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## Academic Board Minutes

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### Minutes of the meeting of the Academic Board held at 2 pm on Wednesday 27 February 2008 in the Professorial Board Room

There were present: the Chair (Professor B Sutton) presiding, the Vice-Chancellor and Principal (Professor G Brown), the Chairs of the Standing Committees (Professors B Bennett and S Kable, Associate Professors P McCallum and G Ryan), Professors A Aspromourgos, M Behnia, A Brewer, J Brien, E Cowley, M Crossley, D Day, S Garton, G Hancock, A McBratney, B Paltridge, I Ramzan, K Trigwell, J White and P Wolnizer, Associate Professors T Gerzina, M Halliwell, A Holland, A Jamalipour, S Newberry, M Thompson (for Professor G Llewellyn) and M Walton, Drs V Barrs, M Boughton, D Cabrera, G Castillo, F Collyer, S Cox, K Cramer, S Cumming, R Gibson, N Gurran, J Hanrahan, D Hibbs, L Hossain, I Odeh, S Ronaldson, L Scanlon, M-A Schnabel, T Schofield and J Shaw, Mr P Ball, Ms K Barnsley, Mr M Fisher, Mr M Lines, Ms P Kamvounias, Mrs S McCallum, Ms J M McKenzie, Ms J Mooney, Ms R Santos, Ms L-M Syron, Mr D Tremblath, Mr R Walpola and Mr N Ware.

Also present: Secretary of the Academic Board (Dr W A Adams).

Present as observers: Associate Professor T Masters (Faculty of Science), Ms A Griffiths (Secretariat) and Ms L Rose (Provost).

In attendance: Ms M Kemmis (Executive Officer to the Academic Board).

The Chair welcomed new and returning members of the Academic Board to the meeting.

★ 1. **Apologies**

The Board noted that apologies had been received from: Professors S Clarke, A Coats, R Jeremy, W Julian (Dr D Cabrera attending in his stead), G Llewellyn (Associate Professor M Thompson is attending in her stead), D Nutbeam, B Robinson, J Trehwella, G Triggs and K Walker, Associate Professors C Collyer, R Ewing, A Fekete, R Magnusson and S Willcock, Drs T Anthony, J Callen, M Edmond, C Grupen, A Harvey, G Macdonald, P Marks, R Stanton and C Taylor, and Ms M Fairskye, Ms A Freeborn, Ms J Henderson, Mr A McLeod, Ms C McNally, Ms S Tolerton and Mr G Weary.

★ 2. **Arrangement of agenda**

2.1 **Starring of items**

Members of the Board were invited to star for discussion any unstarred items.

The following additional items were starred: 3.1 and 8.2

## **2.2 Adoption of unstarred items**

### **Resolution 01/08**

That the Academic Board resolve as recommended with respect to all unstarred items.

## ★ **3. Minutes of previous meeting**

### **3.1 Meeting of 12 December 2007**

Associate Professor Masters noted the discussion at the December meeting regarding the extension of terms for the Chairs of Standing Committees. He pointed out that it had been quite difficult for the Academic Board to make a decision on the matters raised at the meeting, given that they required expert understanding of the *University of Sydney (Academic Governance) Rule 2003*. He suggested that, as a matter of principle, members should refer detailed queries on such matters to the Chair prior to the meeting, so that the appropriate research and advice could be obtained.

The Chair agreed with Professor Masters suggestion. He further noted that the particular section of the Rule, which had been queried at the December meeting, may require revision.

### **Resolution 02/08**

That the Academic Board adopt the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 December 2007, as a true record.

## **4. Business arising from Minutes (not dealt with elsewhere in the Agenda)**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

## ★ **5. Report of the Chair**

### **5.1 Report on Senate matters**

#### **5.1.1 Report of the Senate meeting held on 4 February 2008**

The Chair asked that members note this report.

### **Resolution 03/08**

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board on academic matters considered by Senate at its meeting held on 4 February 2008.

### **5.2 Honours and Distinctions**

The Board noted and congratulated by acclamation the recipients of honours and distinctions, as set out in the agenda and supplementary agenda.

### **Resolution 04/08**

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board on the honours and distinctions and congratulate the recipients, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* Chair of the Academic Board to write to recipients congratulating them on their honours and distinctions.

### 5.3 General Report

#### 5.3.1 Academic Board Membership for 2008

The Chair advised members that the Academic Board was now commencing a new two-year cycle of membership and work, and that it was now time to appoint the Committee Chairs and Deputy Chair for that period. He advised members that he wished to nominate Professor Scott Kable for membership of the Academic Board on appointment, noting that Professor Kable had already served four years on the Board, and had been Chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee for the past two years. The Chair highlighted Professor Kable's dedicated work in this role.

The Chair advised that Professor Kable had not renominated for membership of the Academic Board at the end of 2007 as, at that point, the Rule only allowed members to serve a maximum of two terms concurrently. This clause had been changed and as of 2008 members could serve up to three terms concurrently. The amendment had been proposed to ensure that the Academic Board did not lose experienced members.

The Academic Board approved the appointment.

#### **Resolution 05/08**

That the Academic Board endorse the Chair's nomination of Professor Scott Kable to membership of the Academic Board under clause 5.1.6 of the University of Sydney (Academic Governance) Rule 2003 for a term expiring 31 December 2009.

*Action:* The Executive Officer to amend the membership list.

File No. (2004/1728)

#### 5.3.2 Chairs of the Academic Board Standing Committees

The Chair advised members that he nominated the following people for appointment as Chairs of the Board's Standing Committees:

- Professor Belinda Bennett as Chair of the Academic Staffing Committee
- Associate Professor Peter McCallum as Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee
- Associate Professor Greg Ryan as Chair of the Learning and Teaching Committee
- Professor Jill Trehwella as Chair of the Research Committee and
- Professor Scott Kable as Chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee.

Members approved the appointments.

#### **Resolution 06/08**

That in accordance with the University of Sydney (Academic Governance) Rule 2003 and on the nomination of the Chair of the Academic Board, the Academic Board appoint Professor Belinda Bennett as Chair of the Academic Staffing Committee,

Associate Professor Peter McCallum as Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee, Associate Professor Greg Ryan as Chair of the Learning and Teaching Committee, Professor Jill Trewhella as Chair of the Research Committee and Professor Scott Kable as Chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee, for a term expiring on 31 December 2009, as set out in the report presented.

### **5.3.3 Appointment of Deputy Chair**

The Chair nominated Associate Professor Peter McCallum to be reappointed as Deputy Chair of the Academic Board. He pointed out Professor McCallum's long and distinguished service to the Academic Board, and his dedicated work as both Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee and Deputy Chair of the Academic Board over the past two years.

The Academic Board approved the appointment (N.B. Mrs Stephanie McCallum abstained from this vote).

#### **Resolution 07/08**

That in accordance with the University of Sydney (Academic Governance) Rule 2003 and on the nomination of the Chair of the Academic Board, the Academic Board appoint Associate Professor P McCallum as Deputy Chair of the Academic Board for a term expiring on 31 December 2009, as set out in the report presented.

### **5.3.4 Academic Board Membership: Filling of Casual Vacancies**

The Chair advised members that the Faculty of Medicine had nominated Professor Chris Murphy to fill a casual vacancy on the Academic Board. He also advised that the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources had nominated Professor Alex McBratney and Dr Sarah Mansfield to fill two casual vacancies on the Board.

The Academic Board approved the three nominations.

#### **Resolution 08/08**

That the Academic Board approve the appointment of:

- (1) Professor Chris Murphy to fill the casual vacancy among elected academic staff members from the Faculty of Medicine; and
- (2) Professor Alex McBratney and Dr Sarah Mansfield to fill two casual vacancies among elected academic staff members from the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

for a term expiring 31 December 2009, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* The Executive Officer to amend the membership list.

File No. (2004/1728)

The Chair noted that there were still a few vacancies to be filled but that the Academic Board was close to achieving full membership. He particularly noted the increased number of student representatives, and welcomed them to the Academic Board. He advised that he was keen to involve the student

representatives in the work of the Academic Board (e.g. as members of the Board's working parties).

### **5.3.5 Academic Board Faculty Reviews: Phase 3 Guidelines**

The Chair advised members that the Academic Board, at its April 2007 meeting, had noted the guidelines for the Phase 3 Faculty Reviews. Since then, the guidelines and processes for Self-Evaluation Reports had been trialled by the Faculties of Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources, Engineering & IT and Science. Professor Sutton thanked all three faculties for their participation, and advised that the Faculty of Economics and Business would be the next faculty to be reviewed. He stated that it was timely for the Academic Board to finalise approval of the guidelines, and noted that the Self-Evaluation Report guides (both the detailed and overview versions) had also been circulated for information.

The Chair advised that the current round of reviews was significantly different from the previous two phases. Faculties were no longer being asked to provide an historical snapshot of their activities, as this was done in some depth by other portfolios of the University. Instead, faculties were now asked to focus on their own academic culture and the processes which helped them to deliver their desired outcomes, with the Self-Evaluation Report becoming the main focus of the review. He expressed his gratitude for the support provided by the Deputy Provost (Learning and Teaching) & Pro Vice-Chancellor and the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Planning) in providing staff to assist with the reviews.

The Chair noted that the final reports from the three reviews held in late 2007 would now go to both the Learning & Teaching Committee and the Research & Research Training Committee before being presented to the Academic Board. The Faculty Self-Evaluation Reports would be treated as "commercial in confidence" and only the report of the review itself would be publicly available.

Professor Hancock advised that the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies had found the new review process very useful. However he queried the phrase in the guidelines stating that the final report would be presented to the Committees "by the faculty". He pointed out that the final report was a report of the Academic Board and suggested this phrase be amended to state that the report would be presented by the Chair of the Review Panel. He also asked whether or not the Committees should have access to the Self-Evaluation Report, noting that there was a significant amount of cross-referencing to the Self-Evaluation Report in the Review Report. The Chair offered to ensure that appropriate chosen and edited quotes from the Self-Evaluation Report were incorporated into the Review Report.

Professor Day asked that future review visits be scheduled within the semester period to ensure that faculties could provide student representatives. The Chair agreed that the availability of staff and students needed to be taken into account when scheduling the faculty visits.

Associate Professor McCallum proposed amending the timeline for review of the guidelines to add the phrase “or as necessary”, to provide the Chair with more leeway in revising the guidelines.

Members approved the amended guidelines.

**Resolution 09/08**

That the Academic Board approve the guidelines for the Academic Board Phase 3 Faculty Reviews, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* Executive Officer to add the Academic Board Phase 3 Faculty Reviews guidelines to Policy OnLine.

**5.3.6 Ethical Entrepreneurialism Working Party: Terms of Reference**

The Chair advised members that, at the Academic Board’s meeting of 10 October 2007, he and the Provost had given a presentation on the topic of ethical entrepreneurialism, highlighting some of the challenges that staff face in engaging with external stakeholders. The presentation included a proposal that a working group be established to produce a short statement of institutional values related to this issue, and a practical user’s guide covering a range of topics and scenarios. The proposed terms of reference for the Working Party had been circulated with the supplementary agenda, and the Chair advised that the membership would expand beyond the list provided.

Associate Professor Masters suggested including an external stakeholder (perhaps a Fellow of Senate) and a representative from Sydnovate. The Chair advised that there was a range of other representatives who would be called upon at various stages, and he suggested adding a phrase such as “the Working Party may co-opt others as necessary” to cover this contingency.

Professor Hancock noted that the Code of Conduct was about to be revised, and he suggested ensuring that any documents developed by the Working Party were checked for consistency with the Code. Associate Professor McCallum suggested that point 4 of the terms of reference be amended to something less specific, to avoid constraining the outcomes of the Working Party. The Chair agreed, suggesting the phrase “provide practical guidance” be inserted to replace “a concise “users’ guide” providing practical guidance”, and adding the phrase “consistent with the University’s Code of Conduct”.

Members approved the terms of reference as amended.

**Resolution 10/08**

That the Academic Board approve the terms of reference for the Ethical Entrepreneurialism Working Party, as set out in the report presented.

**5.3.7 Actions taken under Delegated Authority**

The Chair advised members that he had approved an urgent request to amend the English language requirements for the teaching degrees in the Faculty of Education and Social Work.

**Resolution 11/08**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board on actions taken under delegated authority since the Academic Board meeting of 12 December 2007,
- (2) approve the amendment to Schedule 1 of the policy "Admission to Undergraduate Courses", and
- (3) approve the amendment to Appendix 1 of the policy "Postgraduate English Language Requirements" as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* Executive Officer to amend the policies "Admission to Undergraduate Courses" and "Postgraduate English Language Requirements" on Policy OnLine.

File No. (P23, P24)

**5.3.8 Application for Early Submission of PhD Thesis**

The Chair advised that he had approved an application for early submission of a PhD thesis, noting that the student had made significant progress in their candidature.

**Resolution 12/08**

The Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board regarding his approval of an application for early submission of a PhD thesis, as set out in the report presented.

Before inviting the Vice-Chancellor to make his report, the Chair noted that today was a significant date in the University's life, as it was 150 years ago that Queen Victoria had issued a Royal Charter to the University of Sydney. He also noted that both Dr Jenny Shaw and the Vice-Chancellor were celebrating their birthdays.

★ 6. **Report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal**

6.1 **Report on Senate Matters**

6.1.1 **Report of the Senate meeting held on 4 February 2008**

The Vice-Chancellor asked members to note the report of the Senate meeting on 4 February 2008.

**Resolution 13/08**

That the Academic Board note the report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal on matters considered by Senate at its meeting held on 4 February 2008.

## 6.2 General report

The Vice-Chancellor offered to share some thoughts with the Academic Board on the impact to the higher education sector of the recent change in Federal government. He noted that the new government's only firm commitment with regard to higher education was the abolition of full fee-paying places for local students, which was due to take effect as of 2009. The government had stated a willingness to compensate universities for the loss in income, but there were no details on how such compensation would be assessed or delivered.

The Vice-Chancellor advised that there would be a meeting of representatives from Sydney universities at the University of Technology, Sydney on 3 March 2008 with Kate Ellis, the Minister for Youth and Sport. It was likely that the abolition of full fee-paying places would be raised at that meeting. Another issue of concern was Voluntary Student Unionism (VSU). The National Union of Students had recently suggested that a standard charge for all students be introduced which would pay for facilities and services. The Vice-Chancellor noted that there had been no indication from the new government that it supported the re-introduction of compulsory student unionism.

Another government initiative, which had been flagged by Senator Kim Carr (Minister for Science and Innovation), was the introduction of compacts between the government and individual universities. Each university would meet with the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (previously DEST) to develop a three-year compact which would take into account the university's own mission statement. This system could potentially allow the government to target extra research funds to research-intensive universities, but it also had the potential to lack transparency (depending on whether or not the details of compacts were publicly available). It was also unclear what funding would be covered by the compacts.

The Vice-Chancellor noted that Senator Carr was likely to be highly involved in policy-making in the higher education sector, pointing out his recent decision to review and revise the Research Quality Framework introduced by the previous government. Senator Carr had also expressed commitment to supporting academic freedom, and may be looking for reforms in how universities and industry collaborate in research.

### **Resolution 14/08**

That the Academic Board note the general report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal.

Associate Professor Masters asked the Vice-Chancellor if there was a possibility that the University could be penalised for having coped with the introduction of VSU too successfully, noting that the University had lost more than other institutions when the legislation was enacted, but had received less in the way of compensation. He suggested that, having successfully maintained a reasonable level of student facilities and support services post-VSU, the University might not receive further compensation. The Vice-Chancellor agreed that the University was perceived as being in a privileged position, noting that the President of the National Union of Students had stated the University was in a better position than other institutions, although

the Vice-Chancellor pointed out that the President had changed his opinion on this issue.

Professor Hancock asked the Vice-Chancellor for his opinion on whether or not the new Federal government was in favour of retaining Co-operative Research Centres (CRCs). The Vice-Chancellor advised that the government did not appear to strongly support CRCs and suggested it was time for a fresh initiative in this area of research, with the proposed review by the Federal government exploring possible improvements in collaborative research strategies. The Vice-Chancellor pointed out that, in terms of comparative figures for research income across the Group of Eight universities, the only area in which the University performed poorly was CRCs.

The Vice-Chancellor invited further comment on this issue from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research). Professor Crossley advised that Senator Kim Carr had publicly stated the CRCs were useful in their time, but were no longer operating as well as they could. He cautioned that the CRCs were a potentially strong lobby group who would be highly vocal in the forthcoming review, and stressed the need for the University and other institutions to ensure their opinions and recommendations were put forward.

★ 7. **Question time**

Professor Murphy reminded the Academic Board that the Board had approved the Charter of Academic Freedom in 2007. This was subsequently endorsed by Senate, but only after some amendment. He noted that some Academic Board members had expressed concern regarding the amendments and that there had been some discussion about the matter going back to Senate. The Chair advised that he had held discussions with both the Chancellor and the University's General Counsel and that the matter was not yet resolved. The Vice-Chancellor advised that he had suggested the amendments, on the basis that the absolute nature of the Charter created the possibility that it would be impossible to apply some of the University's other rules and policies (particularly in the area of misconduct). The conditional clause had been drafted at the last minute and he suggested that it might be possible to redraft the clause to address the Academic Board's concerns.

Associate Professor Masters referred to the item on the early submission of a PhD thesis and asked if it was possible to get a report on how many such applications had been received, the examination results for approved applications and any trends that could inform the University's supervision and examination processes. The Chair agreed, noting that a review of the Academic Board's PhD policies had been started, but was on hold until the outcome of the Provost's Working Groups was known. The Dean of Graduate Studies pointed out that not all applications would relate to exceptional candidatures, as "early submission" was sometimes granted to students who transferred across with academic staff recruited by the University.

**Resolution 15/08**

That the Academic Board note the questions and responses provided.

*Action:* Executive Officer to prepare report on applications for early submission of PhD theses.

**8. Reports of Faculties and Boards**

**8.1 Report of the Faculty of Arts**

**8.1.1 Constitution of the Faculty of Arts**

**Resolution 16/08**

That the Academic Board recommend that Senate approve the amendments to the Constitution of the Faculty of Arts, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* The Chair to recommend that Senate approve the amendments to the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Constitution of the Faculty of Arts.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Arts to note the Academic Board's approval of the amendments to the Faculty's Constitution.

File No. (036/0006/00171)

★ **8.2 Report of the Faculty of Pharmacy**

**8.2.1 Degrees, diplomas and certificates in the Faculty of Pharmacy**

Associate Professor McCallum expressed some concern regarding the proposed amendment, noting that it raised the issue of whether or not honours was a separate degree or a form of a degree, and highlighted inconsistencies in the way degrees are listed at the University. He pointed out that the *University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000 (as amended)* states that a masters degree can be awarded in three grades: pass, pass with merit or honours. He suggested that the underlying nomenclature issues should be resolved before the amendment was approved.

Professor Ramzan agreed that these issues required clarification, noting that there were examples of other faculties listing the pass and honours degrees as separate degrees. He advised that when the course was revised in 2005, the Faculty had been under the impression that the separate degree, Master of Herbal Medicines (Honours), had been approved, and that a separate degree code had been created on FlexSIS. He pointed out that the Faculty had the practical issue of determining what award to give to a student graduating next month, as well as clarifying the award to be given to a number of continuing students, all of whom were enrolled under this degree code.

The Chair suggested that the generic issues could be considered by the Academic Pathways to Research Working Group and that the specific student issues should be discussed with the Registrar.

**9. Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee**  
(Professor Scott Kable)

★ **9.1 Oral report of the Chair**

Professor Kable thanked members for approving the recommendations in the Committee's report. He noted that the Committee was now entering its peak work period for new and

amended course proposals. In terms of the items in the current report, he highlighted the amendments to the *University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999 (as amended)* and explained that the approved changes would provide a more equitable method for assessing the tertiary records of applicants for admission. He pointed out that the current process used an average of the applicant's secondary and tertiary results (where they existed) and potentially penalised applicants who had not performed well at high school, but who had gone on to perform well in their tertiary studies.

The Chair noted Professor Kable's comments on the Committee's course approval workload, noting that the same applied to the Graduate Studies Committee. He encouraged faculties to ensure that any proposals were submitted as soon as possible, noting that there was no guarantee that a proposal would be approved at its first consideration by a Committee.

**Resolution 17/08**

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee.

**9.2 Report of the meeting held on 13 February 2008**

**9.2.1 *The University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999 (as amended)***

**Resolution 18/08**

That the Academic Board recommend that Senate approve the amendments to the *University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999 (as amended)*, with effect from 1 January 2009.

*Action:* The Chair to recommend that Senate approve the amendments to the *University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999 (as amended)*.

File No. (022/0003/00003)

**9.2.2 TOEFL equivalences**

**Resolution 19/08**

That the Academic Board approve the list of TOEFL equivalences, with effect from 1 January 2009.

*Action:* Executive Officer to amend "Admission to Undergraduate Courses" on Policy OnLine.

File No. (P23)

**9.2.3 Proposals for new and amended postgraduate courses**

**9.2.3.1 Faculty of Health Sciences: Bachelor of Health Sciences and Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours)**

**Resolution 20/08**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences to amend the Bachelor of Health Sciences and Bachelor of Health

- Sciences (Honours), to include a major in Hearing and Speech,
- (2) recommend that Senate:
    - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend this course; and
    - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to these courses

with effect from 1 January 2009, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* The Chair to recommend that Senate approve the amendments to the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Bachelor of Health Sciences and the Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours) in the Faculty of Health Sciences.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Health Sciences to note the Academic Board's approval of the amendments to Bachelor of Health Sciences and Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours).

File No. (2001/1050)

#### **9.2.3.2 Faculty of Science**

##### **(1) Bachelor of Science (Molecular Biotechnology)**

###### **Resolution 21/08**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to delete the Bachelor of Science (Molecular Biotechnology)
- (2) recommend that Senate:
  - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to delete this course; and
  - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the list of degrees, diplomas and certificates in the Faculty of Science, and the Bachelor of Science,
- (3) approve the amendment of the Faculty Resolutions relating to the Bachelor of Science

with effect from 1 January 2009, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* The Chair to recommend that Senate approve the amendments to the Resolutions of Senate relating to the degrees, diplomas and certificates in the Faculty of Science and the Bachelor of Science.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Science to note the Academic Board's approval of the deletion of the Bachelor of Science (Molecular Biotechnology).

File No. (003/0021/00031)

**(2) Bachelor of Science (Marine Science)**

**Resolution 22/08**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to delete the Bachelor of Science (Marine Science)
- (2) recommend that Senate:
  - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to delete this course; and
  - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the list of degrees, diplomas and certificates in the Faculty of Science, and the Bachelor of Science,
- (3) approve the amendment of the Faculty Resolutions relating to the Bachelor of Science

with effect from 1 January 2009, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* The Chair to recommend that Senate approve the amendments to the Resolutions of Senate relating to the degrees, diplomas and certificates in the Faculty of Science and the Bachelor of Science.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Science to note the Academic Board's approval of the deletion of the Bachelor of Science (Marine Science).

File No. (003/0021/00013)

**9.2.2 Proceedings of the Committee**

**Resolution 23/08**

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Undergraduate Studies Committee meeting held on 13 February 2008, as set out in the report presented.

**10. Report of the Graduate Studies Committee**  
(Associate Professor Peter McCallum)

★ **10.1 Oral report of the Chair**

Associate Professor McCallum referred to the approved amendments to various degrees in the Faculty of Medicine, noting that it raised the issue of whether or not the Academic Board should be collating

information on how many degrees are offered on-line. He advised that he was discussing this matter with USyd eLearning.

With regard to the issue of honours, he noted that the Provost's Postgraduate Coursework Working Group had discussed the optimum number of levels for Masters degrees, with general support for minimising the number of levels and support from some members for only one level (i.e. coursework Masters should be offered in the pass grade only, and not with honours or with merit). He flagged this issue for future discussion.

**Resolution 24/08**

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee.

**10.2 Report of the meeting held on 13 February 2008**

**10.2.1 Proposals for new and amended postgraduate courses**

**10.2.1.1 Faculty of Economics and Business: Master of Marketing**

**Resolution 25/08**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Economics and Business to introduce the Master of Marketing,
- (2) recommend that Senate:
  - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal;
  - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Economics and Business; and
  - (c) approve the introduction of Resolutions of Senate relating to the course; and
- (3) approve the faculty requirements relating to the degree;

with effect from 1 January 2009, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* The Chair to recommend that Senate approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the degrees, diplomas and certificates in the Faculty of Economics and Business and the introduction of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Master of Marketing.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Economics and Business to note the Academic Board's approval of the introduction of the Master of Marketing.

File No. (TBA)

### 10.2.1.2 Faculty of Medicine

#### (1) **Master of Medical Education, Graduate Diploma in Medical Education and Graduate Certificate in Medical Education**

##### **Resolution 26/08**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Medicine to introduce a new delivery mode to the Master of Medical Education, Graduate Diploma in Medical Education and Graduate Certificate in Medical Education; and
- (2) recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal, noting that there are no amendments to the Resolutions of Senate relating to these courses with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* The Chair to recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to introduce a new delivery mode to the Master of Medical Education, Graduate Diploma in Medical Education and Graduate Certificate in Medical Education.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Medicine to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to introduce a new delivery mode to the Master of Medical Education, Graduate Diploma in Medical Education and Graduate Certificate in Medical Education.

File No. (2003/4023, 2003/4024, 2003/4025)

#### (2) **Master of Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology), Master of Science in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology), Graduate Diploma in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology), Graduate Diploma of Science in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology) and Graduate Certificate in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology)**

##### **Resolution 27/08**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Medicine to introduce a new delivery mode to the Master of Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology), Master of Science in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology), Graduate Diploma in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology), Graduate Diploma of Science in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology) and Graduate Certificate in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology); and

Diploma in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology), Graduate Diploma of Science in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology) and Graduate Certificate in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology); and

- (2) recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal, noting that there are no amendments to the Resolutions of Senate relating to these courses with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* The Chair to recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to introduce a new delivery mode to the Master of Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology), Master of Science in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology), Graduate Diploma in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology), Graduate Diploma of Science in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology) and Graduate Certificate in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology).

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Medicine to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to introduce a new delivery mode to the Master of Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology), Master of Science in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology), Graduate Diploma in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology), Graduate Diploma of Science in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology) and Graduate Certificate in Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology).

File No. (TBA)

**(3) Master of Public Health and Graduate Diploma in Public Health**

**Resolution 28/08**

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Medicine to introduce a new delivery mode to the Master of Public Health and Graduate Diploma in Public Health; and
- (2) recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal, noting that there are no amendments to the Resolutions of Senate relating to these courses with effect from 1 January 2008, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* The Chair to recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to introduce a new delivery mode to the Master of Public Health and Graduate Diploma in Public Health.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Medicine to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to introduce a new delivery mode to the Master of Public Health and Graduate Diploma in Public Health.

File No. (003/0020/00016)

### **10.2.2 Proceedings of the Committee**

#### **Resolution 29/08**

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Graduate Studies Committee meeting held on 13 February 2008, as set out in the report presented.

## **11. Report of the Learning and Teaching Committee**

(Associate Professor Greg Ryan)

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### **11.1 Oral report of the Chair**

Associate Professor Ryan advised members that he had reported in December about the Committee's intention to include a focus topic for each of its meetings in 2008. He noted that the report of the most recent meeting included a summary of the focus topic on eLearning, which had been led by Associate Professor Rob Ellis, and he indicated that similar summaries would be included for future focus topics.

#### **Resolution 30/08**

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Learning and Teaching Committee.

### **11.2 Report of the meeting held on 6 February 2008**

#### **11.2.1 eLearning: Nature of teaching and learning**

##### **Resolution 31/08**

That the Academic Board note the report on eLearning: Nature of teaching and learning.

#### **11.2.2 Report from the Deputy Provost (Learning and Teaching) & Pro Vice-Chancellor**

##### **Resolution 32/08**

That the Academic Board note the report from the Deputy Provost (Learning and Teaching) and Pro Vice-Chancellor.

### 11.2.3 Proceedings of the Committee

#### Resolution 33/08

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Learning and Teaching Committee meeting held on 6 February 2008, as set out in the report presented.

## 12. Report of the Research and Research Training Committee (Professor Bruce Sutton)

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### 12.1 Oral report of the Chair

The Chair advised members that he had acted as Chair of this Committee in Professor Trehwella's absence. He drew members' attention to an item in the report regarding a draft policy from SUPRA on support for postgraduate research students. He advised that the draft policy had been circulated to faculties for comment and had also been discussed at the Committee of Deans. He encouraged faculties to respond to the draft in time for the Committee's next meeting in March.

#### Resolution 34/08

That the Academic Board note the report of the Acting Chair of the Research and Research Training Committee.

### 12.2 Report of the meeting held on 6 February 2008

#### 12.2.1 Academic Board Resolutions relating to the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

#### Resolution 35/08

That the Academic Board approve the amendments to the Academic Board Resolutions relating to the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy with immediate effect, as set out in the report presented.

*Action:* Executive Officer to amend the Academic Board Resolutions relating to the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy on Policy OnLine.

File No. (2003/2364)

### 12.2.2 Proceedings of the Committee

#### Resolution 36/08

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Research and Research Training Committee meeting held on 6 February 2008, as set out in the report presented.

## 13. General Business

### 13.1 Appointment of members of the Student Proctorial Panel

#### Resolution 37/08

That the Academic Board appoint members of the Student Proctorial Panel, as set out in the report presented.

The Chair advised members that the next meeting would feature a presentation from the Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor regarding the four Working Groups established to review academic programs at the University.

The meeting closed at 3:26 p.m.

Signed as a correct record

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*Chair*

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Date