



## **OUTCOMES FROM DEAKIN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING 3, 2018 – 14 JUNE 2018**

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At its meeting on 14 June 2018 Deakin University Council dealt with matters as follows in accordance with its legislative responsibilities and 2018 business schedule.

### **Overseeing and reviewing University performance**

Council considered a report from the Vice-Chancellor in Deakin's results in recent national and international rankings and noted that Deakin maintained top place among Victorian universities for student satisfaction for the eighth successive year.

### **Prevention of sexual harassment and assault**

The Vice-Chancellor advised Council that 2 August 2018 will mark one year since the release of the Australian Human Rights Commission's report on sexual assault and harassment at Australian universities. During the year Deakin has implemented a series of actions to address the report's recommendations and a comprehensive update on these actions will be completed by 2 August 2018 and presented for consideration at a future Council meeting.

### **Overseeing the management and control of finances**

Council reviewed reports on the University's consolidated finances and major projects. Council noted:

- the net financial surplus for the period to 31 May 2018
- the status of major projects for the period and the reasons for any variation from budget, timelines or scope
- priority future projects.

Council received a report from the Investment Committee on the implementation of the University's new Investment Governance Framework and on the performance of the University's managed investments.

Council approved expenditure for strategic property acquisition and for infrastructure development. Council reviewed the development of, and the plans for, the Geelong Future Economic Precinct at the Geelong Wairn Ponds Campus, which is a site of substantial job growth and multifaceted university industry and community engagement. Council committed an initial tranche of funding for the next stage of the Precinct's development and noted that the University would seek matching funding from the Australian and Victorian governments and would work with a range of stakeholders to maximise the Precinct's potential.

### **Overseeing risk management and monitoring systems of control and accountability**

Council considered a report from the Audit and Risk Committee on issues arising from the report by the Victorian Auditor-General on 2017 university audits, specifically:

- direct follow up by Deakin with the Auditor-General's Office in regard to statements about the University's finance system and annual accounts
- financial risk indicators among Victorian universities.

Council also received advice from the Audit and Risk Committee on:

- further work on the University's risk appetite statement
- amendments approved to the internal audit plan to reflect emergent priorities
- the 2017 report by the University's Animal Ethics Committee in accordance with the *Australian Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Research and Teaching*.

### **Oversight and monitoring of academic activities**

Council received a report from the Chair of the Academic Board. Council noted the annual review of admission and selection criteria for coursework programs and that all changes to admission criteria fully conformed to the Higher Education Standards and the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF).

Council considered a presentation on the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Built Environment from:

- Professor Trevor Day who will retire as Executive Dean on 29 June 2018
- Professor Karen Hapgood, incoming Executive Dean.

Council noted significant progress by the Faculty in recent years and plans for continued growth in teaching, research, international activities and industry engagement.

Council acknowledged with acclamation Professor Day's significant contribution to Deakin as Executive Dean SEBE from 29 March 2012 to 29 June 2018 and conveyed its best wishes to Professor Day for his retirement.

Council congratulated Professor Hapgood on her appointment, noted her initial priorities and conveyed its best wishes for her in the role.

### **Council's own affairs, appointments and effectiveness**

Council approved the reappointment of Mr Stuart Hamilton AO as a Council appointed member from 1 January 2019.

Council received its 2019 business schedule and the updated Voluntary Code of Best Practice for the Governance of Australian Universities adopted by the University Chancellors Council and Universities Australia.

Council approved the awarding of three Deakin Honorary Doctorates to individuals for their outstanding contributions to the community aligned to the University's objectives.