

ACADEMIC BOARD

2:00 pm, Tuesday 6 March 2018

Professorial Boardroom, Quadrangle (A14)

Members Present: The Chair (Associate Professor Tony Masters); the Vice-Chancellor (Dr Michael Spence); Helen Agus (Science); Associate Professor Judy Anderson (Education & Social Work); Professor Sally Andrews (Science); Natasha Arthars (HDR Student, Arts & Social Sciences); Donald Azuatalam (HDR Student, Engineering & IT); Associate Professor Salvatore Babones (Arts & Social Sciences); Anne Bell (Director of University Libraries); Professor Alan Boddy (Pharmacy); Dr Amanda Budde-Sung (Business); Dr Betty Chaar (Pharmacy); Professor Geoff Clarke (Science); Professor Deborah Cobb-Clark (Arts & Social Sciences); Professor Mary Crock (Law); Associate Professor Steven Cumming (Health Sciences); Associate Professor Wendy Davis (Chair, Academic Quality Committee); Dr Joanna Diong (Medical School); Dr Susie Dracopoulos (Dentistry); Professor Joerg Eberhard (Dentistry); Professor Alexander Engel (Medical School); Professor Alan Fekete (Engineering & IT); Professor Maria Fiatarone Singh (Health Sciences); Denzel Florez (UG Student, Science); Dr Alan Freeman (Medical School); Professor Ofer Gal (Science); Dr Jinlong Gao (Dentistry); Professor Mark Gorrell (Medical School); Imogen Grant (President, SRC); Associate Professor Thomas Grewal (Pharmacy); Dr Ali Hadigheh (Engineering & IT); Krystal Hakkaart (PG Student, Dentistry); Dr Mark Halaki (Health Sciences, for Associate Professor Rhonda Orr); Professor Trevor Hambley (Dean, Science); Dr Melissa Hardie (Chair, Undergraduate Studies Committee); Dr Christopher Hartney (Arts & Social Sciences); Dr Michelle Irving (Dentistry); Professor Duncan Ivison (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)); Gemma Jacklyn (Medical School); Professor Annamarie Jagose (Dean, Arts & Social Sciences); Dr Sascha Jenkins (Nominee, Faculty General Managers Committee); Pranay Jha (Nominee, SRC); Rebecca Johnson (Nominee, SUPRA); Associate Professor Steven Kamper (Medical School); Patty Kamvounias (Business); Associate Professor Annette Katelaris (Medical School); Dr Melanie Keep (Health Sciences); Dr Peter Kench (Health Sciences); Associate Professor Michael Kertesz (Chair, Graduate Studies Committee); Jeffrey Khoo (UG Student, Law); Associate Professor Eric Knight (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research – Engagement and Enterprise)); Christina Lee (UG Student, Science); Daniel Lee (UG Student, Science); Dr Henry Leung (Business, for Associate Professor Maurice Peat); Professor Michelle Lincoln (Health Sciences); Associate Professor Sandra Loschke (Architecture); Dr Alan Maddox (Conservatorium); Dr Arunima Malik (Science); Dr Slade Matthews (Medical School); Professor Richard Miles (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education - Enterprise & Engagement)); Dr Matthew Mindrup (Architecture); Tanya Mitchell (Law); Associate Professor Nicole Mockler (Arts & Social Sciences); Associate Professor Lenka Munoz (Medical School); Dr Shanika Nanayakkara (Dentistry); Associate Professor John O'Byrne (Science); Jennifer Ong (Pharmacy); Dr Juliette Overland (Business); Associate Professor Evangelos Pappas (Health Sciences); Dr James Parkinson (Science); Professor Pip Pattison (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education)); Yvette Quinn (UG Student, Health Sciences); Professor Kim Rasmussen (Interim Dean, Engineering & IT); Professor Kathy Refshauge (Dean, Health Sciences); Associate Professor Patrice Rey (Science); Professor Joellen Riley (Head of School & Dean, Law); Associate Professor Jennifer Rowley (Conservatorium); Dr Justin Scanlan (Health Science); Associate Professor Siegbert Schmid (Science); Dr Carl Schneider (Pharmacy); Associate Professor Rita Shackel (Law); Professor Heiko Spallek (Acting Dean, Dentistry); Bonnie Stanway (HDR Student, Business); Associate Professor Catherine Sutton-Brady (Business); Dr Rayner Thwaites (Law); Associate Professor Marjorie Valix (Engineering & IT); Dr Gareth Vio (Engineering & IT); Professor Donna Waters (Dean, Nursing); Dr Bianca Waud (Science); Associate Professor Nial Wheate (Pharmacy); Associate Professor Tim Wilkinson (Engineering & IT); Associate Professor Bronwyn Winter (Arts & Social Sciences); Dr Narelle Yeo (Conservatorium); Dr Ülku Yüksel (Business).

Attendees: Georgia Alu (Arts & Social Sciences); Associate Professor Jennifer Barrett (Director, Culture Strategy); Dr Matthew Charet (Executive Officer); Natalie Downey (Project Officer Governance Implementation, Office of the Provost) (for items 2.5 and 2.6); Dr Glenys Eddy (Policy Manager - Curriculum Timetabling); Dr Donna Hartz (Acting Director, National Centre for Cultural Competence) (for item 1.1); Kerrie Henderson (University Policy Manager); Associate Professor Peter McCallum (Director, Educational Strategy); David Pacey (Secretary to Senate); Lynda Rose (Associate Director Operations, Office of the Provost); Dr Jacqueline Rule (Governance Lead, Office of the Provost) (for items 2.5 and 2.6); Kate Small (University Quality Manager); Rong Yan (Governance and Policy Analyst, Office of the Provost) (for items 2.5 and 2.6).

Apologies: Associate Professor Jacqueline Bloomfield (Nursing); Maquel Brandimarti (HDR Student, Science); Dr Kimberly Coulton (Dentistry); Professor Robyn Gallagher (Nursing); Professor Stephen Garton (Provost); Professor Manuel Graeber (Medical School); Associate Professor Pablo Guillen Alvarez (Arts & Social

Sciences); Professor Jane Hanrahan (Chair, ASPC); Dr Claudia Keitel (Science); Vincent Labancz (UG Student, Arts & Social Sciences); Associate Professor Susan McGrath-Champ (Business); Professor Andrew McLachlan (Dean, Pharmacy); Gloria Mirzaei (UG Student, Pharmacy); Mariam Mohammed (Co-President, SUPRA); Kiriti Mortha (Co-President, SUPRA); Associate Professor Rhonda Orr (Health Sciences) (Dr Mark Halaki attending instead); Associate Professor Maurice Peat (Business) (Dr Henry Leung attending instead); Dr Fernanda Peñaloza (Arts & Social Sciences); Isabella Pytko (SRC nominee); Pavithra Rajan (HDR Student, Health Sciences); Professor Anna Reid (Head of School & Dean, Conservatorium); Joshua Reisler (Student, Law); Professor Laurent Rivory (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Collaborations & Partnerships)); Professor Juanita Sherwood (Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Strategy & Services)); Jaideep Singh (UG Student, Engineering & IT); Dr Matthew Smith (Arts & Social Sciences); Professor Greg Whitwell (Dean, Business).

MINUTES

☆ This symbol indicates items that have been starred for discussion at the meeting.

☆ 1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed members and noted the apologies received, asking that any further apologies be communicated to the Executive Officer.

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

Dr Donna Hartz (Acting Director, National Centre for Cultural Competence) acknowledged that the University is built on the lands of the Cadigal people of the Eora nation, and called on those present to be conscious of the safety of their neighbours and ensure that there was harmonious communication in all of our educational endeavours. Dr Hartz was thanked by acclamation.

The Chair also invited members to be mindful of the continuous tradition of education that has been taking place on the grounds of the University for 60,000 years.

1.2 Welcomes

The Chair welcomed the new and returning members who were in attendance.

2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

☆ 2.1 Adoption of unstarred items

The Chair advised that Items 2.5, 8.1 and 8.2 were to be starred on request. All unstarred items were resolved as presented.

Resolution AB2018/1-1

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

2.2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2017 were accepted as a true record.

Resolution AB2018/1-2

That the Academic Board adopt the minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 November 2017 as a true record.

☆ 2.3 Revised Committee Terms of Reference

The Chair reminded members that the 2016-2017 Review of the Academic Board had recommended the restructure of the Board's committees, and that a model structure and draft Terms of Reference for the Standing Committees had been endorsed at the 28 November 2017 meeting. It was agreed at that meeting that the draft Terms of Reference would be presented to and discussed at the first meeting of each committee in 2018, and this had now taken place.

Feedback from these meetings and from the Office of General Counsel has been incorporated into revised drafts, which were circulated with the agenda in their final form.

The revised Terms of Reference for the Academic Quality Committee, Academic Standards and Policy Committee, Graduate Studies Committee and Undergraduate Studies Committee were approved as presented.

The Chair further advised that the Terms of Reference for the Sub-Committees were also under discussion and would be presented to a future meeting for approval.

Resolution AB2018/1-3

That the Academic Board approve Terms of Reference for the Academic Quality Committee, Academic Standards and Policy Committee, Graduate Studies Committee and Undergraduate Studies Committee, as presented, with effect from 6 March 2018.

Action 1/2018: Executive Officer to update Terms of Reference and advise committees of the approval.



2.4 2018 Membership of the Academic Board and committees

In addition to the membership changes circulated with the agenda, the Chair and Executive Officer advised of a number of additional changes:

Academic Board:

- Dr James Parkinson, nominated to fill a casual vacancy in the Faculty of Science for a representative from the School of Mathematics & Statistics

Academic Quality Committee:

- Dr Christopher Hartney (Academic Board representative)
- Dr Slade Matthews (Academic Board representative)

Undergraduate Studies Committee:

- Dr Fernanda Peñaloza (Academic Board representative)

Graduate Studies Committee:

- Associate Professor Nicole Mockler (Academic Board representative)
- Dr Peter Kench (Academic Board representative)

The Board approved changes to membership as presented.

The Chair moved that Professor Jane Hanrahan (Chair, Academic Standards & Policy Committee), be reappointed as Deputy Chair of the Academic Board. This appointment was also approved.

Resolution AB2018/1-4

That the Academic Board approve changes to membership of the Board and appointment of members to its committees, as amended.



2.5 Proposed amendments to the Governance of Faculties and University Schools Rule 2016

The Chair advise that this proposal called for the Academic Board to endorse changes to the Rule to enable the creation of the Faculty of Medicine and Health, as well as the creation of a faculty Standing Committee on Units of Study.

In discussion, the Director, Education Strategy advised that a number of queries had been received regarding the faculty Standing Committee on Units of Study and asked that the clauses relevant to this proposal (3.9 and 6.9) be removed from the current version to undergo further consideration and consultation.

The Board endorsed the proposal as amended.

Resolution AB2018/1-5

That the Academic Board endorse the proposed amendments to the University of Sydney (Governance of Faculties and University Schools) Rule 2016 that will be submitted to the 23

March 2018 Senate meeting for adoption, noting that clauses 3.9 and 6.9 and related references will be removed prior to submission.

2.6 Proposed amendments to the *University of Sydney (Delegations of Authority – Academic Functions) Rule 2016*

This proposal was noted as presented.

Resolution AB2018/1-6

That the Academic Board note the proposed amendments to the University of Sydney (Delegations of Authority – Academic Functions) Rule 2016, with particular reference to the establishment of the Faculty of Medicine and Health, noting further that these proposed amendments will be submitted to the 23 March 2018 Senate meeting for adoption.

☆ **3 STRATEGIC ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

3.1 Student Wellbeing

The Chair invited Professor Refshauge, who was previously co-chair of a working group looking at student wellbeing, to inform the Board of the background to that review and the methodology by which the working group undertook its work. This is preparatory to the up-coming University-wide thematic review of Student Wellbeing and Safety; the first of the Phase 5 University Executive / Academic Board reviews (as endorsed at the 28 November 2017 Academic Board meeting).

Professor Refshauge informed members that a Student Wellbeing Report had been produced in September 2014, as a response to the Green Paper that underpinned the 2011-2015 Strategic Plan. That paper called for an investigation into the student experience on campus, following negative student feedback that placed the University at the bottom of the Group of Eight universities in student experience. Terms of Reference for the group provided a framework for the review, and it was agreed to focus on duty of care, inter-University communications and support for the review. The group employed a best-practice methodology that enabled triangulation of data and commenced the project with initial research of available reports and other documentation. This was followed by extensive consultation with students, academic and professional staff and key informants; a literature review on current industry practice; a history of student service provision at the University for background and context; review and mapping of current support services; benchmarking against practice at other institutions; and conduct of surveys.

The working group found that there was a genuine commitment to supporting the wellbeing of students, and that there was replication of services at central and faculty levels with limited communication between providers. Faculty-level services were often the first point of contact for students as they felt more valued by local staff. Consistent application of services was a key recommendation, along with better coordination of services and training of staff; the difficulty of finding and navigating policies was also highlighted as an obstacle for student understanding. Regular communication with students was also recommended, to close the loop on issues they raise. In all, following a two year review process the working group made 65 recommendations in a broad range of areas. These have subsequently been worked through and many have been implemented.

On reflection, the methodology was effective in most areas but met challenges with ensuring a sufficient level and diversity of student representation in the consultation process, and with mapping current services.

In discussion, the Vice-Chancellor stressed the importance of establishing a clear purpose for each review and he observed that the 2013-2014 review concentrated on the duty of the University to provide support to students through their studies while not diverting funding away from education and research, and to investigating gaps in existing student support mechanisms. It is important to be conscious that each review is part of a developing conversation, and the thematic reviews could also have this approach.

Mechanisms for closing the loop with students were also discussed, with the observation made that a balance needs to be struck between direct response to individual participants (which has a heavy transaction cost), and broadcast communication (by which it is difficult to ensure that

individual respondents feel heard). In navigating this, we need to be conscious that the mechanism for closing the loop also depends on the issue under consideration.

Resolution AB2018/1-7

That the Academic Board note the presentation on Student Wellbeing presented by Professor Kathy Refshauge.

3.2 Education Initiatives Update

The Chair invited Professor Richard Miles (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education - Enterprise & Engagement)) to speak to this item.

Professor Miles outlined progress to date in establishing a program of Industry and Community Project units of study (ICPU), aimed at ensuring that students have experience in multi-disciplinary group work outside the University environment. Employer and graduate feedback has highlighted the importance of graduates being able to effectively undertake group work and to have both intellectual breadth and interdisciplinarity. The ICPU units are designed to recapitulate the graduate qualities and prepare students for the work environment, and these units of study have been incorporated as electives within the new curriculum. There are also faculty-based ICPU options, and Professor Miles thanked faculties for their good will and cooperation in the development of these offerings. For Semester 1 2018, approximately 300 students are enrolled in thirteen pilot projects, with a projected enrolment in Semester 2 of 700 and up to 2000 students participating in more than fifty projects in 2019, including a number of international opportunities. Members were informed that every external group that has been approached so far have wanted to participate, and that a number of overseas institutions are also keen to participate in these projects.

To deliver these ICPUs, it will be necessary to develop preparatory material (possibly via OLEs) for each project and also have on hand a cadre of suitable staff (both teachers and academic administrators) to oversee and deliver content and supervise projects. Professor Miles informed members that there are a number of Associate Directors in his portfolio who each have an oversight role for projects in a number of faculties.

In discussion, the means of assessing ICPUs was raised, with the observation that students completing these projects will have different grading expectations arising from the various grading cultures across the University. Student feedback suggests that Pass/Fail grading is unlikely to be attractive, and there remains a challenge to tie in the ICPU units of study with the rubrics being developed under the aegis of the Assessment Working Party.

An update was requested later in the year so that members could be advised of the success of the program in Semester 1.

Resolution AB2018/1-8

That the Academic Board note the presentation on Education Initiatives presented by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education - Enterprise and Engagement).

☆ **4 REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

4.1 General Report

The Chair informed members that he had attended the National Committee of Chairs of Academic Boards and Senates in Canberra in the previous week, and participants expressed an interest in the University's *Charter of Academic Freedom* (which had been discussed by the Academic Board in 2017 and is currently with the Culture Taskforce for review).

The Chair extended thanks to the support provided by the Research Office to staff during the preparation of ARC and NHMRC grant applications earlier this year, and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) undertook to convey the thanks of the Board to his team. He also advised that staff have been asked to ensure that their personal and professional details in myHRonline are up-to-date and complete – including highest qualification – to better enable the University to accurately represent its research activity.

Resolution AB2018/1-9

That the Academic Board note the General Report of the Chair.

4.2 Update on Implementation of Strategic Initiatives Relating to Assessment

The Chair advised that the paper circulated with the agenda provides a progress report on the work of the Assessment Working Party and action undertaken in the Education Portfolio arising from it. He particularly highlighted activity relating to the development of assessment rubrics to measure attainment of the graduate qualities, and drew the attention of members to the milestones set out in the report to enable completion of the necessary work.

Resolution AB2018/1-10

That the Academic Board note:

- (1) the 2017 report of the Assessment Working Group whose recommendations were fully endorsed by the Academic Board on 28 November 2017;*
- (2) that the Academic Board has agreed that for all undergraduate degrees, there should be a coordinator for each degree, stream, specialisation, program or major;*
- (3) that the Academic Board has agreed faculties should review learning outcomes for all degrees, streams, programs and majors to give expression to the graduate qualities by July 2018;*
- (4) that the Academic Board has agreed that assessment plans be developed for degrees, streams, programs and majors by December 2018;*
- (5) the interim definitions for the graduate qualities developed by the Assessment Working Group;*
- (6) the timeline for faculties to meet obligations to the Academic Board to implement strategic initiatives relating to assessment in 2018; and,*
- (7) that undergraduate course and curriculum component coordinators will be invited to attend a series of Educational Innovation professional development workshops to assist with the completion of faculty tasks resulting from the Board's recommendations.*

4.3 Update on the Culture Taskforce

Associate Professor Barrett (Director, Culture Strategy) informed members that the Culture Taskforce has been active for a year and to date has focussed on institutional leadership, values and boundaries. Cultural and linguistic diversity, 'disagreeing well' and academic freedom remain high on the agenda for further exploration in 2018, and a discussion paper is currently in development for future presentation to the Academic Board and University Executive.

Associate Professor Barrett also advised that new staff and student members from the Academic Board are needed on the Taskforce, and the Executive Officer undertook to send a call for expressions of interest to members.

The Chair thanked Associate Professor Barrett for her leadership of the Culture Taskforce.

Resolution AB2018/1-11

That the Academic Board note the update on the Culture Taskforce.

Action 2/2018: *Executive Officer to send call for expressions of interest for staff and student membership of the Culture Taskforce from the membership of the Academic Board.*

4.4 TEQSA update

Ms Small (University Quality Manager) informed members that the University's application for TEQSA re-accreditation was submitted on Thursday 1 March, and that the anticipated timeframe for response is currently 9 – 15 months. She also advised that at a recent national meeting of Quality Managers, other institutions which have recently applied for re-registration advised that TEQSA has requested updates on current activities pertinent to the application, so it is imperative that the University continue to roll out and monitor our latest initiatives.

Resolution AB2018/1-12

That the Academic Board note the update on TEQSA re-accreditation.

4.5 Annual Delegations Amendment process

Ms Henderson (University Quality Manager) informed members that with the imminent implementation of the Faculty of Medicine and Health and completion of the latest cycle of organisational changes with concomitant amendments to the Delegations, the University will return to an annual review and update cycle for the Delegations. To enable changes to be

approved by Senate in the latter half of the year, members were asked to submit suggested amendments to the current delegations either directly to Ms Henderson or via policy.register@sydney.edu.au by 30 April.

Resolution AB2018/1-13

That the Academic Board note the timetable for the resumption of annual amendments to the University of Sydney (Delegations of Authority – Administrative Functions) Rule 2016 (“Administrative Delegations”) and University of Sydney (Delegations of Authority – Academic Functions) Rule 2016 (“Academic Delegations”).

4.6 Student Members’ Report

Ms Grant (President, SRC) advised that the SRC has commenced student outreach with thousands of students being spoken to during O-Week, and further activities are planned on the satellite campuses in the week ahead. The SRC welcomes the focus on student wellbeing and safety in the first Phase 5 Review, especially in light of the recent publication of the Red Zone Report which contains detailed accounts of abuse and student misconduct in the residential colleges.

Mr Jha (nominated representative of the SRC) conveyed student concern regarding significant delays in the resolution of appeals managed by the Student Affairs Unit; of the use of student misconduct and complaints processes for political purposes (including raising vexatious complaints, calling out racism and the process itself being used to threaten students); and at changes to the attendance requirements for units of study in Philosophy. The Vice-Chancellor requested further information about the misuse of misconduct and complaints processes.

Ms Johnson (nominated representative of SUPRA) informed members that there has been a significant rise in student sign-up to SUPRA during O-Week. Networking events between HDR students and academic staff are also in preparation, in consultation with the Deputy Vice-Chancellors (Education) and (Research).

Resolution AB2018/1-14

That the Academic Board note the report of the student members of the Academic Board.

Action 3/2018: *Representatives of the SRC to communicate instances to the Vice-Chancellor of where policy relating to student misconduct and complaints has led to ambiguity or use of these processes for political purposes.*

4.7 Honours and Distinctions

Members noted the honours and distinctions circulated with the agenda.

Resolution AB2018/1-15

That the Academic Board note the report of the Chair of the Academic Board on honours and distinctions and congratulate the recipients.

Action 4/2018: *Chair of Academic Board to write to recipients congratulating them on their honours and distinctions.*

★ **5 REPORT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR**

The Vice-Chancellor provided an extensive update on the year in preview, which would shortly be made available to the University community via the *Staff News*. He updated the Board on planned activities in three primary domains: excellence, engagement and simplification.

Excellence:

ERA – Members of senior leadership have been asked to focus on ERA in the first instance, to ensure that our normal submission of data is as comprehensive as possible. This will also facilitate a project intended or mid-year regarding impact statements.

Undergraduate Curriculum – The implementation of the new undergraduate curriculum is underway, and the Vice-Chancellor informed members that there has been a strong response to the curriculum, with the Bachelor of Advanced Studies and Dalyell stream degrees more popular than expected. The development of real-world projects is ongoing. In addition the DVC (Education) will be leading a project in Student

Experience to complement the work that we have been doing in the International Student Experience, and that will focus on transition to university, participation in university life, and career support.

Academic Aspirations – Improving and ensuring the availability of support for academic aspirations in education and research will also feature prominently.

Engagement

Westmead – Themes for engagement at Westmead continue to be sought, and members were invited to contact the Strategy Office to contribute to this discussion. The Vice-Chancellor advised that this year a decision will be needed as to whether the University commits to a particular ‘home’ in the Westmead area.

External Engagement – Coordination is planned across the University to understand our relationships with external partners. This will enable a clearer understanding of the extent of current relationships, better utilisation of current partners, and better communications.

Revenue Diversification – The focus here is on philanthropy and finishing the INSPIRED Campaign, diversification of research income, and diversifying our student fee income.

Simplification

Sydney Operating Model – Progress on this project will simplify operational processes to free up resources for teaching and research, with some portion of funds to be forwarded to portfolios and academic units.

The Vice-Chancellor also informed the Board of activities related to the residential colleges. Recent publication of the Red Zone Report has raised a number of inquiries. The concerns raised in the report are known to the University and actions are underway to address these issues. The Broderick Review is the most significant action taken to date, and the review process utilised encourages self-examination. This in itself can bring about culture change. It is intended to revisit the review at the end of the year regarding the implementation of its recommendations, and to rerun the survey that kicked off the review to see the extent of improvement.

The Broderick work identifies themes in college culture that need to be addressed, provides a report on individual colleges and makes general recommendations, and detailed evidence has been provided to the colleges directly and is not available to the public (including the University). As to why this material was not included in the Broderick Review, the Vice-Chancellor advised that the University did not want to ‘double victimise’ the participants, noting that even de-identified reports of the incidents may enable the identification of both victims and possible perpetrators. Sensitivity regarding the decision of the victims to disclose their stories while they are of university age is also needed, with the desire to protect participants from possible long-term effects of disclosure that may have unforeseen effects later in their lives. There is no public interest in the details of individual events to effect change, so it is more desirable to identify themes and patterns of culture and behaviour that need to be addressed than to focus on individual incidents.

The Vice-Chancellor advised that findings of the Broderick Review have been welcomed by the colleges and have sparked culture change conversations. It should be acknowledged, however, that genuine and lasting culture change will take some time, with some of the identified behaviours being multi-generational and part of an ingrained culture.

In discussion, clarification was sought as to how students can be assured that something will change in college culture this time, given the persistent nature of the issues and behaviours identified in both the Broderick Review and the Red Zone Report. The Vice-Chancellor advised that the University has never previously been engaged in conversation with the colleges regarding culture; that a commitment to change within the colleges has taken place following long engagement by the University and an undertaking that the University will work with the colleges to change culture; and that if significant change is not evident in the next year or two, “all options are on the table”. Noting that the deputy leader of the Opposition is calling for disaffiliation, the Vice-Chancellor observed that this would also affect the majority of college students who report a positive and supportive experience. Student organisations and student leaders in the colleges are also working with the University to effect change, with acknowledgment that students are both victims and potential perpetrators.

The Vice-Chancellor further informed members that the Federal Government has put a funding freeze on Commonwealth Supported Places (CSPs), which is affecting planning across the tertiary sector. The government has agreed that students commencing a vertically-integrated Masters degree in 2018 will

retain a CSP for the duration of their candidature, which is positive news for these students. Performance-based funding remains in discussion, with uncertainty about what might be included and how performance might be measured. The Federal Opposition is also calling for a review of post-secondary education.

Resolution AB2018/1-16

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

☆ 6 **QUESTION TIME**

In discussion, Professor Fekete questioned whether University management appreciates the level and scope of changes at the Unit of Study level (including but not limited to the new curriculum, a new Learning Management System and changes to academic and student support) and the need for flexibility to enable both staff and students to navigate these changes. The Vice-Chancellor advised that the Strategy Office is charting stresses to the system for all aspects of change, including changes that may impact on students, and called on staff to be “unusually gracious”. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) informed members that the Director, Educational Innovation is equally concerned with the range of changes for 2018, and will be monitoring systems performance during the year.

Professor Gal sought clarification relating to the University's response to recent media attention regarding wastage and staff misuse of University funds. The Vice-Chancellor reminded members that the Academic Board received disclosure in 2017 that incidents of serious misconduct had been reported and were being addressed in line with the University's values. There are currently 84 active cases of serious misconduct by both academic and professional staff, all of which arise from long-standing issues. Many of these incidents are being reported on as an outcome of the ongoing culture discussion, and a new system for tracking card use is also highlighting issues for investigation. Salary relativities are under review, with HR working on remuneration architecture across the institution (to include gender equity in salary and loadings), and a ‘size and shape’ discussion will also progress in 2018 to ensure that admissions to the University are more ‘academically informed’.

Resolution AB2018/1-17

That the Academic Board note the responses provided to questions raised.

7 **REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND POLICY COMMITTEE**

Resolution AB2018/1-18

That the Academic Board note the report of the meeting of the Academic Standards and Policy Committee held on 13 February 2018.

7.1 **Education Portfolio: Proposed Revisions to Course Resolution Templates**

This proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution AB2018/1-19

That the Academic Board adopt the revised undergraduate and postgraduate course resolutions templates, as presented, with immediate effect.

Action 5/2018: *Executive Officer to update the Course Management templates.*

7.2 **Implementation of Anonymous Marking**

This proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution AB2018/1-20

That the Academic Board note the report on the implementation of anonymous marking, as presented.

8 **REPORT OF THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE**

Resolution AB2018/1-21

That the Academic Board note the report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee meeting held on 6 February 2018 and the meeting starting 21 February 2018 by circulation.



8.1 Arts and Social Sciences: Bachelor of Education (School and Community Education) / Bachelor of Arts

This proposal was starred by the Chair in acknowledgement that an amended version of the proposal was circulated after the initial distribution of the agenda. The primary change is a reversal of order in the naming of the award courses, and some minor changes to unit of study structures. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) advised that she had a number of additional minor amendments, and she agreed to liaise with the Chair and the Director, Educational Strategy to incorporate these changes.

Subject to the making of these amendments, the proposal was approved.

Resolution AB2018/1-22

That the Academic Board:

- (1) *approve the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to introduce the Bachelor of Education (School and Community Education) / Bachelor of Arts combined degree;*
- (2) *recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal and approve amendments to the Resolutions of Senate related to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences; and*
- (3) *approve the introduction of course resolutions arising from this proposal, with effect from 1 January 2019.*

Action 6/2018: *Dean and Faculty General Manager, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to introduce the Bachelor of Education (School and Community Education) / Bachelor of Arts and update the course resolutions and unit of study tables in CMS.*

Action 7/2018: *Chair of Academic Board to recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal and approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate for the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.*



8.2 Science: Bachelor of Science / Bachelor of Advanced Studies (Taronga Wildlife Conservation)

This proposal was starred by the Chair to advise members that the agreement with Taronga Zoo for delivery of the program is still under negotiation, and has not been concluded as reported in the proposal. Members were informed that finalisation is expected imminently.

The proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution AB2018/1-23

That the Academic Board:

- (1) *approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Bachelor of Science / Bachelor of Advanced Studies to introduce a stream in Taronga Wildlife Conservation;*
- (2) *recommend that Senate approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate related to the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in the Faculty of Science;*
- (3) *request that the Academic Model Team create the new stream in Sydney Student and make it available for enrolment in 2019 for both first and second-year students; and*
- (4) *approve the amendment of course resolutions and unit of study tables arising from this proposal, with effect from 1 January 2019.*

Action 8/2018: *Dean and Faculty General Manager, Faculty of Science, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to introduce the Taronga Wildlife Conservation stream in the Bachelor of Science / Bachelor of Advanced Studies combined award course and update the course resolutions and unit of study tables in CMS.*

Action 9/2018: *Chair of Academic Board to recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal and approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate for the Faculty of Science.*

8.3 Engineering & IT: Bachelor of Project Management

This proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution AB2018/1-24

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies to amend the Bachelor of Project Management; and*
 - (2) approve the amendment of the course resolutions and unit of study tables arising from the proposal,*
- with effect from 1 January 2019.*

Action 10/2018: *Dean and Faculty General Manager, Faculty of Engineering & IT, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Bachelor of Project Management and update the course resolutions and unit of study tables in CMS.*

9 REPORT OF THE GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

Resolution AB2018/1-25

That the Academic Board note the report of the Graduate Studies Committee held on 13 February 2018.

9.1 Medicine: Doctor of Medical Science

This proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution AB2018/1-26

That the Academic Board rescind the course resolutions for the Doctor of Medical Science, as presented, with immediate effect.

Action 11/2018: *Dean and Faculty General Manager, Faculty of Medicine, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to delete the course resolutions for the Doctor of Medical Science and update the course resolutions in CMS.*

9.2 Science: Master of Mathematics and associated degrees

This proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution AB2018/1-27

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to change the name of the Master of Mathematics to the Master of Mathematical Sciences, and of the associated vertically integrated masters degrees (including the Bachelor of Science / Master of Mathematical Sciences);*
 - (2) recommend that Senate approve the amendment of the Resolutions of Senate for the Faculty of Science; and*
 - (3) approve the amendment of course resolutions arising from the proposal,*
- with effect from 1 January 2019.*

Action 12/2018: *Dean and Faculty General Manager, Faculty of Science, to note the Academic Board's approval of the proposal to amend the Master of Mathematics and associated degrees and update the course resolutions and unit of study tables in CMS.*

Action 13/2018: *Chair of Academic Board to recommend that Senate endorse the Academic Board's approval of the proposal and approve the amendment of the Senate Resolutions for the Faculty of Science.*

9.3 Increasing Engagement Opportunities for HDR Students

This proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution AB2018/1-28

That the Academic Board endorse the recommendations of the plan "Increasing Engagement Opportunities for HDR Students", as presented.

Action 14/2018: Director, Research Education to note the Academic Board's endorsement of this proposal.

10 REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC QUALITY COMMITTEE

Resolution AB2018/1-29

That the Academic Board note the report of the Academic Quality Committee held on 20 February 2018.

10.1 Phase 5 Academic Board / University Executive Thematic Review: Student Wellbeing and Safety

This proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution AB2018/1-29

That the Academic Board approve the terms of reference, membership and processes for the review of Student Wellbeing and Safety, as the first theme in the Phase 5 Academic Board / University Executive reviews.

10.2 Report of the Phase 4 Academic Board / University Executive Faculty Review of Sydney Law School

This report was noted as presented.

Resolution AB2018/1-30

That the Academic Board note the Academic Board/University Executive Phase Four Faculty Review Report for Sydney Law School.

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

11.1 **Science: 2019 Academic Calendar**

This proposal was approved as presented.

Resolution AB2018/1-31

That the Academic Board:

- (1) approve the proposal from the Faculty of Science to amend the Academic Calendar for the 2019 academic year and onwards for the Master of Nutrition and Dietetics course; and*
- (2) request that the Academic Model Team create, if possible, two new unit of study sessions which match the NTDT5612 placement dates.*

Action 15/2018: Dean and Faculty General Manager, Faculty of Science, to note the Academic Board's approval of the 2019 Academic Calendar, as presented.

Action 16/2018: Dean and Faculty General Manager, Faculty of Science, to request the Academic Model Team to create, if possible, two new unit of study sessions which match the NTDT5612 placement dates.

11.2 Academic Promotions

This proposal was noted as presented.

Resolution AB2018/1-32

That the Academic Board note the report on the promotion of academic staff to Levels B, C, D and E in 2017.

11.3 Any other business

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 4:00pm.

A copy of the agenda pack for this meeting is available at: sydney.edu.au/secretariat/pdfs/academic-board-committees/AB/2018/20180306-AB-Agenda-Pack.pdf