ACADEMIC BOARD (AB)  
Minutes of Meeting

Date: Tuesday 7 March 2017  
Time: 10.00am – 12.00 noon  
Venue: Council Chamber

PRESENT:  
Associate Professor D Cohen (Presiding Member)  
Scientia Professors J Roberts and V Sahajwalla  
Professors H Abbass, R Buckland, A Cossins, D Fabian, N Fisk, M Frater  
Associate Professors R Bolt, M Handler, K Lai, J Nolan and N Tedla  
Drs L Crommelin, G Edwards, P Martens, K Moline, D Prior, D Schlagwein, K Simon  
Messrs G Forsyth, Z Karpinellison (Student), D Lloyd (Student) and C Poulton (Student)  
Mses A Kayis-Kumar and M Yu (Student)

IN ATTENDANCE:  
Professor G Valen attending for Professor R Phillips, Scientia Professor T. D. Waite attending for Professor M Hoffman, Professor R Harindranath attending for Professor L Chappell and Dr D Moreau  
Mr Rees and Ms Nevin for Item 11.1

SECRETARY: Ms K Taunton

For convenience items were discussed out of agenda order

A. Procedural

1. Apologies and leave of absence  
Apologies were received from Scientia Professor G Williams AO, Professors L Chappell, M Crossley, L Field, M Hoffman, E Johnston, S Kenderdine, R Phillips, X Ruan, A Sowmya, C Styles, Associate Professor M Green, Drs C Benson and S Graham, Ms B Oo.

A leave of absence for Professor L Chappell was granted until 1 August 2017.

1.1 It was:  
RESOLVED  
To approve the appointment of Dr Danielle Moreau to fill the casual vacancy in the Engineering Non-Professorial electorate on Academic Board from 7 March 2017 – 31 December 2018.

2. Minutes of previous meeting held on 7 February 2017  
The minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2017 were confirmed as an accurate record and the Presiding Member was authorised to sign subject to a minor amendment.

3. Matters arising and business carried forward  
There was no business to be carried forward.

4. Starring of items and adoption of unstarred item
No further items were starred. A motion for the adoption of the unstarred items was received and carried.

5. **Confirmation of confidential items**
The Presiding Member confirmed there were no confidential items.

**B President’s Business**

6. **President’s Report**
Associate Professor Cohen tabled a report to the Board (Appendix A) and noted his recent attendance at the Higher Education Conference in Canberra and made special mention of the excellent keynote address given by the former US Ambassador Jeff Bleich (Appendix B).

Associate Professor Cohen also reported on the meetings of the NSW/Territories and the National Chairs of Academic Boards and Senates (CABS) also held in Canberra, and noted the upcoming TEQSA audit.

6.1 **Revisions to Academic Board Standing Orders**
The Board discussed the revised Academic Board Standing Orders and requested a minor change to specify the number of days required for notice to be given of a Special Meeting of Academic Board.

RESOLVED:
To approve the Standing Orders subject to a minor wording amendment.

6.2 **University Committee Membership**
The Board noted the membership of the University Committees.

7. **Vice-Chancellor’s Report**
The Vice-Chancellor Professor Jacobs highlighted the following:
- The excitement and success of O Week.
- Recent meetings in China including with the Confucius Institute and UNSW alumni.
- The Higher Education Conference in Canberra.

Professor Jacobs noted that he has been appointed as the Deputy Chair of the Go8 and is looking forward to encouraging members to have an increased focus on international impact.

Professor Jacobs noted recent achievements at UNSW including:
- The online MBA program is now ranked 4th in the world.
- The donation of $6M by Judith Neilson to fund the Chair in Contemporary Art.
- Grand Challenges of Migration and Refugees and of Inequality are both underway.
- Operational Excellence is underway, mobilising funding and supporting the changes needed for the University to achieve its goals.
- A planned trip to India with the Go8 involving collective marketing for an initiative to provide much needed education in India.

Professor Jacobs responded to a question from a student member of the Board regarding the deregulation of University fees. Professor Jacobs indicated his position was against deregulation and that the current system is working well in his opinion. He further noted that research needs to be funded at a higher level.

**C Discussion Topic**

8. **Promotion on teaching – criteria and benchmarking**
Professor Crisp provided a presentation to the Board (Appendix C) and explained to
members what Educational Excellence for promotion is and how it can be measured in qualitative and quantitative criteria and, how the six points required for promotion can be achieved for both teaching intensive and research intensive positions.

The Student members of the Board contributed to the discussion and expressed the following concerns and issues that were further discussed by the Board:

- Students were unsure as how to measure ‘good teaching’ and can feel uncomfortable reviewing this without further information or context.
- Students feel that “nothing happens” with the data they provide.
- Uncertainty as to whether evaluation should be compulsory and concerns this could lead to an unconscious bias in results.
- An informal evaluation should also be undertaken half-way through the teaching so that remedial action may be taken in order not to disadvantage students.

The Academic Board discussed at length some of the issues arising from the Policy and the framework. Mr Gleeson advised the members that Promotions at UNSW have always been carefully considered and fair and the intention is always for those people who meet the criteria to be promoted. He noted that this new system will still allow those who should be promoted to go through.

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<tr>
<th>Reports and Committees</th>
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<td>9. Education</td>
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<td>No report was provided for these items in Professor Crossley’s absence.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.1 Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education Report</td>
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<td>9.2 University Academic Programs Committee (UAPC) meeting on 10 February 2017</td>
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<td>9.3 University Academic Quality Committee (UAQC) meeting on 15 February 2017</td>
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<th>10. Research and Research Training</th>
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<td>10.1 Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research Report</td>
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<td>Professor Fisk noted that Professor Poole-Warren will also be acting in the role of PVCR until July.</td>
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<td>10.1.1 Summary of the 2016 NHMRC Grant Rounds</td>
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<td>The Board noted and discussed the paper provided by Professor Fisk.</td>
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<td>10.2 University Research Committee (URC)</td>
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<td>This item was not reported due to time constraints.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.3 University HDR Committee (UHDRC) meeting on 16 February 2017</td>
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<td>This item was not reported due to time constraints.</td>
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<th>11. Operations</th>
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<td>11.1 2025 Strategy and Chief-of-Staff update</td>
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<td>Mr Noble spoke to his paper on the Council KPI’s and noted that Council has positively reviewed the report of Performance for 2016 including the 20 indicators and 39 measures. He provided a brief overview of the status of the initiatives.</td>
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<td>Mr Rees and Ms Nevin spoke to the Board on the change processes for Finance, IT and Philanthropy as part of Operational Excellence. He noted that the Finance Consultation is currently underway and noted that the consultation period has been extended; forums held with staff and that transition plans are currently being documented</td>
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<td>11.2 Other</td>
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<td>Nil</td>
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E Faculties and Board of Studies
12. The minutes from the following Faculty Boards & DVC(E) Board of Studies Meetings were noted by the Academic Board.
   12.1 Medicine – 15 November 2016

F Business
13. Academic Programs (New and Revised)
   RESOLVED
   The Academic Board approved the following program proposals, effective from the dates shown in the proposals, the links to which are set out in the agenda:
   13.1 Arts & Social Sciences/ Art & Design
       8234 Master of Public Relations and Advertising/Master of Design (New)
   13.2 Built Environment
       8136 Master of Landscape Architecture (New)
   13.3 Arts & Social Sciences
       8236 Master of Applied Linguistics (Revision)

14. Academic Programs (Disestablishments and Terminations)
   Nil

15. Higher Degree Research Programs
   Nil

16. Policies and Procedures
   Academic Promotions - 2017 Policy and Procedures
   The approved documents were noted as a reference to the discussion topic in Item 8 on the agenda.

G Question Time
17. There were no questions.

H Any Other Business
19. Questions with Notice
   There were no questions with notice.

   Professor Buckland presented a brief video presentation on the work of the Heroes Program.

The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 12 noon.

Next Academic Board meeting: Tuesday 2 May 2017, 10.00am -12.00noon
Council Chamber

[Signature]
Presiding Member
Associate Professor David Cohen
President of the Academic Board
Date: