OUTCOMES FROM DEAKIN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING 5, 2016 – 16 SEPTEMBER 2016

At its meeting on 16 September 2016 Deakin University Council dealt with matters as follows in accordance with its legislative responsibilities and 2016 business schedule.

Setting the strategic direction of the University
Council concluded its comprehensive consideration of the future of the Warrnambool Campus and considered a plan addressing the key criteria of ensuring a quality educational experience for students, fulfilling Deakin’s public purpose and addressing the financial losses of the Campus.

Council welcomed the support from the Australian and Victorian Governments for the continued operation of the Campus and acknowledged the interest and input of the local community.

Council gave approval to the University developing a staff change management proposal for the continued operation of the Campus on a more sustainable basis.

Council noted its responsibility for the ongoing review of the viability and sustainability of the Campus and ensuring the equivalency of the quality of the student learning experience with other Deakin campuses.

Overseeing and reviewing University performance
Council welcomed the University’s significantly improved standing in the 2016 Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU), up 183 places from an estimated ranking of 397 in 2015 to 214 in the world.

Council reviewed the progress of the University towards full year targets for student numbers and financial outcomes.

Council received a report on the development of the University’s new Enterprise Agreement and noted that management had presented a fully drafted agreement including salary offer to staff and hoped to achieve agreement expeditiously.

Council noted that a national survey on sexual assault and harassment is being conducted by Universities Australia and the Australian Human Rights Commission and that the report is expected to be available in February-March 2017.

Innovation and research commercialisation
Council considered developments relating to research, development and commercialisation in carbon fibre and sustainable energy systems.

Overseeing the management and control of finances
Council reviewed the progress of major projects and the reasons for any variations to project scope, timelines and budgets.

Council considered a report from the Investment Committee about the performance of the University’s short and long term investments pools and the Environmental, Social and Governance pool.
Overseeing the management and control of property and business affairs

Council considered a presentation from the Chief Operating Officer on campus infrastructure and utilisation, including access to and from Deakin campuses. Council noted successful initiatives to improve space usage through flexibility and innovation.

Council review

Council considered the report of the biennial review of the Council by an expert external reviewer, Ms Liz Baré, noted the positive findings of the review and approved actions arising.

Council’s own affairs, appointments and effectiveness

Council reappointed Kathy Grigg as a member of Council for the period 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2019.

Council approved a change to the membership of the Investment Committee and Finance and Business Affairs Committee.

Council received its 2017 business schedule.

Executive appointments

Council approved the reappointment of Professor Trevor Day as Executive Dean of the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Built Environment.

Honours and acknowledgements

Council conferred the title of Emeritus Professor on Professor Brenton Doecke.