



OUTCOMES FROM DEAKIN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING 7, 2017 – 7 DECEMBER 2017

At its meeting on 7 December the Deakin University Council dealt with matters as follows in accordance with its legislative responsibilities and 2017 business schedule.

Overseeing and reviewing the performance of the University

Recognition for Deakin

Council noted recent recognition for Deakin, including winning the Australian Export Award for Education and Training on 5 December 2017, following four consecutive years winning the Governor of Victoria Export Award. The Australian award particularly reflects the success of the University's international and industry partnerships and work under the New Colombo plan to place over 1,000 students in study or internships positions in the Indo-Pacific region.

Partnership with Netball Australia

Council welcomed the University's important new partnership with Netball Australia, which will provide opportunities to:

- extend Deakin's involvement in women's sport to a high-profile national level
- increase recognition of the University's world-leading sports science and sports management programs
- build lifelong learning relationships with women, commencing in early school years and continuing through adult and parenthood.

Annual presentation on human resource strategies and plans

The Chief Operating Officer presented the annual review on human resource matters, highlighting:

- initiatives to address unconscious gender and cultural biases in the recruitment of staff
- training and development programs for supervisors and managers at middle and senior levels to improve team and University performance
- the University's good performance in terms of its low lost time injury rate and workers compensation premium.

Overseeing the management and control of finances

Council considered the latest information on the University's projected end of year financial position and noted that the position was favourable to budget. Council also reviewed the progress of major projects against budget, timeline and scope targets and noted the reasons for any variations to target.

Council noted the solid financial performance of the Deakin University Student Association in 2017.

Investment strategy

Council noted new allocations to the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Pool which will take specialised ESG investments to 18% of the University's managed investments. This is in addition to all investment managers having ESG policies and commitments to responsible investing as a condition of engagement with the University.

Council considered an update from the Chair of the Investment Committee on the process for reviewing the University's investment strategy.

Oversight and monitoring of academic activities

Council approved the establishment of a new Institute, the Deakin Applied Artificial Intelligence Institute and conferred authority on the Legislation Committee to make establishing legislation. The Institute will be headed by Professor Kon Mouzakis (DSTIL) and Alfred Deakin Professor Svetha Venkatesh (PRaDA), who presented to Council on the Institute's research strategy and positioning.

Council considered the annual report from the Chair of the Academic Board on actions taken during the year to uphold academic freedom, quality and standards, including:

- reviewing and approving amendments to the University's Academic Freedom policy, also reflected in the Code of Conduct and Enterprise Agreement
- reviewing and approving amendments to a further 24 academic policies
- implementing a rigorous Academic Risk Monitoring Framework.

Council commended the Board on its active oversight of professional practice credentials and the clear and well understood distinction between the roles of:

- DeakinCo to manage the credentialing process and engage directly with industry
- the Academic Board to provide expert academic oversight and quality assurance over Deakin credentials and their assessment.

Council further noted progress towards the University's re-registration with Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) in 2018.

Overseeing the management and control of property and business affairs

Council considered a presentation from the Chief Operating Officer on the Campus Infrastructure and Utilisation Plan and noted:

- the very substantial financial return from the move from 'owned' to 'shared' space since 2013
- the optimisation of space and asset utilisation through renewing existing infrastructure
- progress towards the University's commitment to be carbon neutral by 2030.

Council approved expenditure for the refurbishment of Building KA at the Geelong Waurin Ponds Campus.

Overseeing risk management and monitoring systems of control and accountability

Council noted the Audit and Risk Committee's consideration of:

- the University's renewal of registration submission to TEQSA
- the Headline Risk Report
- the Annual Student Academic Breach Report and in particular controls and actions being taken to ensure the comprehensive detection and management of breaches of academic integrity across the University
- the development of an overarching statement of risk appetite to be considered at Council's Strategy Conference in February 2018.

University legislation and policy

Council approved amendments to:

- Regulation 2.1(1) – *The Council* to enable a student member of Council to intermit their studies but maintain their status as a student where approved by the Chancellor
- Regulation 2.3(1) – *The Faculties* to establish a maximum of two consecutive terms for elected members of Faculty Board unless approved otherwise by the Chair
- Regulation 5.4(1) – *Academic Dress* to introduce regalia for Alfred Deakin Professors.

Council approved a new Policy Framework, effective on promulgation across the University.

Executive appointments

Council noted that the Chancellor, on the advice of the Chancellor's Advisory Committee, had approved the appointment of Professor Karen Hapgood as Executive Dean of the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Built Environment from 30 June 2018.

Council's own affairs, appointments and effectiveness

Council:

- received reports demonstrating that Council and Council committees had fulfilled all their business schedules and statutory obligations in 2017
- received the Register of Council Delegations and a report on the exercise of those delegations in 2017
- appointed Chairs, Deputy Chairs and members of Committees from 1 January 2018.

Honours and acknowledgements

Council acknowledged with acclamation the outstanding service provided to Deakin University Council by Ms Dana Harding from 1 July 2016 to 31 December 2017 and noted that Ms Harding had been an active and articulate voice for students and that under her leadership as President, the Deakin University Student Association had achieved a 28% growth in membership; had hosted a series of successful events; and had built a sound financial position. Council wished Ms Harding well in her career.

Council received the 2017 review of honorary degrees awarded by the University and approved the awarding of four Deakin Honorary Doctorates at graduation ceremonies in early 2018.