Academic Board (AB)
Minutes of Meeting

Date: Tuesday 7 November 2017
Time: 10am – 12 noon
Venue: Council Chamber

Present:
Associate Professor D Cohen (Presiding Member)
Scientia Professors J Roberts and V Sahajwalla
Associate Professors R Bolt and M Green
Drs C Benson, L Crommelin, G Edwards, S Graham, P Martens, K Moline, D Moreau and C Tietz
Messrs S Aggarwal (Student), G Forsyth, Z Karpinellison (Student) and D Lloyd (Student), Ms J Aslanidis (Student), Ms B Oo and Ms M Yu (Student)

In Attendance:
Professors E Baldry, B Boyle and S Williams (item 10.1)
Associate Professors T Bucic (item 8), M King (item 8) and Dr L Vigentini (item 8)
Messrs M Borchert, J Fitzgibbon, N Morris and R Nelms
Ms K George (item 16.5) and S Mohamed

Secretary:
Ms Kathrine Taunton (Deputy Director, Governance)

For convenience items were discussed out of agenda order.

A Procedural Matters

1. Apologies and leave of absence

The President welcomed members to the meeting and acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land. He invited Professor McLaws to present a short video with a UNSW approach to the Melbourne Cup.

Apologies were received from Scientia Professor G Williams, Professors H Abbass, D Blackman, M Davies, M Frater, M Hoffman, M Loosemore and M Sierra, Associate Professors M Handler, K Lai, J Nolan and N Tedla, Drs C Benson, A Kayis-Kumar, D Schlagwein and K Simon, Messrs E Bartolo (Student), B Jones (Student) and C Poulton (Student), and Ms R Abeyratne (Student), Ms A Stein-Magee (Student) and Ms S Zhou (Student).

2. Minutes of previous meeting held on 3 October 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2017 were confirmed as an accurate record and the Presiding Member was authorised to sign them.

3. Matters arising and business carried forward

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting and there was no business carried forward.

4. Starring of items and adoption of unstarring items

No further items were starred in addition to the items already starred. A motion for the adoption of the unstarring items was received and carried.
5. **Confirmation of confidential items**  
The President confirmed that item 14 should be treated as confidential.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B</th>
<th>President’s Business</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>6. President’s Report</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professor Cohen tabled his report (Appendix A) and advised the Board of discussions at University Council on 23 October 2017 including the approval of the response to the review of Academic Governance.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The President requested that members contribute their ideas for discussion topics for meetings of the Board in 2018 and provide to Governance [Matter Arising].

7. **Vice-Chancellor’s Report**  
Professor Ian Jacobs reported on events arising since the last Academic Board meeting including:
- The proposed Federal Government bill for cuts to higher education funding did not pass the Senate and it is believed that this issue will now not be pursued. The executive and secretariat of both Universities Australia and the G08 have been successful in their approaches to ministers and have had significant effect.
- Recent visits to Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Beijing for Alumni philanthropy events.
- Research collaborations with universities in Hong Kong and China.
- The announcement of the naming of the Gonski Institute for Education at the recent Town and Gown event.
- Faculty Showcases are underway and a program of events is available on the Strategy website.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C</th>
<th>Discussion Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>8. Learning Analytics and Immersive and Simulation-based Learning – presentation</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professors King and Vigentini provided a presentation (Appendix B) to the Board providing an overview on the current digital ecosystem at UNSW and outlining some of the tools currently being developed and in use. He noted that this project is part of the Inspired Learning initiative, utilising strategic funds over five years, and including the digital uplift target of 330 blended and 330 fully online courses.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Associate Professor Bucic explained to the Board how in practice these tools allow us to redesign and reimagine how we teach and deliver education. She shared the results of the tools she has implemented this year with her first year course of 1000 students, including the overall uplift in results, and the shift to a personalised approach catering for individual student needs and preferences.

The presentation generated much interest with Board members discussing the applications of this more dynamic approach to teaching in different contexts and the challenges of integration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>D</th>
<th>Policies and Procedures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9. <strong>Nil</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>E</th>
<th>Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>10. Academic Programs Reviews</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10.1 Review of the Master of Philosophy</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professors Laura Poole-Warren and Sarah Williams discussed the process and outcomes of the Academic Program Review of the Master of Philosophy which is owned and administered by GRS but delivered in the Faculties and Schools.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Professor Poole-Warren outlined the issues highlighted by the review and some of the recommendations including clarifying the exit strategy, the examination process and standardisation of requirements. She noted that the University Higher Degree Research Committee have endorsed the process and the outcomes following a robust and productive discussion.

Professor Poole-Warren highlighted the value of this review and noted thanks to the review panel.

11. Academic Programs – Disestablished/Terminated
   Nil

12. Academic Programs (Disestablishments)
   Nil

13. Higher Degree Research Programs
   13.1 Arts & Social Sciences – Disestablishments

   RESOLVED
   To approve the following program disestablishments, as set out in the papers provided:
   a) 2355 Master of Educational Leadership
   b) 2356 Master of Music
   c) 2357 Master of Music Education
   d) 2358 Master of Social Science
   e) 2970 Master of Social Work

14. Higher Doctorate – Confidential
   a) Doctor of Science (1)

   RESOLVED
   To approve the recommendation that Professor Vaughan Macefield be awarded the degree of Doctor of Science as detailed in the documents presented.

F Faculties and Board of Studies

15. Minutes from Faculty Boards and DVCA Board of Studies Meetings
   The Academic Board noted the minutes of the following Faculty Board meetings:
   14.1 UNSW Business School meeting held on 14 September 2017
   14.2 UNSW Art & Design Faculty Board meeting held on 20 September 2017

G Reports and Committees

16. Education
   16.1 Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic – Report
   Professor Crossley provided a brief report to the Board. He advised of his discussions at a meeting in Canberra regarding concerns about harassment of Chinese students in Australia. He noted that this issue was receiving widespread coverage in Chinese media. Professor Crossley emphasised the importance of diversity in the student population at UNSW and asked that Academic Board members reinforce this message.

   Professor Crossley noted that the recent update provided at the UAQC on QILT by Professor Crisp provided great information on the student voice and engagement. He also noted discussions on General Education at the meeting.
16.2 University Academic Programs Committee (UAPC)
Nil

16.3 University Academic Quality Committee (UAQC):
16.3.1 The Board noted the signed minutes from 13 September 2017
16.3.2 Professor Crossley discussed the outcomes of the 11 October 2017 meeting in his report.

16.4 Update on HESF Compliance and TEQSA Reregistration
Professor Crossley noted that the submission for TEQSA and CRICOS reregistration has been completed and we will await the response. He commended the TEQSA team on their great work on collating evidence for submission.

16.5 Report on myExperience Survey
Professor Crisp spoke to the myExperience paper. He noted the response rate as shown in the graph, indicated a broad mix between high and low rankings and student numbers in courses. He added that this explodes the myth that class size was linked to results, and indicates that a high ranking from a small class size was possible.

Professor Crisp advised that it was our responsibility to utilise the myExperience data to propose approaches that improve student experience and student outcomes. He advised that regular reports will be provided to the Academic Board.

17. Research and Research Training
17.1 Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research – Report
Professor Fisk reported that the Research Committee had not met since the last meeting of the Academic Board. He provided a brief update on the following:
- Announcement of the ARC and NHMRC results are expected shortly. Total funding levels are expected to be approximately one third higher than previous rounds due to the George Institute affiliation.
- UNSW Futures stage 1 applications have closed.
- The three yearly ERA submissions are underway. A new tool available will mean the April and May submissions in 2018 will be able to be submitted online.

17.2 University Rankings
Professor Fisk spoke to his paper and provided an overview of the current University rankings noting that improvements to UNSW’s rankings are key performance indicators for the Strategy as agreed by Council. He noted that despite going up in some rankings and as a result of a loss of 7 places in the Times Higher Education rankings, we have not made any ground and have basically stayed in the same place. The Board discussed strategies for improving our ranking position including the number of citations and our reputational rankings.

The Board noted the paper.

17.3 University Research Committee (URC) meetings
Nil (no meeting held since 3 October 2017 AB)

17.4 Verbal Report of the Research Planning Day of 6 October 2017

17.5 Pro-Vice-Chancellor Research Training Report University HDR Committee (UHRC) meetings held on:
17.5.1 The Board noted the signed minutes from 10 August 2017
17.5.2 Verbal Report from 6 October 2017

18. Operations
18.1 2025 Strategy Update
Mr Nelms provided an overview of recent progress on the 2025 Strategy progress and initiatives and spoke briefly to the following:

- Torch
- Workplace Change
- The strong uptake of Education focussed roles

Mr Nelms noted that 2018 would see the further development and implementation of ACIS and the systems to support, the Study Planner and Student Handbook, the CRM, the Student Hub and UNSW3+.

H | Question Time

★ 19. Questions without notice

There were no questions without notice.

I | Any Other Business

20. Academic Board Membership

20.1 Appointment to fill a Casual Vacancy

RESOLVED

To recommend to Council that it approve the appointment of Professor Ramaswami Harindranath as a member of the Academic Board, in the category of Professorial Member from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, until 31 December 2018.

20.2 Appointment of Such Other Persons

RESOLVED

To recommend to Council that it approve the appointment of Professor Louise Chappell as a member of the Academic Board, in the category of “Such other Persons,” until 31 December 2018.

21. Academic Board Nomination to the Honorary Degrees Committee of Council

RESOLVED

To recommend to Council that it approve the appointment of Professor Louise Chappell as a member of the Honorary Degrees Committee for the period from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2019.

22. Student Conduct and Complaints Report: 1 January – 30 June 2017

The Board noted the report.

★ 23. Business without notice

There was no business without notice.

The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 12.10pm.

Next Academic Board meeting: Tuesday 5 December 2017, from 10am to 12 noon.

Presiding Member
Associate Professor David Cohen
President of the Academic Board
5 December 2017