



Academic Board Minutes

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Minutes of the meeting of the Academic Board held at 2 pm on Wednesday 4 May 2005 in the Professorial Board Room

There were present: the Chair (Professor J Carter) presiding, the Deputy Chair (Associate Professor A F Masters), the Vice-Chancellor and Principal (Professor G Brown), the Chairs of the Standing Committees (Professors P Gay and C Murphy, Associate Professors A Masters and B Sutton), Professors C Armour, B Armstrong, D Armstrong M Behnia, E Blakely, L Copeland, D Day, M Field, S Garton, D Grant, G Hancock, B Hesketh, M Jackson, G Llewellyn, R McCallum, R Newman, S Nicholas, D Nutbeam, B Reid, B Roufogalis, J Sachs, J Sinclair, K Walker and P Wolnizer, Associate Professors B Buckley, D Dragovich, R Drynan, C B Gillies, A Fekete, S Kable, C Lumby, P McCallum, C Peck, P Phibbs, N Weber and T Welch, Drs K Bosward, M Edmond, A Elias, M Halliwell, J Hughes, E Innes, I Maxwell, E Peden, A Poulos, R Stanton, M Torode, Ms R Jackson and Mr J Shipp.

Also present: Secretary of the Academic Board (Ms J Russell).

Present as observers: Mr M Smith (Secretariat).

In attendance: Ms M Kemmis.

★ **1. Apologies**

The Board noted that apologies had been received from: Professors A Brewer, A Coats, M Fry, J Hearn, T Hirst, R Jeremy and J Lawler, G Moore, P Parkinson, E Schwarz, Associate Professors W Evans and P Windsor, Drs W A Adams, M Boughton, D Collins, N Gallery, P Gibbens, L Napier and A van Schaik, Mr J Conomos, Ms J Mooney and Ms G Wong.

★ **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: 9.2.2.3(2), 9.2.2.4, 11.2.3 and 11.2.6.

2.2 Adoption of unstarred items

Resolution 70/05

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

3. Minutes of previous meeting

Resolution 71/05

That the Academic Board adopt the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16 March 2005 as a true record.

The Chair welcomed Dr I Maxwell and Dr R Stanton as new members from the Faculty of Arts.

- ★ 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 General report

5.1.1 Membership of the Academic Board: co-opted members

The Chair advised members that the Board had previously co-opted Dr Jim Sait as a member during his term as Acting Director of the International Office. The Academic Board endorsed the Chair's proposal that Mr Peter Ball, the new Director of the International Office, be co-opted as a member of the Academic Board.

A member suggested that the resolution be amended to include a reference to Mr Ball's position as Director of the International Office. It was also suggested by the same member that Dr J Sait would still nominally be a member of the Board under his current terms of appointment to the Academic Board.

The resolution was amended to include an end-date (31 December 2005) and the condition "while Mr Ball remains a member of the University".

The amended resolution was carried.

Resolution 72/05

That, in accordance with the University of Sydney (Academic Governance) Rule 2003, the Academic Board appoint Mr P Ball to membership of the Academic Board until 31 December 2005, such membership to be conditional on Mr Ball remaining a member of the University of Sydney, as set out in the report presented.

Action: Executive Officer of the Academic Board to provide Mr Ball with information regarding his membership.

(File 2004/1728)

5.1.2 Report on Student Appeals (Exclusions and Readmissions) 2004

The Academic Board noted the report to Senate of student appeals (exclusions and readmissions) heard in 2004. The Chair noted that, although hearings would not finish until later in the week, it appeared that fewer appeals have been heard this year.

Resolution 73/05

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board relating to student appeals (exclusions and readmissions), as set out in the report presented.

Action: No further action required.

(File 2002/3333)

5.1.3 NSW and the ACT Committee of Chairs of Academic Boards/Senates

The Chair advised the Academic Board that he had attended a meeting of the NSW and the ACT Committee of Chairs of Academic Boards/Senates on 7 April 2005. The major issues discussed at this meeting were:

- the DEST review of foundation programs;
- the possible introduction of a nation-wide secondary certificate; and
- the review of Category A HSC courses.

With regard to this last item, the University of Sydney has been asked to review English courses (with the University of New England), Science courses (Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Science, Physics and Engineering Studies – with the University of Wollongong) and Language courses (with the University of Western Sydney). The Chair advised that he would be seeking volunteers to assist in the review of these courses.

Resolution 74/05

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board relating to the NSW Committee of Chairs of Academic Boards/Senates, as set out in the report presented.

Action: Members of the Academic Board to advise the Chair if they are interested in participating in the review of Category A HSC courses.

(File 2001/5114)

5.1.4 Elections to the Academic Board of Student Members

Members were advised that nominations had been called for the election of student members from the colleges to the Academic Board and that nominations closed on Monday 3 May 2005. The Chair announced the election of the following student from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences:

Mr Christopher Ritchie (Faculty of Arts)

The Chair further advised that an election would be conducted for student representatives from the College of Sciences and Technology. It was noted that no nominations were received from students in the College of Health Sciences.

The Chair indicated that new student members would be introduced at the next Academic Board meeting.

In conducting these elections a number of issues arose that the Chair mentioned briefly. He foreshadowed that a review of the process of electing student representatives would be undertaken to make the process more efficient. It is important to have active student participation in academic governance, as noted in the report from AUQA.

The Chair noted that a respectable number of nominations were received, but that a number of these had to be declared invalid for technical reasons. He indicated that measures would be put in place to minimise the number of invalid nominations in the future. The Chair also noted that the current regulations require that student representatives on the Board must be elected from and by student representatives on Faculty Boards. The Chair advised members that he would investigate whether the pool of students eligible to become members of the Board could be increased by altering this condition. Any alteration would be likely to require amendments to the *University of Sydney (Academic Governance) Rule 2003*.

Resolution 75/05

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board relating to elections to the Academic Board of student members, as set out in the report presented.

Action: No further action required.

(File 2003/2981)

5.1.5 Academic Board Forum

The Chair advised members that the first Academic Board Forum of the year was held on 13 April 2005. The presenter was the University Librarian, Mr John Shipp, who spoke on the issue “Changes in Scholarly Communication”.

The Chair noted that the Forum was well attended and reminded members that a copy of the presentation and brief notes of the discussion were available on the Academic Board’s website. The Chair thanked Mr Shipp for his presentation at the Forum.

Resolution 76/05

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board relating to the Academic Board Forum, as set out in the report presented.

Action: No further action required.

(File 2004/4836)

5.1.6 Early submission of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) thesis

The Chair advised the Academic Board that in accordance with the provisions of the *University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999*, he had considered a request from the Faculty of Medicine that a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) candidate be permitted to submit the thesis for early examination.

After careful consideration the Chair had concluded that the candidate had made exceptional progress in the candidature and had therefore approved the early examination of the thesis.

Resolution 77/05

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board relating to the early submission of a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) thesis, as set out in the report presented.

Action: No further action required.

(File TBA)

5.1.7 VSU Forum

The Chair drew members attention to the VSU Forum being conducted in the Eastern Avenue Auditorium at 5:00 pm today.

Resolution 78/05

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board relating to the VSU Forum, as set out in the report presented.

5.1.8 Possible Change to Future Agendas

The Chair expressed his concerns that the meetings of the Academic Board had been driven by the existing formal agenda and that meetings devoted rather less time to discussion of topical matters of interest and of strategic importance to the University. He suggested that the Board should provide more leadership on key strategic issues. A forum for discussion of such issues during meetings would be one way of developing this role of the Board.

The Chair suggested introducing a new standard item on the agenda which could be called “Hot Topics” or “Matters of Interest”. A fixed period for discussion would be set with strict speaking rules to ensure that members were all given an opportunity to contribute. Examples of possible topics for discussion include:

- Minimum entry standards
- What is the optimum size of the University?
- What sort of university do we wish to become under the Nelson reforms?

The Chair asked members to submit other suggestions for topics with a few sentences describing the issue. Members expressed support for the idea and made the following comments:

- the Board’s standing Committees should provide advance notice of items and issues they were considering to allow input from other members of the Board;
- cross-questioning between Board members could be introduced to allow exchange of information and ideas;
- a sub-Committee could be established to actively seek issues for discussion and to filter issues submitted by other members; and
- the agenda might require reorganisation or pruning to allow time for such discussions.

The Chair invited members to forward their comments and suggestions to him following the meeting.

Resolution 79/05

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board relating to changes to the Academic Board agenda, as set out in the report presented.

Action: No further action required.

(File TBA)

5.2 Honours and Distinctions

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

Resolution 80/05

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.

(File TBA)

★ 6. Report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal

6.1 Report on Senate matters

6.1.1 Report of the Senate meeting held on 21 March 2005

The Academic Board noted the report of the Vice-Chancellor on matters considered by Senate at its meeting held on 21 March 2005.

Resolution 81/05

That the Academic Board note the report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal on matters considered by Senate at its meeting held on 21 March 2005.

6.1.2 Report of the special Senate meeting held on 6 April 2005

The Academic Board noted the report of the Vice-Chancellor on matters considered by Senate at its special meeting held on 6 April 2005.

Resolution 82/05

That the Academic Board note the report of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal on matters considered by Senate at its special meeting held on 6 April 2005.

6.2 General report

The Vice-Chancellor advised members that there was a focus topic on the Strategic Plan at the last meeting of Senate. He noted that in the past two years Senate had introduced a focus topic as the main part of its meetings, similar to the Chair's suggestion for the Academic Board. This enabled major policy issues to be discussed in depth.

With regard to the Senate's discussions on the Strategic Plan, the Vice-Chancellor highlighted the role of the Academic Board in the development and implementation of the Plan. He suggested that the Plan might be the subject of a focus topic at the Board's meeting in June. He also highlighted the need for Key Performance Indicators to be developed to express how the aims of the Plan would be achieved and measured.

The Vice-Chancellor also advised that a number of issues relating to proposed Federal Government reforms of the tertiary education sector had been discussed at the recent Senate meeting as follows:

Industrial Relations reforms: The Vice-Chancellor noted that the reform aims recently announced by the Federal Government were nowhere near as prescriptive as had earlier been indicated. Under the new reforms, the University would be required to offer Australian Workplace Agreements (AWAs) to all new staff, and as of September 2006 would be required to extend the same offer to all existing staff. The reforms also require the introduction of a new agreement stating that AWAs would override the existing Enterprise Bargaining Agreement. Other sections of the reforms would affect the University's support of unions and the role of those unions in workplace discussions.

VSU: Senate reasserted its position of support for compulsory student unionism as represented by the full-range of activities currently available. The Vice-Chancellor noted that this item was included in Senate's confidential business to enable the discussion of contingency plans.

Research Quality Framework. The Vice-Chancellor noted that the most confusing aspect of the proposed framework was the concept of "third stream" funding (as based on the UK research model). The impact of research would be defined to include the support and encouragement of small businesses in rural areas. While the Vice-Chancellor agreed that the investment of public monies in research infrastructure meant that there should be tangible outcomes from such research he expressed concerns about how the proposed framework would operate in practice.

University Governance: Proposed changes to university governance could see the severing of current ties between universities and State governments. He noted that the AVCC was not in support of such a move.

The Vice-Chancellor also mentioned the proposed introduction of "teaching only", "teaching and research" and "research only" categories for tertiary institutions, together with the introduction of more private providers. He noted that the University had no need to fear a more competitive market place, providing that both the market place and the institutions were sufficiently deregulated. He also commented on the Federal Government's increasing focus on regional institutions and their local community relationships in contrast to the demand for major universities to become more global.

Resolution 83/05

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

★ 7. **Question time**

A query was raised regarding the requirement from the Department of Education, Science and Training that universities develop competency scores for all undergraduate courses. The Vice-Chancellor was asked to clarify what this impact and the potential impact on students who were admitted to courses, and those that were not admitted.

The Vice-Chancellor advised that the request for competency scores was part of a broader move by the Department to publish comprehensive information on courses for potential and current tertiary students. He stated that it could be a useful exercise, and would certainly be open and honest, if the scores accurately reflected the level required for students to successfully complete a course. He noted the potential for

confusion if it was not understood by potential students that UAIs were a measure of demand, rather than required ability. He also noted that the introduction of competency scores would mean the University would need to rethink its current 5-point rule for the admission of students via equity programs or as full fee-paying students.

A second query was raised regarding the policy "Student Plagiarism: Coursework" and the Vice-Chancellor was asked to comment on the reason for its introduction. The Vice-Chancellor advised that the issue of plagiarism in universities was a highly public matter which had received a great deal of media attention. He stated that he had felt that the current policy "Academic Honesty in Coursework" was not strong enough and that he had fast-tracked the development of the new policy to safeguard the University from potential problems, as highlighted by recent investigations of other universities by the NSW Ombudsman. He welcomed any comments or suggested amendments with regard to the new policy but reiterated the need for the University to have consistent procedures and principles across all faculties with regard to this issue.

Resolution 84/05

That the Academic Board note the questions and responses provided.

8. Reports of Faculties and Boards

8.1 Report of the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery

8.1.1 Receipt of report

Resolution 85/05

That the Academic Board receive and note the report of the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery.

8.1.2 Amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate: Constitution of the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery

Resolution 86/05

That the Academic Board recommend that Senate amend the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Constitution of the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, with immediate effect, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that the Constitution of the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery be amended.

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

(File 036/0006/00210)

9. Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee

(Associate Professor Bruce Sutton)

★

9.1 Oral report of the Chair

The Chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee, Associate Professor Bruce Sutton, began his report by thanking the previous Chair, Associate

Professor Tony Masters, for his work, and thanking the Committee members for their assistance. He noted that there was a strong role for the Committee in reviewing and developing policy and assisting in the implementation of policies.

Resolution 87/05

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

9.2 Report of the meeting held on 5 April 2005

9.2.1 Receipt of report

Resolution 88/05

That the Academic Board receive and note the report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee meeting held on 5 April 2005.

9.2.2 Proposals for New and Amended Courses

9.2.2.1 Faculty of Dentistry

(1) Bachelor of Dentistry

Resolution 89/05

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Dentistry for the amendment of the Bachelor of Dentistry course; and
 - (2) recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the amended Bachelor of Dentistry course;
- with effect from 1 January 2006, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the Academic Board's approval of the amended Bachelor of Dentistry course.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Dentistry to note the Academic Board's approval of the amended Bachelor of Dentistry course.

(File 2001/1049)

(2) Bachelor of Oral Health

Resolution 90/05

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Dentistry for the amendment of the Bachelor of Oral Health course; and
- (2) recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the amended Bachelor of Dentistry course; and
- (3) approve the faculty requirements relating to admission

with effect from 1 January 2006, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it endorse the Academic Board's approval of the amended Bachelor of Oral Health course.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Dentistry to note the Academic Board's approval of the amended Bachelor of Oral Health course.

(File 2004/2935)

9.2.2.2 Faculty of Health Sciences: Bachelor of Applied Science (Medical Radiation Sciences) and Bachelor of Applied Science (Medical Radiation Sciences) (Honours)

Resolution 91/05

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Health Sciences for the amendment of the Bachelor of Applied Science (Medical Radiation Sciences) and the Bachelor of Applied Science (Medical Radiation Sciences) (Honours) courses; and
- (2) recommend that Senate
 - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the amendments to the above courses; and
 - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Health Sciences,

with effect from 1 January 2006, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it approve the amended Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Health Sciences, and endorse the Academic Board's approval of the amended Bachelor of Applied Science (Medical Radiation Sciences) and the Bachelor of Applied Science (Medical Radiation Sciences) (Honours) courses.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Health Sciences to note the Academic Board's approval of the amended Bachelor of Applied Science (Medical Radiation Sciences) and the Bachelor of Applied Science (Medical Radiation Sciences) (Honours) courses.

(File 003/0032/00006)

9.2.2.3 Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Science

- (1) **Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science Combined Degree**

Resolution 92/05

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science to withdraw the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science Combined Degree course; and
- (2) recommend that Senate
 - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to withdraw the above course; and
 - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science;

with effect from 1 January 2006, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science, and endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to withdraw the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science Combined Degree course.

The Deans and Faculty Managers of the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to withdraw the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science Combined Degree course.

(File 2000/3995)

★ (2) **Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts Combined Degree**

It was noted that section (2) (a) of the resolution should be deleted. The resolution was carried as amended.

Resolution 93/05

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science to amend the Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts Combined Degree course; and
- (2) recommend that Senate
 - (a) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science;
 - (b) approve the introduction of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts Combined Degree course; and

- (3) note the Resolutions of the Faculty of Science relating to the above course, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000; and
 - (4) approve the faculty resolutions relating to admission, cross-faculty management of the degree, award of the degree, specially designated streams and the award of honours;
- with effect from 1 January 2006, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science, and the introduction of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts Combined Degree course.

The Deans and Faculty Managers of the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science to note the Academic Board's approval of the amended faculty resolutions for the Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts Combined Degree course.

(File TBA)

★ **9.2.2.4 Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources: Bachelor of Animal Science**

The date of effect of the resolution was queried and it was agreed that this should be amended to 1 January 2006. The resolution was carried as amended.

Resolution 94/05

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources to cease offering the Bachelor of Animal Science as of 1 January 2006;
- (2) recommend that Senate:
 - (a) endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal from the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources with regard to this course; and
 - (b) approve the amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Degrees and Diplomas in the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources; and
- (3) note the amendment of the Resolutions of the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources relating to the above course, made pursuant to the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000; with effect from 1 January 2005, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate relating to the Degrees and Diplomas in the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, and endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to withdraw the Bachelor of Animal Science course.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to withdraw the Bachelor of Animal Science course.

(File 2000/4239)

9.2.3 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution 95/05

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Undergraduate Studies Committee meeting held on 5 April 2005, as set out in the report presented.

Action: No further action required.

(File 2003/4227)

10. Report of the Graduate Studies Committee

(Associate Professor Anthony Masters)

★

10.1 Oral report of the Chair

The Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee, Associate Professor A Masters drew members' attention to item 10.2.5 and reiterated the need for solutions to the issue of long PhD examination times. He also noted item 10.2.6 (2) and the recommendation that period of further candidature for thesis revision be referred to in terms of full-time equivalency.

Resolution 96/05

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

10.2 Report of the meeting held on 4 April 2005

10.2.1 Receipt of report

Resolution 97/05

That the Academic Board receive and note the report of the Graduate Studies Committee meeting held on 4 April 2005.

10.2.2 Course Review Template (Postgraduate Coursework)

Resolution 98/05

That the Academic Board approve:

- (i) the use of the Course Review Template (Postgraduate Coursework) as a framework for evaluating a postgraduate coursework course once every four years; and

- (ii) postgraduate courses which have professional accreditation being reviewed within an appropriate time frame to coincide with this process, provided that this period does not exceed five years,
as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee to note the Academic Board's approval of the Course Review Template (Postgraduate Coursework).

The Secretary of the Graduate Studies Committee to distribute the Course Review Template (Postgraduate Coursework) to faculties for implementation.

(File TBA)

10.2.3 Interpretation/review of policy element in Creation, Variation and Deletion of Award Courses and Units of Study

Resolution 99/05

That the Academic Board approve the amendments to the Academic Board Resolutions: Creation, Variation and Deletion of Award Course and Units of Study, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Executive Officer of the Academic Board to submit the amended Academic Board Resolutions: Creation, Variation and Deletion of Award Courses and Units of Study to Policy Online.

The Secretary of the Graduate Studies Committee to advise faculties of the amended Academic Board Resolutions: Creation, Variation and Deletion of Award Courses and Units of Study.

(File 2000/4039)

10.2.4 Amendment of the Resolutions of the Senate

(1) Faculty of Law

Resolution 100/05

That the Academic Board recommend that Senate approve the amendments to the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Appendix: Units of Study Offered within the Faculty of Law, with effect from 1 March 2005, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair to recommend to Senate that it approve the amendments to the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Appendix: Units of Study Offered within the Faculty of Law.

The Dean and Faculty Manager of the Faculty of Law to note the Academic Board's approval of the amendments to the Resolutions of the Senate relating to the Appendix: Units of Study Offered within the Faculty of Law.

(File TBA)

10.2.5 The Length of PhD examinations at the University of Sydney

Resolution 101/05

That the Academic Board endorse the Graduate Studies Committee's invitation to faculties to provide solutions to the length of PhD examination times after further research and analysis of other institutions and consultation on various models to conduct PhD examinations, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee to note the Academic Board's endorsement of the Committee's invitation to faculties to provide solutions to the length of PhD examination times after further research and analysis of other institutions and consultation on various models to conduct PhD examinations.

(File TBA)

10.2.6 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution 102/05

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Graduate Studies Committee meeting held on 4 April 2005, as set out in the report presented.

11. Report of the Learning and Teaching Committee

(Professor Penny Gay)

★

11.1 Oral report of the Chair

The Chair of the Learning and Teaching Committee, Professor Penny Gay drew members' attention to item 11.2.4, which had been referred to the Learning and Teaching Committee following the Board's meeting of 16 March. It was noted that the Committee had resolved to form a working party to consider the issues surrounding the "Plagiarism: Coursework" policy and the "Academic Honesty in Coursework" policy. Members were invited to send any comments on either document to the Chair of the Learning and Teaching Committee.

Resolution 103/05

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

11.2 Report of the meeting held on 12 April 2005

11.2.1 Receipt of report

Resolution 104/05

That the Academic Board receive and note the report of the Teaching and Learning Committee meeting held on 12 April 2005.

11.2.2 Academic Board Faculty Review Visits

(1) Faculty of Education and Social Work

Resolution 105/05

That the Academic Board note the report of the Phase Two Academic Board Visit to the Faculty of Education and Social Work.

★ **11.2.3 Special Arrangements for Assessment and Examination**

The Academic Board noted that this item was withdrawn for further consideration by the Learning and Teaching Committee.

Resolution 106/05

That the Academic Board note that the draft policy “Special Arrangements for Assessment and Examination” will be further amended, as set out in the report presented.

Action: No further action required.

(File TBA)

11.2.4 Faculty Reports on Cases of Academic Dishonesty

Resolution 107/05

That the Academic Board note the faculty reports on cases of academic dishonesty.

Action: No further action required.

(File 2003/5217)

11.2.5 Academic Board Resolutions: Academic Honesty in Coursework

Resolution 108/05

That the Academic Board note the report of the Learning and Teaching Committee on the formation of a working party, as set out in the report presented.

Action: No further action required.

(File P14)

11.2.6 Report of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning)

★ (1) **Principles of Learning and Teaching**

A member suggested that the draft document should be further edited and reworded. In particular, the phrases “diversity of defensible opinions and values” and “student-led facilities” were queried.

The Chair of the Learning and Teaching Committee agreed that some minor editing of the document could be done, but stated her opposition to amending any of the ideas or principles expressed by the document. Other members stated similar expressions of support for the document, and it was resolved that it be endorsed without further amendment.

Resolution 109/05

That the Academic Board:

- (i) endorse the principles “Learning and Teaching – creative teaching, quality learning”; and

- (ii) recommend to the Vice-Chancellor and the Senior Executive Group that the term “quality teaching and creative learning” in the University Strategic Plan be amended to “creative teaching and quality learning” as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) to note the Academic Board’s endorsement of the principles “Learning and Teaching – creative teaching, quality learning”.

The Chair to write to the Vice-Chancellor and the Senior Executive Group recommending that the term “quality teaching and creative learning” in the University Strategic Plan be amended to “creative teaching and quality learning”.

(File TBA)

(2) **Review of the Scholarship Index**

Resolution 110/05

That the Academic Board endorse the revised Scholarship Index and associated criteria, as set out in the report presented.

Action: The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) to note the Academic Board’s endorsement of the revised Scholarship Index and associated criteria.

(File TBA)

11.2.7 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution 111/05

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Teaching and Learning Committee meeting held on 12 April 2005, as set out in the report presented.

12. Report of the Research Committee

(Professor John Carter)

★

12.1 Oral report of the Chair

The Chair drew the Academic Board’s attention to item 12.2.6 and noted that the Federal Government is currently investigating if and how a national research assessment exercise should be undertaken. The Chair advised members that the Committee had provided advice to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation) on how the University should respond to an issues paper released on this matter. He also advised that it was his understanding that such a response had been sent from the University to the Department of Education, Science and Training.

Resolution 112/05

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Research Committee.

12.2 Report of the meeting held on 20 April 2005

12.2.1 Receipt of report

Resolution 113/05

That the Academic Board receive and note the report of the Research Committee meeting held on 20 April 2005.

12.2.2 APA/UPA Scholarships – revised ranking guidelines

Resolution 114/05

That the Academic Board note the report on APA/UPA scholarships, as set out in the report presented.

Action: No further action required.

(File TBA)

12.2.3 Faculty of Law Research Committee Report – Professor Terry Carney

Resolution 115/05

That the Academic Board note the Faculty of Law Research Committee report, as set out in the report presented.

Action: No further action required.

(File TBA)

12.2.4 NSW Cancer Institute – Career Development and Support Fellowships

Resolution 116/05

That the Academic Board note the report on NSW Cancer Institute fellowships, as set out in the report presented.

Action: No further action required.

(File 2005/2104)

12.2.5 Review of internal funding schemes

Resolution 117/05

That the Academic Board note the report on the review of internal funding schemes, as set out in the report presented.

Action: No further action required.

(File TBA)

12.2.6 Research Quality Framework

Resolution 118/05

That the Academic Board note the report on the research quality framework, as set out in the report presented.

Action: No further action required.

(File TBA)

12.2.7 Proceedings of the Committee

Resolution 119/05

That the Academic Board note the proceedings of the Research Committee meeting held on 20 April 2005, as set out in the report presented.

13. General Business

13.1 Report on the Promotion of Academic Staff from Level B to Level C

The Chair noted that this report outlined the upholding of an appeal by the Central Promotions Committee.

Resolution 120/05

That the Academic Board note the report on the promotion of academic staff from Level B to Level C, as set out in the report presented.

Action: No further action required.

(File 028/0002/00332)

The meeting closed at 3:29 p.m.

Signed as a correct record

Chair

Date