9 September 2015

The Board of Trustees met on 9 September 2015 in the Board of Trustees Room, Parramatta Campus. A summary of matters discussed in the open session of the Board meeting is provided below.

The confirmed minutes of the 2 June 2015 (PDF, 164.89 KB) (opens in new window) meeting are also now available.

Chancellor's Report

The Chancellor spoke briefly to his report outlining functions undertaken as Chancellor, including:

- Signing of an MOU between the University and the NSW Department of Family and Community Services.
- Radio interview on Alive 90.5 community radio station
- Dinner with the CEO of Navitas
- Speech at Western Sydney wanderers FFA cup match.

Vice-Chancellor's Report

The Vice-Chancellor spoke to his report. He thanked Board members for their involvement in a range of University activities including the Senior Managers' Conference, Open Day and community dinners. Open Day was attended by an estimated 8,900 people and the Vice-Chancellor noted the efforts of the staff and student volunteers in showcasing the University's facilities and courses.

The Board was provided with a presentation on the successful launch of the rebrand at Open Day. In particular the Board noted the story of Deng Thiak Adut featured in the campaign and agreed to set up a scholarship fund for students from refugee backgrounds to assist with living expenses.

School of Humanities and Communication Arts: Presentation from the Dean

As part of the regular scheduling of School presentations, the Dean of the School of Humanities and Communication Arts attended the Board meeting to outline the School's academic profile, successes and challenges. A range of new courses are being developed in response to demand from employers and are being offered in online mode where possible to allow students greater choice and flexibility.

My Voice Survey Results

Dr Peter Langford presented the 2015 My Voice staff survey results to the Board. The results show a significant improvement since the last survey in 2012, with the University ranking highly compared to other Australian universities on many indicators. A range of measures to address areas of concerns for academics level B & C are being implemented to ensure these staff receive the support and resources they require.

Student Misconduct Rule

The Board approved a new Rule that covers academic, research and general student misconduct, for implementation from 1 January 2016.

Board Performance Review-Implementation Plan

The Board discussed the implementation plan and agreed to hold one extra meeting per year and an additional strategic planning session. The Board also endorsed the establishment of an External Relations working party to provide guidance in matters relating to regional planning, strategic partnerships and community engagement.

Werrington Park Corporate Centre

The Board approved the University entering into commercial leases in regard to the Werrington Park Corporate Centre.

Helen Fleming University Secretary