

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Minutes** of meeting 07/4 of the Board of Trustees of the University of Western Sydney, held at 9.00 am on **Wednesday 10 October 2007**, in the Boardroom, Building AD, Werrington North.

**Present:**

- Mr John Phillips AO (Chancellor)
- Professor Janice Reid AM (Vice-Chancellor)
- Ms Jennifer Brown
- Ms Jan Burnswoods
- Professor Anne Cusick
- Ms Mary Foley
- Ms Vivienne James
- Ms Genevieve Kelly AM
- Ms Gabrielle Kibble AO
- Mr Roy Medich OAM
- Ms Tanya Rubin
- Mr Glen Sanford
- The Hon Kim Yeadon
- Mr Gang Zheng

**In Attendance:**

- Professor Ien Ang
- Mr Arthur Bozikas, UWSSA
- Mr Geoff Brown, UWSSA
- Mr Mark Croucher
- Ms Rhonda Hawkins
- Ms Jo Hibbert
- Mr Greg Holland
- Professor John Ingleson
- Mr David Lenton, UWSSA
- Mr Oliver Levingston, CPSU
- Professor John Loxton
- Professor Phillip O'Neill
- Mr Phil Rigg, President UWSSA
- Mr Stephen Smith, UWSSA
- Ms Sharne Thomas
- Mr Paul Woloch
- Ms Marian Alleyn
- Ms Rebecca Fantini
- Ms Jo Maguire (minutes secretary)

## **1 OPENING AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

### **1.1 Welcome**

The Chancellor welcomed those present.

### **1.2 Apologies**

An apology was received from Mr Ian Stone.

### **1.3 Starring of Items**

The following items were starred: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, 3.10, 4, 6.7 and 6.9

*It was resolved:*

**that all unstarred items be taken as considered and all recommendations in the attachments for them as adopted.**

### **1.4 Arrangement of Business**

Items 3.1, 3.3 and 3.8 were listed for discussion in the Closed Session.

### **1.5 Confirmation of Minutes**

*It was resolved:*

**that the Confidential Minutes and Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held on 25 July 2007 be confirmed.**

## **2 BUSINESS ARISING**

### **2.1 National Governance Protocols**

This paper was noted without discussion.

## **3 NEW GENERAL BUSINESS AND MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION**

### **3.1 Vice-Chancellor's Report**

This item was discussed in the closed session.

### **3.2 Uses of the University Seal**

*It was resolved:*

**That the uses of the University Seal since 3 July 2007 be approved.**

### **3.3 Cases Under Management**

This matter was discussed in the closed session.

### **3.4 UWSSA**

Ms Hawkins spoke to this item, giving an overview of activities since the last Board meeting. This included the outcome of the work of the Board Sub-Committee which had met twice and determined there were two key issues of welfare services and continuing strong student representation which needed to be addressed separately. It was noted that:

- UWSSA representatives were in agreement that the welfare services to students should be professional, secure and ongoing and, therefore, that the UWSSA welfare services and staff should be transferred to the University. Ms Hawkins had held meetings with UWSSA welfare staff and Union representatives and all were in agreement with this proposal, subject to negotiations with staff on the conditions of their transfer. (At this point in time, in light of the audit report, the \$450,000 funding for 2007 will be held by the University for the provision of the Welfare services.)
- In considering how to build an effective and vibrant student representational body, an independent external review had been proposed to develop a model for an independent SRC-type association. UWSSA were very supportive, subject to working through the proposals for the review. PAUWS will also contribute to this review.

Mr Rigg, UWSSA President, reiterated Ms Hawkins advice to the Board and confirmed UWSSA's agreement to the proposed actions, but advised that UWSSA's position is that, as the welfare services have been provided to students throughout the year, UWSSA should receive the \$450,000 funding. While he acknowledged the significant issues of financial accountability identified in the auditor's report, he believes all issues of the audit have been addressed in their response and that the funds should be transferred to UWSSA. In response, the Board noted Ms Hawkins' advice that it is not possible to transfer the funds to UWSSA at the moment, both because the association has not met the conditions of the services agreement and as the issues in the audit report had not been resolved.

It was noted that the funding for web-page development was yet to be transferred to UWSSA – Ms Hawkins undertook to follow this up.

The Board noted the actions taken and commended UWSSA, the Board Sub-Committee and University staff on the agreements reached.

### **Resolution**

---

***On the basis of the agreement between UWS and UWSSA it was resolved that:***

- 1. The welfare services currently provided by UWSSA be transferred permanently into the University.**
- 2. The UWSSA welfare staff be offered positions within UWS, on terms and conditions negotiated between the staff and the University.**
- 3. The \$450K funding set aside for the welfare services in 2007 be sequestered for use in the provision of welfare services within the University. These decisions also mean that the projected welfare funding for future years 2008 and 2009 will not proceed.**

4. **A review be commissioned and funded by the University to provide advice on the most effective way to ensure a viable and vibrant model for student representation and advocacy. This review would include wide consultation with the student body and be conducted in collaboration with UWSSA.**
  5. **The Board of Trustees acknowledges the cooperative response by UWSSA to the audit and post-audit processes.**
- 

- 3.5 Professor Ien Ang, ARC Professorial Fellow, Centre for Cultural Research**  
In recognition of her outstanding research record, her eminence as an ARC Professorial Fellow and the conferral of the title of Distinguished Professor, Professor Ien Ang was introduced to the Board. She provided a brief overview of her current activities, research and interests.
- 3.6 Professor Phillip O'Neill, Director, Urban Research Centre.**  
Professor O'Neill spoke to the Board, advising of the developments and activities of the Urban Research Centre.
- 3.7 Status Report on Blacktown Campus**  
This report was noted without discussion.
- 3.8 Arts Education at UWS**  
This item was discussed in the closed session.
- 3.9 Television Sydney (TVS)**  
This item was noted without discussion.
- 3.10 UWS Environmental Management System Progress Report**  
The Board praised the scope and clarity of the UWS Sustainability Framework and, in particular the Environmental Management Plan and commended the University staff who'd been involved in its development. The UWS Environmental Management System (EMS) is focussed primarily on addressing the compliance issues related to environmental management and the 'Greening UWS' initiative is largely project-based and addresses broader sustainability initiatives that go beyond statutory compliance. These complementary agendas are being integrated into the UWS Sustainability Framework.

The terms of reference for the Greening UWS Task Force are being developed and the task force will begin meeting in 2008. Board members will be kept informed.

#### **Resolution**

---

*The Board resolved to endorse the:*

- **Approach adopted for the UWS Sustainability Strategic Framework;**
  - **Formation of the Greening UWS Task Force;**
  - **Environmental Management Plan.**
-

### 3.11 Implementation of the UWS 'Making the Difference' Strategy

This item was noted without discussion.

## 4 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARD STANDING COMMITTEES

### 4.1 Strategy and Resources Committee

The Board noted the report of the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting held on 27 September 2007 and discussed the following matters:

- Whether the University should, in light of this year's forecast surplus, budget for a break even or a surplus budget for 2008.
- That budgets should be structured to correlate with the University's planning process and that focus should be on the *real* surplus and earmarked funds should be protected.
- There is a need to preserve funds for future planned developments and yet provide sufficient funds for Colleges to achieve their goals.

Mr Holland advised that Finance are working to improve budget planning and forecasting. He also noted that the projected 2007 surplus is mainly additional revenue, whereas the 2006 surplus was predominantly unspent funds.

The Board commended the Chief Financial Officer and the Finance staff for the improvements in the financial reporting and budgeting achieved in the past two years.

### 4.2 Audit and Risk Management Committee

The Board noted the report of the Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting held on 19 September 2007.

### 4.3 Academic Senate

The Board considered the proposal to suspend elections to Academic Senate and its committees that were scheduled to take place in October and November 2007, and to extend the term of office of relevant sitting members, pending completion of a review of academic governance arrangements initiated by the Chair of Academic Senate.

#### **Resolution**

---

*It was resolved:*

- (i) **that, in view of the fact that the Chair of Academic Senate has initiated a Review of Academic Governance Policy and Arrangements, likely to extend to 30 April 2008, the Board of Trustees agrees to suspend elections to Academic Senate and its school and college committees, scheduled to take place in October and November of 2007, and that the Board agrees to extend the term of office of the present elected members until an appropriate date, early in 2008, and**

- (ii) **that the Academic Registrar, as Returning Officer for Senate elections, will, in consultation with the Chair of Academic Senate, give notice of elections for a new Senate and relevant committees as soon as possible in 2008 and advise the Board of details.**
- 

The remaining matters in the report were noted.

Professor Cusick extended an invitation to Board members to attend the final Academic Senate meeting for 2008, which will be held on Friday 23 November.

#### **4.4 Board Standing Committee and Remuneration and Nominations Committee**

The Board noted the report of the 18 September meeting and a number of other matters considered by rotary resolution.

##### **Resolution**

---

*It was resolved:*

**That the Trustees approve the appointment of Mr Michael Anthony Reid to the Strategy and Resources Committee for a term of two years, commencing immediately.**

---

#### **4.5 Campus Development Committee**

The Board noted the Campus Development Committee's report. Ms Kibble advised the Board of the University's success in gaining a location on the site of the old Macquarie Boys High and that a special Campus Development Committee meeting will be held on 23 October to consider future income generating possibilities.

##### **Resolution**

---

*It was resolved:*

**That the Board of Trustees received and noted the report of Meeting 07/3 of the Campus Development Committee.**

---

## **5 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COUNCILS AND OTHER UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES**

### **5.1 Regional Council**

The Regional Council met on 16 August 2007. Its report was contained within item 6.8.

## 6 OTHER REPORTS

### 6.1 Occupational Health and Safety

This report was noted without discussion.

### 6.2 Staffing Matters

This report was noted without discussion.

#### 6.2.1 Our People 2015 Project

This report was noted without discussion.

### 6.3 Capital and Infrastructure Development

This report was noted without discussion.

### 6.4 UWS Medical School

This report was noted without discussion.

### 6.5 Research Developments

This report was noted without discussion.

### 6.6 International Activities

This report was noted without discussion.

### 6.7 UWS Innovation and Consulting

Professor Ingleson spoke to this report, explaining:

- there is a need to establish a centralised professional group to provide research and consultancy services to external clients;
- consultancies need to flow through either UWS Innovation and Consulting or the Research Office;
- UWS Innovation and Consulting will not only focus on new developments and will be the legal entity to sign off on all consulting arrangements;
- there is a need to ensure that all consultancies which are, in fact, research are reported as such;
- this will enable the University to report more accurately to DEST and possibly receive more funding.

The report and Professor Ingleson's comments were noted.

### 6.8 University Engagement

The Board noted this report.

### 6.9 Board Elections

The Board noted the progress with elections for the undergraduate and staff members of the Board of Trustees.

#### **Resolution**

---

#### ***It was resolved:***

**That the Board, in accordance with clause 43 of the University of Western Sydney By-law 2005, appoints the student who is elected to the undergraduate student member position on the Board to also fill the current casual vacancy in that position from the date of election until**

**31 December 2007. The appointment is subject to the successful candidate being willing to serve.**

---

**6.10 National Union of Students – University Rankings**

This matter was considered in concert with the UWSSA discussion. It was agreed that the University should communicate to the wider student community the services the University provides and the agreements reached at this meeting about the provision of welfare services and developing a more effective student representation model. It was also agreed that students are more likely to contribute to matters they feel a direct connection with, rather than simply populating the membership of an array of University committees.

**7 MATTERS TO BE RAISED BY BOARD MEMBERS**

There were no Board matters raised by members.

**8 OTHER BUSINESS**

The Board agreed with the Chancellor's proposal that, in addition to presentations by Executive Deans, Deputy Vice-Chancellors should be invited annually to present to the Board their aspirations, challenges and responsibilities.

**9 NEXT MEETING AND CLOSURE**

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled to be held at 9.00 am on **Wednesday 5 December 2007.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.30pm

Confirmed by:

\_\_\_\_\_

Chair

\_\_\_\_\_

Date