



## **OUTCOMES FROM DEAKIN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING 1, 2017 – 16 MARCH 2017**

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At its meeting on 16 March 2017, the Deakin University Council dealt with matters as follows in accordance with its legislative responsibilities and 2017 business schedule.

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

Council reviewed the University's performance in 2016 against the targets in the *LIVE the future* implementation plan.

Council noted the significant progress made in all areas, including:

#### **Learning:**

- Deakin achieved the number 1 ranking in Victoria for overall student satisfaction for the sixth year in a row.
- Deakin attracted over 20,000 enrolments in free courses on FutureLearn and has commenced to offer fee paying courses in 2017.
- Student mobility to overseas destinations exceeded target.

#### **Ideas:**

- Deakin achieved a ranking of 214 in the Academic Rankings of World Universities, up from 324 in 2015.
- The University exceeded its target for total research income by over \$4 million.
- Research commercialisation indicators including patents, royalty streams and licences were on or above target.

#### **Value:**

- Deakin implemented a more sustainable model for the Warrnambool Campus.
- The University further developed its digital enabling strategy, included enhancement of the Cloud campus.
- Additional student accommodation was constructed in Geelong and Burwood to address strong demand.

#### **Experience:**

- The Deakin Student Network to coordinate administrative and course issues was expanded to the Geelong Waurin Ponds and Melbourne Burwood Campuses.
- Sport facilities on the Geelong Waurin Ponds Campus were substantially upgraded.
- The Deakin University Community Bank was successfully established, the first initiative of its kind in Australia.

Council also noted priorities for 2017 including:

- improving student retention
- increasing the representation of women in senior positions notably senior research positions
- strengthening cyber security
- increasing benefactions received by the University.

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

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 report from the Investment Committee about the performance of the University's managed investments in terms of financial outcomes and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) principles. Council noted actions by the Committee to rebalance the University's investment portfolio to enhance performance and mitigate risk.

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

Council considered a summary of the University's major strategic risks and noted the increased risk rating for cyber security. Council will receive a presentation on cyber security at its next meeting.

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

Council received a report from the Chair of the Academic Board, including about the monitoring of academic risks and noted actions taken by the Board to ensure that:

- the Board's risk register remains up-to-date and captures emergent risks
- all Board members engage with the Board's work monitoring academic risks
- Faculty Boards work closely with the Academic Board on academic governance.

Council received a presentation from the Faculty of Business and Law comprising:

- an overview by Professor Mike Ewing, Executive Dean, of achievements, challenges and key developments in the Faculty, and his priorities for 2017-2019
- snapshots of research by:
  - Alfred Deakin Professor Ingrid Nielsen on integrating refugees into the workforce
  - Professor Mehmet Ulubasoglu on the economics of natural disasters in Australia
  - Dr Neera Bhatia on ethical and legal dilemmas posed by advances in health care.

## ***Respect. Now. Always.***

Council considered an update on the *Respect. Now. Always.* campaign to address and eliminate sexual assault and sexual harassment at Australian universities. Universities are expected to receive results from the national survey conducted for the campaign in May 2017. Council noted that Deakin is thoroughly committed to the campaign and will actively address any issues and recommendations arising from the survey in order to enhance and further develop the University's prevention, support and response measures.

## **Honours and acknowledgements**

Council acknowledged with acclamation:

- the service provided to the Council by Professor David Ashbridge who was appointed on 4 September 2012 and resigned on 17 February 2017
- the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Jane den Hollander, as an Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to tertiary education, as a supporter of professional education organisations and to the community.