**OUTCOMES FROM DEAKIN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING 3, 2019 – 25 JULY 2019**

At its meeting on 25 July 2019 Deakin University Council dealt with matters as follows in accordance with its legislative responsibilities and 2019 business schedule.

## Welcome to new members

Council welcomed Professor Iain Martin, Vice-Chancellor, and Mr Ryan Leemon, government appointed member, to their first meeting of Council.

## Vice-Chancellor's early impressions

Professor Iain Martin conveyed impressions from his first month at Deakin and initial meetings with staff, members of the Victorian and Commonwealth Governments, community and business stakeholders.

The Vice-Chancellor expressed his appreciation of the engagement and enthusiasm of staff at each campus.

## Overseeing and reviewing University performance

Council considered the University's mid-year performance report against targets in the *LIVE the future* strategic plan.

Council welcomed the report as a positive and comprehensive record of the University's strong progress against key performance indicators and initiatives across all areas of the strategic plan.

Council gratefully acknowledged the contributions of all members of the University community towards the University's achievements.

## Overseeing the management and control of finances

Council noted that the University's financial performance for the half year was sound, with major items in line with or favourable to budget. Council noted the progress of major projects against budget, scope and timelines and noted the reasons for any variation from targets

The Investment Committee reported on the progress of its review of the performance of various asset classes in the University's investment portfolio. This review will inform adjustments to the strategic asset allocation in the long-term investment pool.

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

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

- the University's annual reports on emergency and critical incident management and occupational health and safety, which the Committee considered to be excellent
- the six-monthly review of the 2019 Internal Audit Plan to ensure that the Plan takes account of any changes in business risks, operations, priorities and emerging issues since it was approved
- close monitoring of ratings for major risk items across the University in the context of the University's risk appetite statement.

## Cyber security

Council considered a presentation from Mr William Confalonieri, Chief Digital Officer on the University's cyber security program, Deakin Shield.

Council acknowledged the challenging cyber security environment facing all organisations and noted that to address this environment the University has developed a mature and multifaceted framework to protect information assets, benchmarked against industry best practice. Council noted that the University's cyber security framework and practices have been significantly strengthened over the past three years under the Deakin Shield program.

Council thanked the Chief Digital Officer for his informative presentation.

## Waurn Ponds student residences

Council approved major project expenditure to expand student residential accommodation at the Geelong Waurn Ponds Campus and to enhance the residential precinct.

Deliverables from this project include 320 beds in townhouse accommodation, a centralised administration building, town hall style function space and village green and safe, landscaped links to existing car parks and the centre of the campus. The project is scheduled for completion by February 2021.

## Oversight and monitoring of academic activities

Council received written and oral reports from the Chair of the Academic Board and noted actions by the Board to uphold the highest standards in teaching and research.

The Chair of the Academic Board also reported on work in response to the Independent Review of Freedom of Speech in Australian Higher Education Providers and in particular the Model Code arising from the Review. A working party of the Board has mapped the provisions of the Model Code against existing University policies and procedures and has proposed additions to the existing Academic Freedom policy and a new Freedom of Speech policy.

Council noted that the University would maintain an affirmative approach to freedom of speech. The University will continue to support free expression within the law and the new policy will be built around positive statements of principle.

## University legislation and policy

Council approved amendments to:
* the Academic Board policy arising from a scheduled review of the policy to ensure that it remained up-to-date and in close alignment with other relevant University policies and with the Higher Education Standards made under the *Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Act*
* Regulation 4.1(2) – *Academic and Research Integrity* in line with the requirements and the terminology of the *Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research 2018* and the *Guide to Managing and Investigating Potential Breaches of the Code*.

Council noted the progress of a project to modernise and streamline the University's statutes and regulations to ensure that they are clear, relevant and up-to-date. The project is scheduled to conclude in early 2020, with implementation in the first half of 2020.

Council noted that the Legislation Committee had approved Regulation 2.4(8) — *Institute for Mental and Physical Health and Clinical Translation* in accordance with Council's decision to establish the Institute at its meeting on 23 May 2019

## Honours and appointments

Council approved the appointment of Professor Rachel Huxley as Executiev Dean of the Faculty of Health from 21 October 2019.

Council also approved the conferral of the title Emeritus Professor on Vice-Chancellor, Professor Jane den Hollander AO, who retired from the University on 30 June 2019. The conferral honours her outstanding contribution to the culture, growth and reputation of Deakin University and her significant contribution to the communities Deakin serves and to Australian higher education.