendall, Dr Deborah Gleeson, Dr Darren Henry, Dr David Hoxley, Ms Jasmine Ingram, Dr Jennifer Laing, Professor Betty Leask, Professor Jane Long, Professor Sue Martin, Dr Carol McKinstry (*via videoconference*), Mrs Susan Nalder, Dr Deborah Neal, Dr Jodi Oakman, Dr Chris Pakes, Ms Jennifer Peasley, Professor Robert Pike, Dr Luke Pendergast, Dr Julie Rudner (*via videoconference*), Dr Christopher Scanlon, Ms Jillian Scanlon (*via videoconference*), Professor Brian Smith, Professor Richard Speed, Dr Martin Steinbauer, Mr Robert Stephenson, Professor Gillian Sullivan Mort, Dr Gwenda Tavan, Dr Guinever Threlkeld and Dr Peter Vitartas.
- Secretariat:** Angela Cowburn, Senior Executive Officer, Governance and Policy Services.
- In Attendance:** Mr Matt Brett, Mr Mark Engel, Dr Richard Frampton, Dr Andrew Harvey, Ms Natalie MacDonald, Mr Leon Morris and Professor Mary Anne Noone.

PART A – PROCEDURAL MATTERS

	ACTION
<p>(i) Apologies & Membership</p> <p><u><i>Election of Chair and Deputy Chair, Academic Board</i></u></p> <p>Following the call for nominations for the positions of Chair and Deputy Chair of Academic Board, which closed at 12 noon on Thursday 1 October, one nomination for the position of Chair and one nomination for the position of Deputy Chair were received by the Returning Officer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Professor Christine Bigby has been elected Chair, Academic Board; and• Professor Paula Baron has been elected Deputy Chair, Academic Board for the period 28 February 2016 to 28 February 2018. <p>Apologies were received from Dr Lisa Amir, Professor Tony Baker, Professor Christine Bigby, Professor Andrew Brennan, Professor Philip Broadbridge, Dr Buly Cardek, Professor Sheila Crewther, Dr Eva Dakich, Professor Leigh Drake, Professor Tanya Fitzgerald, Dr Kerry Fitzmaurice, Ms Margarita Frederico, Dr Peter Green, Dr Stephen Kent, Professor Patrick Keyzer, Dr Catherine Lang, Professor Paul Mather, Dr Bernice Mathisen, Professor Tony McGrew, Professor Meg Morris, Professor Keith Nugent and Dr Lawrie Zion.</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 AB15/84.</p>	

(iv) Matters Approved on Behalf of Academic Board

The Board received, noted and ratified report AB15/85, 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, as detailed in Attachment A to AB15/85.
- (b) Establishment of Prizes
 - (i) Alumni and Advancement Office: Wirrianda Prize, as detailed in Attachment B to AB15/85.
 - (ii) Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Regional): The Patterdale Bursaries, as detailed in Attachment C to AB15/85.
 - (iii) Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Regional): The PSA Insurance Program in Dentistry for Rural Victoria funded by the Victorian Medical Insurance Agency Limited (VMIAL), as detailed in Attachment D to AB15/85.
 - (iv) Department of Social Enquiry, School of Social Sciences, CASSC: The Paul Donovan Scholarship in Urban, Rural and Environmental Planning, as detailed in Attachment E to AB15/85.
- (c) Committee Membership
 - (i) Academic Quality Committee: interim membership, as detailed in Attachment F to AB15/85.
 - Professor Paula Baron – Category G: Academic Board nominee with expertise in student admissions.
- (d) Coursework Committee
 - (i) A proposal from the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce and the College of Science, Health and Engineering, via the Coursework Committee, to amend the current wording for the entry requirements for a suite of postgraduate courses, as detailed in Attachment G to AB15/85.
 - (ii) A proposal from the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce to revise the Master of Marketing Management, which was omitted from the minutes of the August meeting of Academic Board, as detailed in Attachment H to AB15/85.

(v) Report of the Vice-Chancellor

The Board received and noted circulated paper AB15/86, the Report of the Vice-Chancellor, which can be located at the following link:

<https://unite.latrobe.edu.au/sites/sc/sgc/abc/abmeeting2015/Paper/7/86-VCsReport-October2015.pdf>.

The Vice-Chancellor spoke to the report and reported the following additional items:

- Congratulations to Professor Marilyn Anderson who had been awarded the prestigious, biennial Ramaciotti Biomedical Research Award, worth \$1 million in conjunction with her UQ colleague Professor David Craik.
- Congratulations to Professor Simon Crowe on being bestowed with the title Honorary Fellow by the Board of the Australian Psychological Society.
- Higher Education Sector Update:
 - Australia has a new Prime Minister and Minister for Education.
 - Minister Birmingham has announced he will not be bringing back the twice-failed higher education reform legislation.

- 2 new higher education policy platforms:
 - Labor have announced that they will reverse the 20% funding cut and set limits on the demand driven system, concentrating on retention, if they gain power at the next election.
 - The Coalition has announced that they will be undertaking a consultation process regarding higher education reforms based on sustainability, excellence and accessibility.
- Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2015-2016: La Trobe has made it back into the top 400. This is a result of the methodology being slightly changed and the University's performance improving considerably. The Vice-Chancellor congratulated the University's researchers, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), the Director, Research Office and their respective teams on this fabulous result. He particularly singled out Mr Alistair Duncan, Senior Manager Research Performance, for praise.
- The preliminary Pop Poll data from VTAC had been received. The number of applications received from school leavers and non-school leavers has significantly decreased.
- On Monday night, La Trobe University's Council had approved the revised Funding Future Ready Strategy and the development plan for the Bundoora Campus.

Discussion:

- There was some discussion regarding whether the government would consider funding regional universities and campuses if they were struggling to grow and the possibility of the merging of institutions, both in Victoria and interstate.
- In response to a query regarding whether there was a sense of the impact of direct applications on VTAC data, it was noted that direct applications had increased by 50% which were most pronounced in regional areas and amongst mature-age students. It was also noted that the ratio of VTAC to direct applications is 10 to 1.
- It was noted that ACU's City Campus advertising billboards were currently promoting the employability of their graduates and queried whether this is a key indicator at La Trobe and, if so, what kind of initiatives were in place. It was agreed that there has been a greater prominence given to employability and there were already a number of initiatives in place at La Trobe. It was noted that the Marketing & Engagement Division would be working on promoting this.

PART B – MATTERS FOR APPROVAL

483.1 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2015 [AB15/82(M)] were confirmed.

483.2 Items for Approval not requiring discussion		
483.2.1	Award of Degrees and Diplomas	
	The Board received circulated report AB15/87 and resolved to approve the award of degrees and diplomas and award of higher degrees as detailed therein.	AEGTO RO
483.3 Standing Committees of Academic Board		
483.3.1	Report of Admissions Committee: 27 August 2015	
	The Board received report AB15/88 and noted that the Admissions Committee had considered the following items at a meeting held on 27 August 2015:	EO(AC)
	(a) Articulation Agreements:	
	<u>Sunraysia Institute of TAFE</u>	
	o Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance/Bachelor of Health Sciences	
	o Diploma of Community Services Work/Bachelor of Human Services & Master of Social Work	
	o Diploma or Nursing (Enrolled-Division 2 Nursing)/Bachelor of Nursing (Enrolled Nurse)	
	o Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance/Bachelor of Health Sciences	
	<u>TMC Academy, Singapore</u>	
	o Higher Diploma in Information Technology (Games Development Specialisation)	
	o Higher Diploma in Information Technology (Networking Specialisation)	
	o Higher Diploma in Information Technology (Web Development Specialisation)	
	(b) Admissions Initiatives.	
	(c) Pathways Trial in the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce.	
	(d) Aspire Early Admissions Program Update.	
	(e) Success Rates.	
483.3.2	Report of the Coursework Committee: 17 September 2015	
	The Board received report AB15/89 and noted that the Coursework Committee had considered the following items at a meeting held on 17 September 2015:	
	(a) Chair's Report.	
	(b) Matters Arising from the Minutes.	
	(c) Course Submissions from the Colleges of ASSC and SHE.	
	(d) Appointment of Deputy Chair of the Coursework Committee.	
	(e) Proposed Meeting Dates for the Committee in 2016.	
	(f) Coursework Committee Responsibilities and Policies and Procedures.	
	The Board resolved to approve the following course submissions, as detailed in Attachment One to AB15/89:	
	(a) <i>New Course</i>	
	<u>College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce</u>	
	• Graduate Certificate in Management.	
	(b) <i>Course Revisions</i>	
	<u>College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce</u>	
	• Bachelor of Arts ABA – change to name of the Media major.	
	• Master of Management LMMGT.	
	<u>College of Science, Health and Engineering</u>	
		EO(CC) GenMgrs DD SAdm

- Bachelor of Biological Science SBBIS.
- Bachelor of Science and Society SBSSO.
- Bachelor of Bioscience SBBIO.
- Bachelor of Business Information Systems SBBIIY.

The Board **resolved to approve** the following Course Review Reports and Action Plans, as detailed in Attachment Two to AB15/89:

- Graduate Diploma in Technology Education.
- Diploma in Languages.

EO(CC)
GenMgr

The Board **resolved to endorse** the following meeting dates for the Coursework Committee in 2016:

- 18 February
- 17 March
- 21 April
- 19 May
- 16 June
- 21 July
- 18 August
- 15 September
- 20 October
- 17 November

The Board also noted the appointment of Professor Paula Baron as the Deputy Chair of the Coursework Committee.

483.3.3 Report of the Education Committee: 23 September 2015

The Board received report AB15/90 and noted that the Education Committee had considered the following items at a meeting held on 23 September 2015:

- Chair's Report.
- Revisions to the Academic Integrity Procedure.
- Revisions to the Assessment Policy and Procedures and the Hurdle Procedures – Additional (Supplementary) Assessment.
- Discussion paper on the Use of Gradebook for Subject Results.
- College Report on the Essentials.
- Outcome of the 2015 International Student Barometer.
- Update on Future Ready Metrics – Retention and Success.
- Report on Special Consideration and Effectiveness of the Online Tool.
- Report of the Hallmark Program Board of Studies.

The Board **resolved to approve**:

- the revisions to the Academic Integrity – Procedures and Responsibilities, as detailed in Attachment One to AB15/90.
- the revisions to the Assessment Policy; Assessment Procedures; and Hurdles Procedures – Additional (Supplementary) Assessment, as detailed in Attachment Two to AB15/79.

EO(Policy)
EO(EC)

The Board also **resolved to endorse** the following meeting dates for the Committee for 2016:

- 24 February
- 23 March
- 25 May

- 27 July
- 24 August
- 28 September
- 26 October
- 23 November

PART C – MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

483.4 Matters for Information

483.4.1 Adjunct Appointments

The Board received report AB15/91 and noted that the Vice-Chancellor and Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor had recently approved the following adjunct appointments:

- Adjunct Professor: Professor Kang Li, China Health Program, School of Psychology and Public Health, College of SHE (re-appointment – 3 years).
- Adjunct Professor: Professor Christopher James Nester, School of Allied Health, Sports and Exercise Medicine Research Centre, College of SHE (appointment – 3 years)
- Adjunct Professor: Professor Evelyne de Leeuw, School of Psychology and Public Health, College of SHE (appointment – 3 years).
- Adjunct Associate Professor: Dr Neil Barr, Social Inquiry, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, College of ASSC (appointment – 3 years).
- Adjunct Associate Professor: Dr Jingfu Mao, China Health Program, School of Psychology and Public Health (appointment – 3 years).
- Adjunct Professor: Professor Alex Kountouris, School of Allied Health, Sports and Exercise Medicine Research Centre (re-appointment – 3 years).

HR

483.4.2 Report of the Academic Promotions Committee: August 2015

The Board received the Report of the Academic Promotions Committee: August 2015 and noted that the persons named therein had been promoted, as detailed in report AB15/92.

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483.4.3 Report of the Academic Promotions Committee: September 2015

The Board received the Report of the Academic Promotions Committee: September 2015 and noted that the persons named therein had been promoted, as detailed in report AB15/93.

EO(APC)

PART D – DISCUSSION

483.5 Inclusive Excellence

Professor Jane Long, Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor, provided a brief introduction outlining the concept of 'inclusive excellence' and why it was important to La Trobe. The concept of 'inclusive excellence' is now central to the LTU Strategic

Plan refresh and is also the central focus of the Distinctive Education Plan following extensive positive feedback from staff.

Dr Andrew Harvey, Director, Access and Achievement Research Unit, outlined the definition and elements of inclusive excellence, La Trobe University's performance against relevant metrics, and what the University was already doing and planning to do to improve performance in this area.

Staff were encouraged to attend the **Inclusive Excellence Forum** on **Tuesday 20 October**, hosted by the Access and Achievement Research Unit.

Discussion:

- It was noted that US research, where the term 'inclusive excellence' has been in use for about 10 years, has shown that there are positive impacts on teaching and learning outcomes when and where diversity is encouraged.
- It was suggested that inputs were easy to measure but learning outcomes more difficult and agreed that Australia has very limited research into this area – most of the research had been done in the US and UK.
- It was suggested that the terminology of 'inclusive excellence' be examined/questioned in light of the specific Australian context and different target audiences, e.g. students.
- The importance of ensuring the inclusion of research as well as teaching and learning in this context was emphasised, and the gathering together of research that is aligned.
- In a discussion around the strength of diversity, the presenters noted that 'inclusive excellence' requires intentional institutional action beyond the mere presence of diversity.
- It was suggested that La Trobe should acknowledge and grow our heritage of 'inclusive excellence'.

The meeting closed at 10.55am.

483.6 Next Meeting

9.30am
Wednesday 11 November 2015
Council Chamber
John Scott Meeting House
Melbourne Campus

Chair: _____

Date: _____