



OUTCOMES FROM DEAKIN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING 1, 2019 – 21 MARCH 2019

At its meeting on 21 March 2019 Deakin University Council dealt with matters as follows in accordance with its legislative responsibilities and 2019 business schedule.

Overseeing and reviewing University performance

Council reviewed the University's 2018 Annual Report and *LIVE the future* implementation report.

2018 Deakin University Annual Report

Council approved the 2018 Deakin University Annual Report, including:

- the University's 2018 financial statements
- statutory reporting required under the Standing Directions and Financial Reporting Directions under the *Financial Management Act 1994* (Vic)
- the University's attestation of compliance with Ministerial Standing Direction 3.7.1 – Risk Management Framework and Processes.

Council welcomed the adoption of the integrated reporting approach for the 2018 Annual Report, noting that it significantly aided readability and provides greater transparency to stakeholders on how the University meets all of its corporate social responsibilities. Furthermore the University teaches and conducts research in the integrated reporting approach and the report demonstrates that the University 'practices what it teaches'.

The Report will be forwarded to the Hon Gayle Tierney MP, Minister for Training and Skills and Minister for Higher Education for tabling in the Victorian Parliament in early May and will be subsequently published on the University's website.

LIVE the future implementation plan

Council noted pleasing progress in 2018 in all areas of the *LIVE the future* strategic plan, including:

Learning:

- Deakin was ranked number 1 in Victoria for overall satisfaction for the ninth year in a row.
- Deakin's registration was renewed by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency for the maximum period of seven years, without conditions.
- Deakin's partnership with FutureLearn continued to grow with six postgraduate degrees on the FutureLearn global open online platform and consequential ongoing enhancements to our Cloud first curriculum development enabling continuous improvement.

Ideas:

- Deakin improved two places in the 2018 Academic Rankings of World Universities and moved from 11th (in 2017) to 10th in Australia. The number of Highly Cited Researchers for 2018 remained at five.
- Deakin's indicators for the development of a strategic international research footprint – number of publications co-authored with an international author, number of significant international partnerships and the number of international higher degree by research students – were all above target.

- Commercial activities resulting from Deakin intellectual property (IP) accelerated during the year, including in the Institute for Intelligent Systems and Research Innovation and carbon fibre R&D and manufacture.

Value:

- Despite a flat market domestic student enrolments achieved target in 2018.
- International enrolments continued a strong upward trajectory. Deakin is now 9th in Australia for number of international students, and international enrolments in 2018 accounted for 24% of total student numbers (EFTSL).
- The second tranche of the cybersecurity program DeakinShield was launched and there were no major cybersecurity issues in 2018.

Experience:

- Deakin Genie was delivered into successful pilot and is available to the entire student body in 2019.
- The Careers Service was voted best in Australia by graduate employers for the second year in a row and employments outcomes for graduates and postgraduates improved.
- The Respect.Now.Always. program to combat sexual harassment and sexual assault was embraced by the University and included improvements to victim support, training for staff, education for all members of Deakin residences and many improvements to related policies and process.

Overseeing risk management and monitoring systems of control and accountability

In reviewing the University's 2018 Annual Report Council had received advice from the Audit and Risk Committee that the Committee was satisfied that:

- the University had sound governance, risk management and control frameworks in place regarding the reliability and integrity of financial and operational information
- the 2018 financial statements represented a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the University
- the statutory reporting and risk management sections of the University's 2018 Annual Report were complete and accurate.

Overseeing the management and control of finances

Council considered the Financial Report for the period to 31 December 2018.

Council noted the annual review of investment objectives and the Investment Governance Framework by the Investment Committee, resulting in a number of adjustments and refinements. A major review of the Framework occurs each three years.

Major projects

Council considered a report of the progress of major projects against budget, scope and timelines and noted the reasons for any variation from targets.

Council received a briefing on the Geelong City Deal and the status of ongoing discussions on the use of Deakin's Waterfront car park for the establishment of a Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Oversight and monitoring of academic activities

Council received a report on the outcomes of the meeting of the Academic Board held on 25 February 2019 and noted:

- the University's submission on the proposed Model Code developed by the Hon Justice Robert French AC as part of his review into freedom of speech at Australian universities
- the expansion of Deakin Hallmarks beyond specific courses through the establishment of University-wide Hallmarks to recognise student excellence in leadership and governance, entrepreneurial thinking, digital innovation and creativity
- amendments to the University's English Language Admission Criteria procedure.

University legislation and policy

Council approved amendments to Regulation 2.1(1) – *The Council* and Regulation 5.1(1) – *Enrolment* to clarify that a student who is elected to Council and intermits their study retains the status of a student and is eligible to stand in University elections during that period of intermission.

Council noted the progress of work on the University's statutes and regulations to ensure that they are clear, relevant and up-to-date. This will require significant stakeholder input and 'road testing' to check that the new regulations will as intended in practice.

Councils own affairs

Council acknowledged with acclamation the service of Ms Kathy Grigg as Chair of the Investment Committee since 2013 and welcomed that she will continue as a member of the Committee to support the incoming Chair, Ms Carol Boyer-Spooner. Mr David St. John has also been appointed to the Committee as a new external expert.

Council noted that the Committee has overseen very sound investment performance and the development of a sophisticated responsible investment strategy.