

## FUNCTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

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- 1 The strategic direction**
  - shaping, approving and reviewing the University's mission and strategic and operational plans
  - monitoring University progress generally against performance indicators and, more specifically, against targets
  - determining the future development of the University's campuses.
- 2 The Vice-Chancellor**
  - appointing the Vice-Chancellor as the chief executive officer of the University
  - overseeing review of the Vice-Chancellor's performance and remuneration.
- 3 Key policies, legislation and compliance**
  - overseeing the establishment of key University policies
  - defining University policies and procedures consistent with community expectations where those expectations are relevant and can be identified
  - establishing University legislation
  - overseeing University compliance, including with obligations set out in the *Deakin University Act (1974)*.
- 4 Risk management**
  - overseeing University risk management
  - overseeing the protection and enhancement of the University's reputation.
- 5 Control and accountability**
  - approving the University's budget and business and financial plans
  - approving individual major capital expenditure projects<sup>1</sup>
  - monitoring University performance against the budget and plans
  - overseeing University asset management
  - overseeing the sound management of the University.
- 6 Commercial activities and controlled entities**
  - approving major University commercial ventures
  - overseeing the effective operation and performance of significant commercial activities, including those conducted through University controlled incorporated entities.
- 7 Academic standards**
  - ensuring adequate procedures for the maintenance and monitoring of University academic standards in teaching, assessment and research.
- 8 University culture**
  - satisfying itself that the University is fulfilling its obligations to its students both as regards its academic programs and the general University experience

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<sup>1</sup> Major capital expenditure projects are defined as being individual projects worth in excess of \$10 million

- satisfying itself that the University is fulfilling its obligations to staff both as regards its employment practices and their general development
- satisfying itself that the University culture:
  - is consistent with the mission and core commitments<sup>2</sup>
  - facilitates upholding the academic freedom of staff
  - encourages links with the wider community.

## 9 Council's own affairs

- establishing procedures to meet Council's responsibilities
- ensuring clear delegations to the Vice-Chancellor, to Academic Board, to committees of Council and as otherwise required
- managing Council's own performance.

*Approved by the University Council on 9 October 2003 and most recently amended on 11 April 2006*

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<sup>2</sup> In the Strategic Plan 2006, the University's core commitments are described as being to rural and regional engagement, continuing education and life-long learning, and equity and access for individuals and groups who might not otherwise enjoy the benefits that flow from participation in higher education.