BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes of the meeting 2014/2 of the Board of Trustees of the University of Western Sydney, held at 8.30am on Wednesday 9 April 2014 in the Board of Trustees Room, Building EZ, Female Orphan School, Parramatta.

Present:  Professor Peter Shergold AC (Chancellor)
           Professor Barney Glover (Vice-Chancellor)
           Mr Michael Pratt (Deputy Chancellor)
           Ms Gillian Shadwick (Deputy Chancellor)
           Mr Christopher Brown
           Ms Elizabeth Dibbs
           Ms Genevieve Gregor
           Mr Elie Hammam
           Ms Taylor Macdonald
           Dr George Morgan
           Ms Jenny Purcell
           Mr Ian Stone
           Associate Professor Paul Wormell

Apologies: Mr John Banks
           Mr Tim Ferraro
           Ms Vivienne James
           Mr Paul Newman
           Ms Gabrielle Trainor

In Attendance: Ms Rhonda Hawkins (Deputy Vice-Chancellor) and
               Secretary to the Board of Trustees
               Ms Terri Anderson
               Ms Belinda Attard (item 2.1)
               Mr Scott Christensen (item 2.7)
               Mr James Fitzgibbon
               Ms Helen Fleming
               Mr Darren Greentree (item 2.1)
               Professor Scott Holmes
               Professor Kerri-Lee Krause
               Dr Rob Lang (item 2.6)
               Mr Peter Pickering
               Ms Sharon Rigney, minutes
               Mr Scott Sigar (item 2.1)
               Ms Jacinta Van Vliet (item 2.1)
               Mr John Viljoen (item 2.1)
               Mr Alan Zammit
1. OPENING AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1. Welcome
The Chancellor welcomed new board member Elizabeth Dibbs to her first Board meeting. Alan Zammit (chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee) was thanked for attending the meeting for the consideration of the audited financial statements.

1.2. Apologies
The Board accepted apologies from John Banks, Tim Ferraro, Vivienne James, Paul Newman and Gabrielle Trainor.

1.3. Declarations of Interest
No declarations were made.

1.4. Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution

The Board of Trustees resolved to confirm the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held on 26 February 2014.

1.5. Action Sheet from Previous Meetings
The Board noted the actions from previous meetings without discussion.

1.6. Starring of Items
In addition to procedural items (items 1.1 to 1.7), the following items were starred: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7, 6.2 and all items under 3.

Resolution

The Board of Trustees resolved that all unstared items be taken as considered and all recommendations in the attachments for them as adopted.

1.7. Arrangement of Business
The Board agreed with the Chancellor’s suggestion that the meeting would consider items 2.6, 3.1 and 3.4 under closed session. The remainder of the items would be discussed in open session.

2. MATTERS FOR DELIBERATION

2.1. Audited Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31 December 2013
Representatives from the NSW Audit Office attended the meeting for the consideration of the 2013 Audited Financial Statement. The University agreed to adopt the accounting treatment of the student residences transaction as recommended by the Audit Office, resulting in a write-down of $34m in assets.

The Audit Office representatives thanked the CFO team for their professionalism and commended the University on consistently delivering quality accounts.
Resolution

The Board of Trustees resolved to adopt the audited Financial Statements and authorised certification thereof by the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor.

2.2. Chancellor’s Report
The Chancellor reported on the media campaign Fair Go for the West, aimed at boosting the region’s services, facilities and economic viability, and the role that UWS has played as a key supporter of the campaign. Additional engagement opportunities for the University may include the annual Zest Awards, which recognise achievements of community sector groups and individuals in western Sydney.

2.3. Vice-Chancellor’s Report
The Vice-Chancellor reported on significant Federal Government activities that may impact upon the HE sector, including the “Review of the Demand Driven System” and the “Commission of Audit”. Student load figures indicate that Summer session is proving popular and will be expanded to include more unit offerings in 2014/15.

The Vice-Chancellor also reported on his recent trip to China and Vietnam, where he met with university presidents, government agencies and industry partners in the area of complementary medicine.

2.4 Cases Under Management
The Vice-Chancellor advised the Board that a register of cases under management will be developed and that this will be reported to the Board through the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

2.5 Annual Report and Board Report
The Board authorised the Chancellor to sign the Annual Report statement, providing assurances on compliance with a range of State and Federal accountabilities, and made the following resolution:

Resolution

The Board approved the ‘UWS Board of Trustees Report’ in the 2013 UWS Annual Report and authorised the Chancellor to sign the document on the Board’s behalf.

CLOSED SESSION

The closed session covered the following items:

2.6 Parramatta CBD
3.1 Finance and Investment Committee
3.4 Board Standing and Remunerations and Nominations Committee

2.6 Parramatta CBD
This item was discussed under closed session.
2.7 **UWS Relationship with Regional Sporting Bodies**
The Director of Marketing and Communications presented on the range of engagements and marketing activities that the University is nurturing with western Sydney sporting codes and clubs, with particular emphasis on the University’s relationship with the Western Sydney Wanderers and the GWS Giants. Sponsorship and engagement in areas not related to sport, and in particular those in which women participate, was suggested for future consideration.

3. **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES**

3.1 **Finance and Investment Committee**
This item was discussed under closed session.

3.2 **Audit and Risk Management Committee**
The Board noted the report without discussion.

*Resolution*

The Board of Trustees approved the revised Delegations Schedules D, as attached, and endorsed the delegation of the Director, Capital Works and Facilities.

3.3 **Academic Senate**
The chair of Academic Senate spoke to his report and highlighted the following points:

- The Academic Senate agenda for 2014 covers substantial items such as the Parramatta CBD initiative (including the development of new courses), blended learning, the Open University UK and The Academy.
- The first co-sponsored Vice-Chancellor and Chair of Senate Academic Forum was held at the end of March and was a great success. The topic was “The Future of Higher Education”, with a particular emphasis on UWS. Feedback from the table discussion emphasised the importance of people, place, community and connectedness and the importance of enabling students as they develop their skills and academic literacies. The next Forum is scheduled for June, and the proposed topic is “Academic Freedom and the Public Intellectual”.

3.4 **Board Standing and Remuneration & Nominations Committees**
The Board discussed this item in closed session and passed resolutions on honorary awards and committee appointments.

3.5 **University Infrastructure Committee**
The UIC has not met since the last Board meeting and no report was provided.

4 **ADVISORY BODIES**

4.1 **Foundation Council**
The Board noted the minutes of the Foundation Council meeting held on 18 February.
4.2 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Council
The report of the meeting held on 13 March was noted without discussion.

5 USES OF THE UNIVERSITY SEAL
The Board made the following resolution without discussion:

Resolution

The Board of Trustees approved the uses of the University Seal since the last report, as detailed in the report provided to this meeting.

6 OTHER MATTERS

6.1 Our Future Action Program
The Board noted the report without discussion.

6.2 Staffing Matters
The Academic Staff member on the Board addressed the meeting. He cautioned that the increase in student numbers may impact upon the student/staff ratio, and that the reduction in casualisation and increase in the numbers of teaching-focussed roles are welcome trends.

6.3 Equity and Diversity Report
The Board noted the report without discussion.

6.4 Pathways to Success
The Board noted the report without discussion.

6.5 100 Academics Recruitment Campaign Update
The Board noted the report. The Staffing Strategy will be discussed in detail at the Board’s strategy day in June.

7. MATTERS TO BE RAISED BY BOARD MEMBERS
There were no matters raised by Board members.

8. OTHER BUSINESS
There was no other business.

9. NEXT MEETING AND CLOSURE
The next meeting of the Board is scheduled to be held at 2pm Wednesday 3 June 2014, at the Langham Hotel, Sydney.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 12.30 pm.

Confirmed by: [Signature]

Chair

Date: 3/6/14