



Minutes of the meeting (05/7) of the **Academic Board**,
held at 10.00 am on **Tuesday, 2 August 2005**, in The Chancellery.

PRESENT: Professor A Dooley, President
Dr C Moran, Deputy President
Dr C Daly, Deputy President
Professor M Wainwright, Vice-Chancellor
Professor R King, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) and Registrar
Professor J Ingleson, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International & Development)
Professor L Field, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Professor M Harding, Dean of Graduate Research
Professors M Archer, J Baird, A Cavaye, J Chan, P Compton, M Cowling,
D Dixon, D Fiebig, A Hamilton, R Henry, B Hibbert, I Howard,
R Hugman, R Kumar, B Milthorpe, P Murphy, B Parker, V Sahajwalla,
L Trakman, K Trotman, G Whittred
Associate Professors J Bennett, G Collins, H Riesen, M Walpole
Drs D Clements, D Cohen, A Coster, G Dick, K Dunn, P Hagan, D Morgan,
I Skinner
Messrs M Hislop, P Murray
Mss X Chen, L Hitchens, E Robertson

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr P Boyle, Director, Quality System Development
Ms J Gatwood, Director, UNSW Student Services
Ms C Taylor, Director, Marketing and Development
Mr A Wells, University Librarian
Ms R Fraser, Executive Officer, Academic Board

Quorum: 20
Members present: 45

***1. APOLOGIES / WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS**

1.1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Professors M Harris, A Lee, M Vitale, Associate Professors M Apte, S Fortescue, Drs A Cameron, J Copeland, Messrs T Cope, K Hamady. (File: 941772)

1.2 Welcome to New Members

The President welcomed the new members appointed to fill casual vacancies - Professor Veena Sahajwalla and Associate Professor Hans Riesen.

*2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 5 July 2005 were confirmed and signed. It was noted that item 9.1.1(c) would be amended subsequent to the Board's decision under item 4.1 of this meeting.

*3. ARRANGEMENT OF AGENDA

3.1 Starring of Items

Item 16 was starred in addition to those items starred by the Agenda Committee.

3.2 Adoption of Recommendations

3.2.1 Adoption of unstarred non-confidential recommendations

A motion for the adoption of the unstarred non-confidential recommendations was received and carried.

*4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

4.1 Postgraduate Coursework Degree Nomenclature

Dr Moran presented the tabled paper on the outcome of the deliberations of the Working Party on Postgraduate Coursework Degree Nomenclature, and noted that the Working Party had given consideration to a wide number of issues in order to ensure its recommendations addressed all matters with an impact on postgraduate nomenclature, and informed the subsequent review of the postgraduate program structures. Dr Moran reported that the use of prefixes had been considered to be ambiguous, as was the use of the term "Honours", with regard to the extended Masters degree programs, and that the use of the term "(Extension)" best encapsulated the extended educational content of the additional program structure. However, it was noted that the Faculty of Commerce & Economics, Faculty of the Built Environment, the Postgraduate Coursework Committee and the Working Party had been unable to identify any alternative terms, and members were invited to submit other appropriate suggestions.

As a result of the deliberations of the Working Party, the Faculty of the Built Environment had reconsidered the title of the new program "Executive Master of Construction Project Management" and had recommended the title be changed to "**Master of Construction and Project Management in Professional Practice**". It was

RESOLVED AB05/68

That the Academic Board:

- (i) notes the report of the Working Party on Postgraduate Coursework Degree Nomenclature, and requests the Postgraduate Coursework Committee of the Academic Board to review postgraduate degree program structures with a view to developing model structures in line with the agreed nomenclature and recommendations;
- (ii) recommends that a Masters degree by coursework with an extended structure must be part of a suite of programs;
- (iii) recommends that Graduate Diplomas shall not have an extended structure;
- (iv) recommends the use of the term "by research" to distinguish research masters from masters by coursework;

- (v) approves that the term "Executive" or any other prefix shall not be used in postgraduate degree nomenclature, with the exception of the previously approved programs of Master of Business Administration (Executive) and Executive Master of Business Administration (Construction) offered by the AGSM, and the Executive Master of Public Administration offered by ANZSOG;
- (vi) recommends the use of the suffix "(Extension)" may be applied to degrees with short and long versions, with no name for the shorter version, and that the extension version must be at least 24 uoc longer;
- (vii) approves that the title of the proposed new program "Executive Master of Construction Project Management" be changed to "***Master of Construction and Project Management in Professional Practice***", and that the recommendation to Council be amended accordingly. [File: 2005/1054]

(Two dissenting votes were recorded against Resolution AB05/68 (vi))

4.2 Definition of Research 'Active': Alternative Proposal

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) reported that the process of review of anomalous exclusions from categories of "research publications" would be fine-tuned as the process was applied.

***5. PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS**

5.1 Report on Council Meeting of 20 June 2005

The Academic Board noted the points detailed in the President's tabled report (Appendix A).

5.2 General Business

The Academic Board noted the general business detailed in the President's report.

5.3 UNSW Asia: Progress Report

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International and Development) referred to the progress report and noted the critical need to establish appropriate policies and funding for research as part of the Singapore campus, and their potential value to the ARC linkage grants scheme. Professor Ingleson reported that UNSW was negotiating a new agreement with IDP that would secure target based performance.

RESOLVED AB05/69

That the Academic Board notes the UNSW Asia progress report, as detailed in the document presented. [File: 2005/1840]

5.4 Academic Board Major Issues: "Should UNSW Host Blog Sites?"

The President invited Professor Compton to introduce blog sites and related issues for discussion. Professor Compton referred to the discussion paper and noted the current Code of Conduct does not address the issue of staff hosting and participation in sites and censorship. The increased use of blog sites has highlighted the need for clarity on the University's role in hosting and managing sites. Members noted the varied use of blog sites and acknowledged the success of sites as a debating medium.

During discussion the following points were raised:

- Blog sites can be a useful research tool.
- Censorship procedures should be used to stop the hijacking of sites by people wanting to promote personal agendas.
- Staff can contribute to public debate in other ways that are regulated through disciplines and peer review.
- Staff contributing to blog sites in areas outside of their expertise should not state any relationship to UNSW.
- Is contributing a legitimate academic activity?
- Part of the academic role is to contribute to public debate, which carries an element of trust.
- There are different levels of blog sites and the popularity of a site is not a recommendation, it is the quality of the content that should be judged.
- Some discipline areas, such as interactive media, use blog sites as part of study.
- What function and part of the University mission is using blog sites fulfilling? Is it a public role?
- Hosting blog sites on the University site does not ensure control against the adverse elements of the forum, such as defamation, misconduct.

There was general agreement that UNSW should not host blog sites and that censorship should not be imposed. It was agreed the Website Policy and Code of Conduct would be used to provide rules and guidance on the use of blog sites, and that the matter would be referred to the Policy Advisory Committee for consideration.

6. POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

6.1 Meeting held on 12 July 2005

The minutes had been circulated with the agenda.

6.1.1 POLICY ON GENERAL EDUCATION: ACADEMIC BOARD REPORT TO COUNCIL

RESOLVED AB05/70

That the Academic Board recommends that Council note the Academic Board Report on the Policy on General Education. [File: 2002/0564]

7. COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH

7.1 Meeting held on 7 July 2005

7.1.1 MINIMUM PERIOD OF ENROLMENT FOR MASTERS BY RESEARCH DEGREES

RESOLVED AB05/71

That the Academic Board notes that for a Masters by research degree the minimum period of enrolment for a full-time student is either 1.5 or 2.0 years. [The minimum period applying to each Masters by research degree is specified in the approved conditions appropriate to the particular degree]. In exceptional cases a student may be permitted by the relevant Higher Degree Committee to submit his/her thesis earlier than the minimum time specified in the particular degree conditions.

8. COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

8.1 Meeting held on 11 July 2005

The minutes had been circulated with the agenda.

9. POSTGRADUATE COURSEWORK COMMITTEE

9.1 Meeting held on 14 July 2005

9.1.1 FACULTY OF MEDICINE – NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL – GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN PHARMACEUTICAL MEDICINE

RESOLVED AB05/72

That the Academic Board recommends that Council approve the proposal to introduce a Graduate Diploma in Pharmaceutical Medicine (5511), effective 1 January 2006, as detailed in the document presented. [File. 2005/1429]

10. UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

10.1 Meeting held on 14 July 2005

The meeting scheduled for 14 July 2005 had been cancelled.

11. ACADEMIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

11.1 Meeting held on 12 July 2005

The minutes had been circulated with the agenda.

12. PRE-UNIVERSITY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

12.1 The meeting scheduled for 7 July 2005 had been cancelled.

13. UNSW ASIA LIAISON COMMITTEE

13.1 The next meeting is scheduled for 18 August 2005.

14. FACULTIES

No Faculties have reported on this occasion.

15. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

No Motions on Notice had been received.

16. OTHER MATTERS

16.1 PRESENTATION ON NEW BRAND AND VISUAL IDENTITY FOR UNSW

Ms Clare Taylor, Director, Marketing and Development presented the new brand and visual identity for UNSW. Consultation on the new brand with Senior Management and other personnel was ongoing.

17. BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE

There was no business raised under this item.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 11.45 am.

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD

President / /2005