



OUTCOMES FROM DEAKIN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING 6, 2017 – 9 NOVEMBER 2017

At its meeting on 9 November the Deakin University Council dealt with matters as follows in accordance with its legislative responsibilities and 2017 business schedule.

Overseeing the management and control of finances

Financial plan

Council considered year-to-date financial performance and projections for the 2017 full year result. Council noted the progress of major University projects against budget, scope and timeline targets and noted the reasons for any variance to target.

Council also considered the Financial Plan 2018–2020 and had regard to the pressures on the University budget including the prospect of Commonwealth funding cuts, a material increase in energy costs and expenditure requirements to support the University's teaching and learning and research goals.

Council was satisfied that the 2018 budget and 2019 and 2020 projections were soundly based and fully aligned to the University's strategic plan. Council approved the University's 2018 budget.

Investment strategy

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

Higher education policy and funding

Council had regard to current public discussion of higher education policy and funding and to reports released by the Business Council of Australia and the Productivity Commission. Council noted that this discussion presented both:

- risks arising from the argument that too many students were enrolled in universities and funding should be diverted to the under-resourced TAFE sector; and
- opportunities for Deakin to demonstrate the distinctive ways in which it was meeting the needs of the economy through its graduate employment and credentialing initiatives and research and innovation programs.

Follow up to the Student Forum

Council received a report following up the Student Forum held with Council at its August meeting. Students raised a range of issues about studying at Deakin. Council considered and endorsed a report setting out actions to address identified areas for improvement. Council noted that the participating students would receive a letter reiterating the University's appreciation of their contribution and a copy of the report.

Oversight and monitoring of academic activities

Council considered a report from the Chair of the Academic Board and in particular noted the Board's work to manage risks associated with academic governance, including:

- setting and monitoring compliance with academic standards
- ensuring that decisions, planning and reporting are based on accurate and fit-for-purpose information
- managing the academic governance framework effectively and with strong outreach across the University.

Council noted work on the University's renewal of registration with the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency.

Council received a presentation from the Faculty of Health, covering:

- developments, opportunities and challenges for the Faculty by Professor Brendan Crotty, Executive Dean
- the Deakin Child Study Centre and Sport Play program by Professor Nicole Rinehart
- the University's diabetes education program on the FutureLearn platform by Dr Rhonda Brown.

Overseeing the management and control of property and business affairs

Council named the new student accommodation building to be opened in 2018 near the Geelong Waterfront Campus 'Brougham House'.

Overseeing risk management and monitoring systems of control and accountability

Council considered a report on the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency's 2017 risk assessment of Deakin.

Overseeing the management and control of property and business affairs

Council approved the name of the new student residence building at the Geelong Waterfront Campus.

Council's own affairs, appointments and effectiveness

Council congratulated current and future members on being (re)elected to Council as follows:

- Professor Chris Hickey re-elected Chair of the Academic Board from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2020
- Mrs Alice Di Pasquale re-elected as the staff member elected to Council from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2020
- Ms Lauren Hustwaite elected as the student member of Council from 1 January to 31 December 2018.