11 October 2006

The Board of Trustees met on Wednesday 11 October 2006, in the Boardroom, Building AD, Werrington North. A summary of matters discussed is provided below

Confirmation of Minutes
The minutes (PDF, 377kb) of the August meeting of the Board of Trustees were confirmed with a minor amendment.

Strategic Planning for UWS Campuses

Professor Kevin Sproats, PVC Campus Development, presented a series of strategic options for the UWS campuses to enable the reasoned development of a network of UWS sites to support teaching and research. Professor Sproats will propose a range of recommendations to future Board meetings for consideration.

UWS-TVS Collaboration

The Board noted the background and the current position of this collaboration and agreed to further consider the matter when more information is available.

UWS College

The Board noted the UWS College Pty Ltd Business Plan Overview (Phase 1), presented by the Project Director, Mr Mark Howland. Further research and a risk management plan will be provided to the Board at a future meeting.

College of Business

The Board received a report on the progress of SGSM's transition into the College of Business, an evaluation of its performance against the agreed aims for 2006 and its operating principles and objectives for 2007 and beyond.

Executive Dean Robyn McGuiggan provided a presentation which outlined the challenges to be addressed and achievements of the College. The Board noted that Associate Professor McGuiggan has been encouraged by the dedication, enthusiasm and participation of the College staff.

Information Technology Strategy Committee

The Board agreed to the establishment of an Information Technology Strategy Committee, which will be a standing committee of the University and will have the following membership:

The Hon Kim Yeadon, MLA (Chair and Board of Trustees representative)
Vice-Chancellor or nominee
Rozanne Frost, Chief Information Officer, CSIRO
Alan McMeekin, Executive Director of IT, Monash University
Cynthia Hansen, CEO, Higher Education Systems
One staff representative

In attendance will be:
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Services)
Director Information Technology

The proposed terms of reference of the IT Strategy Committee are:

1. Advise on the development and implementation of the University's Information Technology Strategic Plan, ensuring the plan and associated expenditure are aligned with institutional business and academic plans.
2. Provide strategic and planning advice to assist in decision-making in relation to the adoption of good practice in the University's IT services.
3. Consider and advise on significant IT policy proposals and information management in terms of e-learning, e-Research, research areas and IT support.
4. Ensure clear direction and support for IT security initiatives, promoting IT security awareness across the University through appropriate commitment and adequate resourcing.

Report from the Strategy and Resources Committee

The review of the University Funding Model (UFM), the Financial Reports to 31 August 2006 and the development of the 2007 budget were discussed. These matters will be considered further at the Board's meeting in November.

Report from the Audit and Risk Management Committee

The Chair of the ARMC spoke to this report and highlighted the Committee's decision that, in future, an appropriate representative will be required to attend each ARMC meeting until the audit recommendation(s) which are more than 12 months old in their area are completed. The Chancellor reiterated the importance of ensuring that Audit recommendations are implemented.

Report from the Chair of Academic Senate

The Board noted this report and that the Chair of Academic Senate and the University Librarian are working with 2000 students and 11 staff in trialling the Turnitin text matching software.

Report from the Board Standing Committee and Remuneration and Nominations Committee

The Campus Development Committee's terms of reference have been expanded to more clearly state its role in master planning and future of the campuses:

1. Provide strategic guidance and oversight to development of the University's campuses with three interdependent elements:

1.1 Campus Futures: Strategic, long-term planning and consolidation of the multi-campus network, including alternative uses of some campuses and possible new sites;

1.2 Campus Planning: Strategic master planning of campuses within the network, providing a robust structure within which teaching and research can develop; capital works and facilities can be constructed and managed; commercial operations undertaken; property development projects undertaken;

1.3 Campus Property Developments: Management of developments to generate sustainable income streams to the University.

2. Respond, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to any rezoning issues or matters where the University would be seeking special approvals at local government or state government levels.

3. Authorize matters to be brought to the Standing Committee or to the Board of Trustees at appropriate junctures in the process for decision.

4. Undertake those responsibilities within the delegations established by the Board of Trustees, acknowledging that these do not include alienation of land as per Section 24 of the UWS legislation.

The Board approved the expansion of the Campus Development Committee's membership to include another external person with relevant skills and experience and that the PVC Campus Development and the Chief Financial Officer will be in attendance at CDC meetings.

Indigenous Advisory Council

The Board renewed the membership of Ms Linda Burney, Aunty Mae Robinson and Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews on the Indigenous Advisory Council.

Other Reports and Items Considered by the Board

- The Integrated UWS Strategy
- Post VSU Student Services – progress report
- Vice-Chancellor's Report
- International Activities Progress
- Campus Development Committee
- Regional Council
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Staffing Matters
- Progress Report of Major Capital Buildings Projects
- AUQA Progress Report
- Open Day 2006
- Research Investment – Progress Report
- Research Investment – Medical School