SENATE NOTICE OF MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 05/04/2006
Time: 4:30 pm
Venue: Mandurah Council Chambers, 83 Mandurah Terrace, Mandurah

AGENDA

1. MEMBERSHIP
2. APOLOGIES
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (SENATE STANDING ORDERS CLAUSE 4.2)

PART A - MAJOR ISSUES

4. ANNUAL REPORT ON AUDIT & RISK MANAGEMENT
5. REPORT ON OUTCOMES OF SENATE RETREAT

PART B - OTHER ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

6. VICE CHANCELLOR’S REPORT
7. AUQA AUDIT STATUS REPORT
8. VETERINARY TRUST NOMINATION
9. RATIFICATION OF STATUTE AMENDMENTS
10. UPDATE ON THE PEEL CAMPUS

PART C - OTHER ITEMS

11. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES
12. ACADEMIC COUNCIL
13. AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
14. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
15. RESOURCES COMMITTEE
16. OFFICIAL SEAL
17. SENATE MEETING DATES 2006
18. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

◆◆◆
Date: Wednesday 05/04/2006
Time: 4:30 pm
Venue: Mandurah Council Chambers, 83 Mandurah Terrace, Mandurah

Afternoon tea will be available in the foyer of the Council Chambers from 4pm. Would you kindly remember to wear your name badge?

After the meeting members are invited to enjoy cocktails and canapés at the Chambers.

If you will be unable to remain for drinks, would you please advise the University Secretary, Samantha Summerton, by phone as soon as possible, so we can finalise catering numbers? Her number is 9360 6333.

If any Senate member would like additional information on any agenda item, or has a motion or changes to recommendations which could be included in a supplementary agenda, please contact me as soon as possible via eMail to J.Pease@murdoch.edu.au.

The Chancellor has also requested that, if you intend to speak to a particular item (in particular any item included in Part C of the agenda), please let me know in advance. Where the item is in Part C, would you please also identify the specific item and provide brief details of the aspect(s) in respect of which you intend to speak? This will greatly facilitate the smooth running of the meeting.

Samantha Summerton
Acting University Secretary
27/03/2006

AGENDA

1. MEMBERSHIP
   1.1 A list of current Senate members is attached, together with an up to date attendance register.
   1.2 Details of current Senate committees and their members are attached and available at http://senate.murdoch.edu.au/committees/committee05.htm

2. APOLOGIES
   2.1 Mr Brian Aitken, Mrs Janice Bowra, Malcolm Macpherson, Prof. Gary Martin, Prof. Andris Stelbovics, Prof. John Yovich
   2.2 Any apologies received after circulation of the agenda will be reported to the meeting.
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Section 17A and Division 2 of Schedule 1 of the Murdoch University Act require all members of Senate who have a material personal interest in a matter being considered or about to be considered:
(i) to declare the nature and extent of the interest; and
(ii) not to be present during consideration of the matter, nor vote on it.

PART A - MAJOR ISSUES

4. ANNUAL REPORT ON AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The Chair of the Audit & Risk Management Committee will speak to attached report to the Senate.

5. OUTCOMES OF SENATE RETREAT

The Chancellor will speak to the Senate on the outcomes of the Senate Retreat held at the Broadwater Resort Como on 10, 11 March 2006.

PART B - OTHER ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

6. VICE CHANCELLOR’S REPORT

The PVC (Academic) will speak to the Vice Chancellor’s report to Senate, a copy of which is attached.

7. AUQA AUDIT STATUS REPORT

The PVC (Academic) will provide a brief update for Senate members in relation to preparations for the AUQA audit scheduled for 2006 (briefing paper attached).

8. VETERINARY TRUST NOMINATION

At the meeting of the Murdoch University Veterinary Trust Board on 07/03/2006, the board resolved the following:

Resolved To recommend to Senate that the AVA WA Division President Dr David Neck be appointed a trustee of the Murdoch University Veterinary Trust for a term of one year commencing 01/05/2006.

9. RATIFICATION OF STATUTE AMENDMENTS

On 22/02/2006 Senate approved amendments to Statute 5 – Academic Council in the terms attached (changes marked up). Notice of the proposed amendments has been displayed at the University in accordance with paragraph 25(1)(b) of the Murdoch University Act.

Note: In accordance with section 25 of the Murdoch University Act, an absolute majority of Senate must ratify the amendment.
10. UPDATE ON THE PEEL CAMPUS

The Pro Vice Chancellor (Corporate) will update Senate on the progress of the building works at the Peel campus.

PART C - OTHER ITEMS

The Chancellor will put the following as a single item for noting and for the approval/acceptance of any recommendations contained in them. Members of Senate may request that any of these items to be reserved for discussion.

11. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

11.1 Confirmation of the attached minutes of the meeting held on 22/02/2006.

11.2 Note the attached report of action on resolutions passed at the previous meeting.

12. ACADEMIC COUNCIL

The minutes of the Academic Council meeting held on 15/03/2006 are attached. Other than in relation to legislative matters, there are no recommendations to Senate.

13. AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting held on 21/02/2006 are attached. The following items contain recommendations to Senate:

ARMC/11/2006 The Chair and the Director, Office of Internal Audit and Risk Management to effect the suggested enhancements to the draft 2005 Committee report to the Senate at Annexure 1 on pages 72 to 75. The enhanced 2005 Committee report be forwarded to the Senate for their review and approval.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Environmental Committee meeting held on 09/03/2006 are attached. The following items contain recommendations to Senate:

EC/03/2006 That the Environmental report for 2006 be tabled at the March 2007 Senate forthwith to prevent an 11 month lag on the information contained within. The 2005 report will be completed as soon as is possible endeavouring to be done by the July Environment Committee meeting.

15. RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Resources Committee meeting held on 21/03/2006 are attached. The following items contain recommendations to Senate:

RC/38/2006 (i) To approve the attached schedule of tenancies requiring statutory approval; and

(ii) To authorise the University’s Acting General Counsel to amend the University’s charter to require Senate endorsement of leases in excess of 10 years duration.
RC/39/2006 To recommend that Senate approves the attached payments for the period 04/02/2006 to 14/03/2006 inclusive.

16. OFFICIAL SEAL

In accordance with resolution S/54/2004, the General Counsel & University Secretary has provided a report detailing the documents to which the official seal has been affixed since the last Senate meeting.

17. SENATE MEETING DATES 2006

17.1 The Senate’s meeting dates for 2006 and respective closing dates for agenda items are attached.

17.2 Rather than the Senate holding one meeting at Rockingham and one in Mandurah each year, the Senate and Academic Council will alternate between each location each year.

In 2006 the Senate’s April meeting will be at Mandurah and the Academic Council’s June meeting will be at Rockingham. This will be reversed in 2007.

18. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

A copy of the quarterly ‘Governance Matters’ is attached.
# AGENDA ITEM 1.1

## CURRENT MEMBERS OF SENATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emeritus Professor Bolton</td>
<td>Chancellor</td>
<td>24/11/2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof John Yovich</td>
<td>Vice Chancellor</td>
<td>Ex officio</td>
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## APPOINTED MEMBERS

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alison Gaines</td>
<td>21/07/2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malcolm Macpherson</td>
<td>10/09/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge Kate O'Brien</td>
<td>15/05/2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terry Budge</td>
<td>31/05/2007</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garry Hunt</td>
<td>26/05/2007</td>
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<td>Brian Aitken</td>
<td>27/08/2008</td>
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## CO-OPTED MEMBERS

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<tr>
<td>The Rt Hon Sir William Heseltine</td>
<td>24/07/2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard Lester</td>
<td>22/05/2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shirley McPherson</td>
<td>23/02/2009</td>
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## ELECTED ACADEMIC STAFF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof Stuart Bradley</td>
<td>09/11/2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof Nick Costa</td>
<td>25/09/2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assoc Prof Jim Macbeth</td>
<td>28/10/2007</td>
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## ELECTED GENERAL STAFF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Philip Hocking</td>
<td>21/04/2008</td>
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## ELECTED CONVOCATION

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<tr>
<td>Janice Bowra</td>
<td>02/12/2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carolyn Jakobsen</td>
<td>31/12/2006</td>
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## ELECTED STUDENTS

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malcolm Bradley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gerry Georgatos</td>
<td>31/12/2006</td>
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AGENDA ITEM 1.2

SENATE COMMITTEES 2006-2009

Audit & Risk Management Committee
Chair
Sir William Heseltine
Members
Ms Janice Bowra
Judge Kate O’Brien
Mr Jamie Ogilvie*
Ms Beverley Schubert*
Mr Brian Aitken
Gerry Georgatos (observer status only)

Chancellor’s Committee
Chair
Chancellor
Members
Pro Chancellor
Ms Alison Gaines
Sir William Heseltine
Mr Malcolm Macpherson
Mr Terry Budge
Mr Garry Hunt

Environmental Committee
Chair
Mr Garry Hunt
Members
Vice Chancellor
Dr Martin Anda*
Prof Nick Costa
Ms Carolyn Jakobsen
Professor Phil Jennings*
Assoc Prof Jim Macbeth
Mr Craig Spence*
Dr Melanie Strawbridge*
Environmental Science Student*

Governance & Nominations Committee
Chair
Chancellor
Members
Pro Chancellor
Vice Chancellor
Professor Nick Costa
Mr Terry Budge
Ms Alison Gaines
Ms Greta Vom Berg*
Gerry Georgatos
John Pease*

**Honorary Awards & Ceremonial Committee**

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Chancellor</td>
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<td>Members</td>
<td>Pro Chancellor</td>
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<td>Vice Chancellor</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mr Phillip Hocking</td>
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<td>Professor Nick Costa</td>
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<td>Professor Tom Lyons*</td>
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<td>Mr Malcolm Macpherson</td>
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<td>Professor Simone Volet*</td>
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<td>Gerry Georgatos</td>
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<td>Mr Nathan Giles*</td>
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**Legislation Committee**

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<tr>
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<td>Judge Kate O’Brien</td>
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<tr>
<td>Members</td>
<td>Vice Chancellor</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ms Janice Bowra</td>
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<td>Mr Mal Bradley</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ms Alison Gaines</td>
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<td>Mr Gabriel Moens*</td>
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<td>Mr John Pease*</td>
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**Resources Committee**

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<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Mr Terry Budge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Members</td>
<td>Vice Chancellor</td>
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<td>Mr Phillip Hocking</td>
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<td>Professor Stuart Bradley</td>
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<td>Sir William Heseltine</td>
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<td>Mr Dick Lester</td>
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<td>Mr Bob Pettz</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mr Gerry Georgatos</td>
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* Recommended as co-opted, non-member of Senate for term commencing 01/01/2006 and term expiring 31/12/2008

* Recommended as co-opted, non-member of Senate with term commencing 01/01/2006 and term expiring 31/12/2006
National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy

The Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Julie Bishop MP, recently announced details of the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) Roadmap. The aim of the Roadmap is to outline priority areas of the Australian Government’s major research infrastructure investment through the NCRIS over the next five years. This recognises the need for planning and coordination of research infrastructure investments on a national scale.

The priority investment areas identified for 2006 include among others: evolving bimolecular platforms and informatics; optical and radio astronomy; integrated marine observing systems; and the structure and evolution of the Australian continent.

The NCRIS is a $542 million initiative which forms part of the Government’s Backing Australia’s Ability – Building Our Future Through Science and Innovation package. Full details of the Roadmap and the complete list of priority areas for investment are available at: http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/research_sector/policies_issues_reviews/key_issues/ncris/

Chief Scientist

Dr Jim Peacock AC has been confirmed as Australia’s new Chief Scientist. In announcing his appointment the Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Julie Bishop MP, noted that the position required someone who could contribute to the building of a world-class innovation system, and forge effective partnerships between government, researchers and industry.

Dr Peacock is currently President of the Australian Academy of Science and is former head of CSIRO Plant Industry, one of the world’s leading plant research institutes. He is a Member of the Prime Minister’s Science, Engineering and Innovation Council.

The appointment is part-time and Dr Peacock will continue, part-time, in his role as a senior science leader in CSIRO.

Dr Peacock founded the GeneShears Biotechnology Company for CSIRO and he set up the GrainGene initiative and the HRZ Wheat Company linking research with the production of new wheat varieties for Australia. He played a key role in the establishment of Australia’s first and highly successful biotech crop – cotton. In1994 Dr Peacock was made a Companion of the Order of Australia for service to science, particularly in the field of molecular biology, and to science education.

Workplace Productivity Programme

The Minister has announced the first round of the Workplace Productivity Programme which will enable Universities to:
- Reform efficiency of universities;
- Reform human resource practices;
The Science Vice Chancellor’s Report to Senate 2

• Improve productivity and performance through strengthened management, leadership and governance;
• Improve flexible working relationships, direct relationships with employees, and productivity and performance; and
• Reform of the efficiency, productivity and performance of universities through mergers, amalgamations and course rationalisation.

Total funding for the Programme is $83 million, with $27.2 million available in 2006. A copy of the guidelines is available at: http://www.dest.gov.au/wpp.

The first round of the programme will focus on the review and reform of financial and operational arrangements. This could include; budgeting, procurement, financial and accounting systems, asset and financial restructuring to assist universities with the transition to voluntary student unionism and operational and structural issues relating to improving productivity and performance. Murdoch University will submit a range of applications for funding for specific initiatives under this programme.

Productivity Commission to Review Public Support for Science and Innovation
The Treasurer Peter Costello, and the Minister for Education, Science and Training, Julie Bishop MP, recently announced that the Productivity Commission will undertake a research study into the economic, social and environmental returns on public support for science and innovation in Australia.

Science and innovation is a stated Government priority and is acknowledged to make a significant contribution to productivity, growth and Australia’s recent and ongoing economic and social prosperity. Minister Bishop also noted that the Government has provided significant support for research, science and innovation in Australia through the Backing Australia’s Ability and Backing Australia’s Ability: Building our Future through Science and Innovation packages. Funding for science and innovation now exceeds $5 billion each year.

The study aims to provide an evaluation of science and innovation support in Australia and will complement ongoing and planned reviews of the Backing Australia’s Ability programmes. The Commission’s study will consider all key elements of the innovation system, including research and development, and especially:
• the economic impact of public support for science and innovation, including impacts on Australia’s recent productivity performance;
• impediments to the effective functioning of Australia’s innovation system; and
• the broader social and environmental impacts.

INNOVATIVE RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES AUSTRALIA

IRUA Chair
I have been appointed as Chair of the IRU Australia group from mid March 2006. As I have previously indicated, the IRU Australia has become an increasingly powerful voice within the higher education sector.

The IRU Australia group has been highly effective and will continue to influence policy and take a lead in shaping priorities within the higher education sector. All group members are comprehensive universities who place an equally strong emphasis on teaching and research performance, while remaining cognisant of their responsibility to engage with business, community and governments in the transfer of the knowledge that they generate.
A range of reviews and issues affecting the higher education sector that directly influence Murdoch’s future are currently underway. These include areas such as the Research Quality Framework discussions; State/Federal governance issues and possible funding for engagement activities.

**Australian Science Media Centre**

The Australian Science Media Centre (AusSMC) is a national, independent, not-for-profit organisation devoted to providing evidence-based science to the public through the mainstream media. I have been appointed to the AusSMC Board, the only member from the university sector. It has a high profile Board which includes Premier Mike Rann; Mike Scott (Editor-in-Chief for Metropolitan Newspapers, John Fairfax Holdings Limited); Tim Warren (Chairman, Shell Australia Limited); and Dr Tim Flannery (Director, SA Museum).

AusSMC is first and foremost an independent service for news reporters when major science news stories hit the headlines. The overall goal is public debate and awareness on scientific issues that is based on the most up-to-date information available.

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**LEARNING AND TEACHING MASTERCLASS**

Murdoch University hosted the first Master Class as part of a series sponsored by the Innovative Research Universities Australia (IRUA) group. Focussing on Academic Integrity, the program included a series of information events to encourage honesty in assessment, discourage plagiarism and collusion and promote high standards of behaviour that protect intellectual capital and the standing of universities.

The program ran from 16 to 22 March 2006 and was presented by Charmian Eckersley, an expert in the area from the University of Newcastle. Events included a Master Class involving staff and students; Divisional meetings aimed at consultation, discussion and planning around the notion of academic integrity; and a HERDSA event that provided an opportunity to discuss academic integrity with colleagues from other universities. All events were well attended by staff and students from a broad range of discipline areas.

Following on from her meetings with the Divisions, the Assessment Committee, the Guild, Student Learning and other interested parties, Charmian assisted with the development of an outline for an academic integrity management plan aimed at a holistic university-wide approach to academic integrity. Further information or a copy of the draft outline is available from the Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic), Professor Jan Thomas, or the Teaching and Learning Centre.

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**ACE CAREERS FAIR**

On 15 March 2006, Alumni, Careers and Employment (ACE) hosted its 3rd successful Careers Fair to coincide with the major graduate recruitment drives currently operating in Australia. While the majority of employers attending were based in Western Australia, those with Eastern States branches were also present.

This year, we attracted new employers who have just embarked on graduate recruitment programs - these being RAC, Pfizer and the Aztec Group. International students were also catered for, with Macquarie Outsource actively promoting their organisation to those students returning to Malaysia and Singapore as well as Australian students who wish to work overseas. Organisations such as the Public Transport Authority and Silverchain who had never availed
themselves to careers fairs were pleased to have been invited to Murdoch to promote diverse employment opportunities within their respective industries.

Careers Fairs as a mode of company promotion, are becoming more popular among students and employers alike. The informal connection created between students and employers within a Careers Fair setting encourages both parties to gain a clearer insight into what each have to offer in terms of corporate cultures/employment opportunities and Murdoch students’ orientation/presentation.

The interdisciplinary mix that Murdoch students embrace so well was reflected in the mix of employers present. Mining, Engineering, Sciences (Environmental, Conservation Biology, Biotechnology and Biomedical Science), together with Justice, IT, Commerce (Accounting, Marketing and Management) were well represented. A total of 49 organisations (Public, Private, Professional Associations and Recruiters) were present – an increase of 11% to last year and 55% from two years ago. Feedback from the employers was extraordinarily positive, with all employers stating that the facilities, support from ACE staff and Murdoch’s hospitality was exceptional.

80% of the employers including companies such as Alliance Recruitment and PricewaterhouseCoopers have agreed to conduct special on-campus presentations relating to job search skills and professional presentation for student networking with employers. These offerings prove to be invaluable to Murdoch students and are offered at no cost to ACE.

The Careers Fair was considered by employers, students and alumni as a highly effective means for encouraging student/employer connections and to demystify the employment opportunities that their respective organisations have to offer.

### AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Murdoch University has secured both Fulbright Awards made to applicants from Western Australia in 2006. Jessica Evans a graduate in Arts / Law with First Class honours (not to mention the Vice Chancellor’s Commendation for Academic Excellence) has been awarded a Fulbright Postgraduate Award and Professor Peter Newman, Director of the Institute for Sustainability and Technology Policy, has been awarded one of the three Senior Scholar Awards in 2006.

- Jonathan O’Brien, a student in the School of Information Technology, won the first prize at the games competition, *nullabor 2006*, held at ECU with his demonstration game called "Drive it like you stole it". More details and a copy of his game can be downloaded from: [http://www.notrees.org/index.html](http://www.notrees.org/index.html).

- Murdoch graduates and Alumni won seven of 18 major awards presented at a ceremony held on 11th March 2006 for the 19th Western Australian Screen Awards. Successes included the Best Tertiary Student Production. Details of the Awards are as follows:
  
  **Best Tertiary Student Production**
  
  *Story of Hong*
  
  Warren Tan

  **Award for Best Documentary Production**
  
  *A Dollar for the Good Ones*
  
  Produced and Directed by Joshua Lee

  **Award for Best Non-Traditional Narrative Production**
  
  *De Ja Vu*
  
  Produced and Directed by Peta Walter
Award for Best Production Design
Anthea Power
Inhaleshale

Award for Best Sound
Murray Christian
The Bond

Award for Best Cinematography
Mark Parish (Murdoch Alumni)
Phaid

Award for Best Animation/Visual Effects
Chris Frey (Murdoch Alumni)
Phaid

STAFF CHANGES

Staff Awards
Murdoch University is committed to maintaining its outstanding reputation in both learning and teaching and research. This requires dedicated and talented staff who are committed to engaging with their students, helping them learn and developing their full potential, as well as actively contributing to Murdoch’s excellent teaching and research reputation.

We recognise such staff through the Vice Chancellor’s Excellence in Teaching Awards and Excellence in Supervision Awards. It is with great pleasure that I announce the winners of these awards for 2005.

Teaching Awards
Receiving an Excellence in Teaching Award at Murdoch University is an outstanding achievement given our reputation for high quality teaching. The Selection Committee found the calibre of teaching staff very impressive, as indicated in the short description of each recipient’s teaching strengths provided below. Videos of the presentations by the six finalists are available in the Academic Staff Development section in the Library.

Johanne Klap, Division of Arts - Early Career Teaching Award, is a contract teaching staff member in the School of Education. Her teaching is focussed on the teaching practice of student teachers. Her philosophy of teaching is based on creating experiences in which students can learn, and helping student teachers understand how people, including themselves, learn. Johanne demonstrates a natural ability to combine teaching theory and practice in very enthusiastic and well structured sessions, which provide an excellent model to student teachers studying at Murdoch.

Susan Hansen, Division of Health Sciences - Early Career Teaching Award, is a Lecturer in the School of Psychology, focusing on qualitative research methods and community psychology. She also coordinates the Discourse in Psychology Network and is co-founder of the Discourse Analysis Group, both of which provide staff and students at Murdoch and elsewhere with the facilities to discuss issues of qualitative and discursive research methods. Susan provides up to date and topical resources to students for research projects and as case studies for learning about research methods. In addition, she has developed innovative and integrated assessment techniques to assist students develop the array of skills required in qualitative research.

Dr Mike van Keulen, Division of Science and Engineering - Innovative Teaching
Mike van Keulen is a graduate of Murdoch and a long standing member of the Murdoch academic staff, specialising in plant biology and marine biology. He teaches on both the Murdoch and Peel campuses, and contributes to science education through chapters in textbooks and instructor resource manuals. He also maintains a strong record in marine research and is a recognised expert in seagrasses. Mike was an early adopter of online technology to provide high quality teaching and research resources to students. His innovative work in providing laboratory resources integrates strongly into his teaching and field research activities. The seamless integration of the various aspects of Mike’s teaching is a model from which many staff have and can learn.

Research Supervision Awards
The maintenance of a productive research culture requires a pool of talented postgraduate research students that, in turn, necessitates quality research supervision. Two awards are made each year - one to staff in the Divisions of Health Sciences and Science & Engineering and one to staff in the Division of Arts and the Teaching & Learning Centre.

Associate Professor Lenore Layman’s students in the Division of Arts benefit from the energy and enthusiasm she puts into postgraduate supervision. She demands high standards from her students and introduces them to networks that are valuable for their postgraduate research, and for their future careers. She strives to develop her student’s independence as researchers, providing constructive critiques of their progress. She has supervised 18 postgraduate degrees with 12 students still current, and is widely admired for the excellence of the historians she has trained.

Associate Professor Mike Calver from the Division of Science & Engineering has thought deeply about the importance of communication and how to structure a postgraduate project so the student remains enthusiastic and not overwhelmed by the work. He also nicely judges the use of humour to refocus students at times when they might otherwise despair about their writing ability or the failure of an experiment. His generosity in helping students from other supervisors master the essentials of statistical analysis is widely appreciated.

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**NOTABLE EVENTS**

- Two Murdoch alumni were the keynote speakers at a function to celebrate International Women’s Day on 8 March 2006. Susan Hunt, Chief Executive Officer of the Perth Zoo, and Alison Gaines, Global Practice Manager (Board Consulting) for Gerard Daniels Australia, shared their personal and professional experiences and where they have been associated with Murdoch University.

- The Chancellor and I represented Murdoch University at the inauguration of Dr Michael Chaney AO as the 14th Chancellor of The University of Western Australia at a ceremony held on 19th March 2006. His Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC, Governor of Western Australia, conducted the inauguration and the event was attended by a broad cross-section of the business community as well as the higher education sector.

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**INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS**

- On behalf of Murdoch University, Professor Gary Martin signed a student exchange agreement with Hochschule Furtwangen. The exchange partner for Furtwangen, Professor Dr Ruoss, signed on their behalf to an agreement that commenced from 1 January 2006 and
is for a three year term, with an option for automatic renewal for another three years. The exchange will provide up to two semester long places or one year long place for each year.

- A student exchange agreement has been signed with Abo Akademi University of Finland by Professor Gary Martin and Mr Johan Nikula, Director Academic Affairs and Jorma Mattinen, Rector from Abo Akademi University. The agreement commenced from 2 Jan 2006 and is for the term of 3 years, with automatic renewal for another 3 years, and provides for up to two semester long places or one year long place for each year.

- A 5-year agreement, commencing from 6th February 2006, was signed by Professor Bjorn Wittenmark, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Lund University and Professor Gary Martin for a student exchange with Lund University in Sweden to provide for two full year or four one-semester students for each year of operation.

FOR NOTING

Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements
Murdoch has received advice from the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) that the Minister has determined that Murdoch is compliant with the Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements (HEWRRs). As Murdoch had already received confirmation that it is compliant with the National Governance Protocols, we will now receive the increase in funding under the Commonwealth grants Scheme (5% in 2006 and 7.5% in later years).

Vale Edna Blackshaw
Edna Blackshaw passed away on 11th February 2006, aged 101. She she was Murdoch’s oldest graduate to date and her photograph hangs in the ground floor of Murdoch Library. Murdoch played an important part in her later life, and provided much intellectual stimulation and many memories for her.

Those who were a student alongside Edna comment about the insight she gave to a range of her social and political activities including women’s’ rights, Indigenous issues and mission life which were so much part of her experiences. She has documented some of her experiences at Murdoch in an oral history in the Battye Library.
2006 AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES QUALITY AGENCY (AUQA) AUDIT UPDATE

1. PANEL MEETING

The AUQA Panel met in Melbourne on 6 March 2006 to discuss the Portfolio, what additional material they would like, what overseas partners they will visit and who they wish to interview.

1.1 Requests for Additional Information

The Panel requested a great deal of additional information in relation to the University’s offshore operations. This was received by AUQA on Friday 17 March 2006.

At the time of preparing this report, the University is still awaiting advice as to what additional information is being sought in relation to the onshore visit.

2. OVERSEAS VISITS

The Panel Chair and AUQA Audit Director will visit the following of Murdoch’s overseas partners:

- NET Corporation, Kurashiki, Japan
- Singapore Manufacturers’ Federation (SMa), Singapore
- KDU College, Petaling Jaya

The Panel will review all courses offered at each of these locations. Professor Gary Martin will accompany the AUQA delegation to facilitate access and logistical arrangements. He will not be party to discussion between partners and AUQA.

3. PREPARATORY VISIT TO MURDOCH UNIVERSITY

The Panel Chair and Audit Director will visit Murdoch on Tuesday 4 April 2006, meet with the Vice Chancellor; Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic) and Quality Audit Co-ordinator; and Director, Educational Partnerships to discuss arrangements for both the offshore and onshore Panel visits, additional information requirements, and view the proposed venue at Murdoch.

4. AUQA AUDIT

The Panel will visit the University from 8 – 11 May 2006. AUQA will indicate those people they wish to interview. At this stage it appears that Senators will be included in the program for the first day, i.e. 8 May 2006.
5. **AUQA REPORTING PROCESS**

At the conclusion of the Panel Visit, the Panel will provide a preliminary overview of its findings at a meeting with the VC and PVC (A). A confidential draft report can be expected around three months after the Panel Visit and the University will be able to comment on errors of fact or emphasis. The Panel then accepts or rejects these comments and submits its final report to the AUQA Board, which approves it for public release. The entire process can take up to six months.

Professor Jan Thomas  
Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic)  
22 March 2006
AGENDA ITEM 8

EXTRACT FROM VETERINARY TRUST MEETING 07/03/2006
RECOMMENDATIONS REQUIRING A SENATE RESOLUTION

At the meeting of the Murdoch University Veterinary Trust Board on 07/03/2006, the board resolved the following:

Resolved: To recommend to Senate that the AVA WA Division President Dr David Neck be appointed a trustee of the Murdoch University Veterinary Trust for a term of one year commencing 01/05/2006.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Academic Council recommendation:</th>
<th>25/01/2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Council resolution number:</td>
<td>AC/3/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Legislation Committee endorsement:</td>
<td>13/02/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation Committee resolution number:</td>
<td>LC/01/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed amendment:</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(all changes to be shown in mark-up)</td>
<td>(b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The members of the Academic Council shall be:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The persons holding the following offices, ex officio—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- Vice-Chancellor;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-- Executive Deans of Divisions;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- President of the Guild of Students;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- Pro Vice-Chancellor (Academic);</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>-- <strong>Pro Vice-Chancellor (Regional Development)</strong>;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- <strong>Pro Vice Chancellor (Corporate)</strong>;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research);</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- Pro Vice-Chancellor (Strategy);</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-- Education Vice-President of the Guild of Students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Date of meeting: Wednesday, 22/02/2006

Present: Em. Prof. Geoffrey Bolton (Chair)
Judge Kate O’Brien
Mr Dick Lester
Mr Garry Hunt
Mr Brian Aitken
Mr Terry Budge
Sir William Heseltine

Mr Philip Hocking
Prof. Stuart Bradley
Assoc. Prof. Jim Macbeth
Mr Mal Bradley
Mr Gerry Georgatos
Ms Janice Bowra

Secretary: John Pease

Observers
Mr Ian Callahan (PVC – Corporate Services)
Prof. Gary Martin (PVC – Strategy)
Prof. Andris Stelbovics (PVC – Research)
Prof. Jan Thomas (PVC – Academic)
Prof. Michael Borowitzka (President, Academic Council)
Prof. Jim Reynolds
Prof. Yianni Attikiouzel
Prof. Arnold Depickere
Assoc. Prof. Michael Campion

Meeting commenced at: 4:30pm

1. MEMBERSHIP & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
The Chancellor informed Senate of the passing of Mrs Edna Blackshaw, the oldest Murdoch graduate. A letter of condolence has been sent to Mrs Blackshaw’s family.

Senate thanked Allison Hymus and John Pease for their contributions over the past 7 years and 2 years, respectively and wished them both well in the future.

Resolved:  S/01/2006
(i) To send Allison Hymus formal communications of thanks from Senate for her work over the past 7 years and well wishes for the birth of her first child in March.
(ii) To express to John Pease Senate’s warm appreciation of his work and assistance as General Counsel & University Secretary over the past 2 years.

2. APOLOGIES
Prof. John Yovich, Prof. Nick Costa, Mr Malcolm Macpherson, Ms Alison Gaines, Ms Carolyn Jakobsen

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (MURDOCH UNIVERSITY ACT s17A)
Nil.

4. DRAFT 2005 ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
The PVC (Corporate) briefed Senate on the changes to the preparation of the University’s annual report and financial statements. The financial statements have moved from compliance with the Australian Accounting Standards to the
International Accounting Standards. The main changes to the accounts have been in the timing of disclosure and reporting of R&D revenue. All branches of the University, such as the Vet Trust, are now part of the consolidated group.

Senate resolved to approve the draft 2005 annual report and financial statements (see item 13, Resources Committee).

5. **ANNUAL REPORT ON THE UNIVERSITY ENVIRONMENT**

The Chair of the Environmental Committee spoke to the 2005 Environmental Report. Key issues included:

- 2005 has been a watershed year with several changes of personnel in the membership of the Committee and in its support staff. It is expected that a period of stability and consolidation will now ensue;
- Thanks to the excellent assistance of Prof. Phil Jennings, the committee has set its priorities and has the challenge in 2006 to revisit these priorities;
- The two key issues to be addressed by the committee are the masterplan for the University’s sites and the large tract of land at Beeliar and linking it into the teaching environment.
- The Senate requested that the Environmental Committee brief Senate on its status midway through 2006.

6. **SENATE PRIORITIES**

The PVC (Corporate) briefed Senate on the modest increase in risk to the University’s investment portfolio. Senate discussed the requirement of further and more regular information on the Senate Priorities and their relationship with the University’s strategic plan. This topic has been referred to the agenda for the Senate retreat.

7. **RATIFICATION OF STATUTE AMENDMENTS**

An absolute majority of Senate ratified amendments to *Statute 17 – Guild of Students* in the terms *attached* (changes marked up).

**Secretary’s note:** In accordance with sub-section 25(1) of the *Murdoch University Act*, an absolute majority of Senate members voted in favour of the resolution.

8. **AUQA AUDIT UPDATE**

The PVC (Academic) provided an update on Murdoch’s preparations for the upcoming AUQA audits. The portfolio has been submitted to Melbourne and the University awaits the details of the audit in May. The PVC (Academic) thanked the involved Senate members for their assistance in the November audit.

9. **MINUTES**

Senate confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 13/12/2005. It also noted a report of action taken to implement previous resolutions of Senate.
10. ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Senate noted the minutes of the meeting of the Academic Council held on 21/01/2006. Other than with regard to legislative amendments, there were no recommendations requiring a Senate resolution.

Secretary’s note: All legislative amendments are dealt with under the Legislation Committee item 12.

11. GOVERNANCE & NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Senate noted the minutes of the meeting of the Governance & Nominations Committee held on 14/02/2006 and resolved in accordance with the recommendation of the committee as follows:

Resolved: (i) To co-opt Ms Shirley McPherson as a member of Senate
S/02/2006

Secretary’s note: In accordance with sub-section 25(1) of the Murdoch University Act, an absolute majority of Senate members voted in favour of the resolution:

(ii) To adopt the process for dealing with statutory amendments necessitated by the Higher Education Support Amendment (Abolition of Compulsory Up-front Student Union Fees) Act 2005 (C’th).

(iii) To change the Senate’s standing orders (attached changes marked up)

12. LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

Senate noted the minutes of the Legislation Committee (on a decision by circulation) dated 13/02/2006 and resolved in accordance with the recommendation of the committee as follows:

Resolved: To amend the following regulations and statutes:
S/03/2006

(i) Diploma Regulation 1(1)(b) (changes marked up attached)
(ii) Diploma Regulation 1(1)(c) (changes marked up attached)
(iii) Bachelor Degree Regulation 1 (1) (changes marked up attached)
(iv) Master by Coursework Degree Regulation 1(1) (changes marked up attached)
(v) Master by Coursework Degree Regulation 2(1) (changes marked up attached)
(vi) Student Appeals Committee Regulation 4 (changes marked up attached)
(vii) Division Regulation 15(1) (changes marked up attached)
(viii) Statute 5-Academic Council (changes marked up attached)

Secretary’s note: In accordance with sub-section 25(1) of the Murdoch University Act, an absolute majority of Senate members voted in favour of the resolution.
13. RESOURCES COMMITTEE (PAPERS & DISCUSSION COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE)

Senate noted the minutes of the meeting of the Resources Committee held on 13/02/2006 and resolved in accordance with the recommendation of the committee as follows:

**Resolved:** S/04/2006  
To approve the University’s financial statements for the year ended 31/12/2005 and authorisation of the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer to sign the certification of financial statements (see agenda item 4).

**Resolved:** S/05/2006  
To approve the Veterinary Teaching Hospital writing-off the attached debts for the period to 31/12/2005.

(i) To approve, subject to (ii), the request for Academic Council to report in accordance with clause 5 of Statute no. 21 (Affiliated Institutions) in relation to Murdoch Institute of Technology and Murdoch College.

(ii) Any grant of affiliated status to either or both of Murdoch Institute of Technology or Murdoch College will be subject to the following conditions:

(a) The grant of affiliated status will expire on 31/01/2011, or on expiry or earlier termination of the existing agreements between the University and each applicant, whichever occurs first.

(b) To the extent that either applicant in any way publishes or markets the fact that it holds affiliated status, it must comply with clauses 16.1, 16.2 and 16.3 of the feeder college agreement dated 03/08/2005 between the University and Catona Pty Ltd in terms of use of the University’s name, trade marks or other trade indicia.

To approve the attached payments for the period 29/10/2005 to 01/12/2005 inclusive.

**Resolved:** S/06/2006  
To approve the University’s annual report for the year ended 31/12/2005 and authorisation of the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor to sign the statement of compliance (see agenda item 4).

To approve the key performance indicators for the year ended 31/12/2005 and authorisation of the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor to sign the certificate of performance indicators for inclusion in the 2005 annual report (see agenda item 4).

**Resolved:** S/07/2006  
To approve the University to use a fixed price negotiated building contract with a nominated builder for the construction of a new tavern, subject to probity and conflict of interest measures being implemented and authorisation of the Vice Chancellor to execute a fixed price building contract.
14. OFFICIAL SEAL

Senate noted the attached report provided in accordance with resolution S/54/2004.

Meeting concluded at: 5:38pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting of the Senate held on 22/02/2006.

EMERITUS PROFESSOR GEOFFREY BOLTON - CHAIR

Dated: April, 2006
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed amendment:</th>
<th>3. Powers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(all changes to be shown in mark-up)</td>
<td>Subject to the Act, and the Statutes and By-laws of the University, the Guild shall have the power:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(a) to purchase, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any real or personal property and to sell, let, mortgage, or otherwise dispose of it;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) to borrow, raise or secure payment of any money for any of the objects of the Guild from time to time and in particular by mortgaging or charging the property of the Guild or any part thereof;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(c) to engage and dismiss employees;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(d) to expend and invest moneys;</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>(e) to operate bank accounts;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(f) to transact such financial business as may be necessary for the purpose of carrying out the objects of the Guild;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(g) to affiliate with any university association or any other association of students;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(h) to co-ordinate the activities of Student Societies;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(i) to provide for representation of the Guild and its members in cultural, sporting and social activities;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(j) to make provision for the control and management of any buildings from time to time occupied by the Guild and for regulating the conduct of any person using such buildings or parts thereof;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(k) to hold licences under any legislation, including the Liquor Act 1970, for the time being in force;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
to impose fines or penalties, including suspension or withdrawal of privileges, upon members and on Student Societies for breach of the provisions of this Statute or of a Guild Regulation or a Guild Rule, but the limits of the fines or other penalties which may be imposed and all necessary procedures shall be prescribed by Guild Regulation;

(m) to charge subscription fees to members in the manner prescribed by Guild Regulation; [Proposed amendment deferred]

(m) to admit to associateship persons other than members in the manner prescribed by Guild Regulation;

(n) generally, to act in all other matters authorised by this Statute or which are necessary or convenient for giving effect to this Statute.

4. Membership

(1) Subject to the provisions of the Act and the following provisions of this section, all students shall be eligible to be members of the Guild. Guild Regulations may make provision for associate membership for non-students.

(2) Every student is automatically a member of the Guild unless he or she elects, at the time of enrolment, not to be a member, or subsequently resigns.

(3) The University must not act in a way that may dissuade or discourage a student, or person seeking enrolment as a student, from being or becoming a member of the Guild.

(4) A person shall cease to be a member of the Guild when he or she ceases to be a student or resigns as a member, or does not fulfil the terms and conditions of membership prescribed in Guild Regulation [Proposed amendment deferred].

(5) Except as provided in this Statute the terms and conditions of membership of the Guild shall be prescribed by Guild Regulation.

(6) Students who are not members of the Guild are not eligible to vote in Guild elections or to hold an elective office of the Guild.

7. Guild Secretariat

(1) The Guild shall be administered by a Secretariat comprising:

(a) the President of the Guild;

(b) the Education Vice President of the Guild;

(bc) eight not more than ten members (in this section referred to as the 'Guild Members of the Secretariat') as prescribed in the Guild Regulations; and
(ed) not more than ten representative members as described in subsection (4) of this section (in this section referred to as the 'Representative Members') no person shall hold office as the President of the Guild, Education Vice President of the Guild or as a member of the Secretariat unless that person is a member.

(2) The President of the Guild and the Guild Members of the Secretariat shall be elected annually and, subject to this section, in the manner prescribed by Guild Regulation. The Guild may, by Guild Regulation, provide for the filling of any casual vacancy on the Secretariat provided that if any ballot is conducted to fill such a vacancy it shall be held in accordance with the provisions of subsection (3) of this section.

(3) Any member may vote at any election for the office of the President of the Guild, the Education Vice President of the Guild or the office of a Guild Member of the Secretariat. Elections shall be conducted in accordance with Guild Election Regulations.

(4) The Guild may by Guild Regulation provide for the nomination of not more than ten persons as representative members who shall be elected officers or representatives of subsidiary councils of the Guild or of Student Societies.

(5) The Guild may by Guild Regulation increase the maximum number of members of the Secretariat except that the number of Guild Members of the Secretariat (excluding the President of the Guild and the Education Vice President of the Guild) shall be at least equal to the number of representative members.

(6) The Secretariat shall appoint one of their number to be the Honorary Secretary of the Guild and another of their number to be the Honorary Treasurer of the Guild.

(7) The Secretariat shall cause accurate minutes to be made of all General Meetings and forums of the Guild and meetings of the Secretariat, and the result of every election and Referendum. All duly confirmed minutes shall be deemed correct until the contrary is proved.

(8) The procedures for meetings of the Secretariat shall be prescribed by Guild Regulation.

(9) The powers and obligations of the President of the Guild, the Education Vice President of the Guild, Guild Members of the Secretariat and the Representative Members shall be prescribed by Guild Regulation.

(10) Subject to this Statute and regulations made hereunder the Secretariat shall have the entire control and management of the affairs and concerns of the Guild and shall act in all matters concerning the Guild in such a manner as appears to it to be best calculated to promote interests of its members.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Resolution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(11)</td>
<td>Resolutions passed at any General Meeting other than any resolutions to make, alter or repeal a regulation or regulations shall be in the form of a direction to the Secretariat. The Secretariat shall act in accordance with any direction of a General Meeting except that where, at its next meeting, the Secretariat resolves by Absolute Majority that a particular direction is not best calculated to promote the interests of the members, the direction involved shall be referred to a further General Meeting or at the discretion of the Secretariat, to a Referendum, to be held not later than 21 teaching days after such meeting of the Secretariat, and if the direction is approved at such General Meeting or Referendum then the Secretariat shall act in accordance with it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(12)</td>
<td>The Secretariat may in the manner prescribed by Guild Regulations make, alter or repeal rules governing activities associated with the Guild but only when the power to do so is specified in Guild Regulations and then only to the extent specified.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Resolved: S/02/2006

(ii) To rescind Senate resolution S/79/2003(a) and to amend paragraph 4.11.5 of the Senate’s standing orders as follows (changes marked up):

The Senate will receive an annual report of activities within the Office of Strategy (at a meeting in the June-July period its June and November meetings), which report will include details on enrolment trends for international and domestic students, as well as developments in relation to Murdoch International, the Prospective Students Admissions Centre, Residential Services and Policy & Planning.

(iii) To authorise the General Counsel & University Secretary to amend the Senate’s Statement of Governance Principles to reflect this change.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed amendment: (all changes to be shown in mark-up)</th>
<th>The following Diplomas shall be offered by the University:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1(1)(b)</td>
<td>Graduate Diplomas in: Accounting (GradDipAcc), Applicable Mathematics (GradDipAppMath), Applied Economics (GradDipAppEcon), Applied Language Education (LOTE) (GradDipAppLangEd), Applied Statistics (GradDipAppStats), Arts (GradDipA), Asian Language Education (GradDipAsianLangEd), Asian Studies (GradDipAsianSt), Business Information Technology (GradDipBusIT), Computer Studies (GradDipCompSt), Counselling (GradDipCounsel), Creative Arts (GradDipCA), Development Studies (GradDipDevSt), Education (GradDipEd), Education Studies (GradDipEdSt), Environmental Science (GradDipEnvSc), Extractive Metallurgy (GradDipExtMet), Health, Safety and the Environment (GradDipHSE), Human Resource Management (GradDipHRM), Information Systems (GradDipInfoSys), Journalism (GradDipJour), Knowledge Management (GradDipKnowlMngt), Mathematics and Statistics (GradDipMathsStats), Media Management (GradDipMedMan), Media Production (GradDipMedProd), Mineral Science (GradDipMinSc), Nanoscience (GradDipNano), Pharmacy Entry (GradDipPharmEnt), Physics (GradDipPhys), Road Safety Studies (GradDipRSS), Science (GradDipSc), Social Science (GradDipSocSc), Theological Studies (GradDipTheolSt), Tourism (GradDipTour), Women’s Studies (GradDipWomSt);</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**DIPLOMA REGULATIONS**

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

| Date of Academic Council recommendation: | 02/11/2005 and 25/01/2006 |
| Date of Legislation Committee endorsement: | 13/02/2006 |
| Legislation Committee resolution number: | LC/01/2006 |

**Proposed amendment:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(all changes to be shown in mark-up)</th>
<th>1(1)(c) The following Diplomas shall be offered by the University:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Postgraduate Diplomas in: Advanced Mental Health Nursing &lt;specialisation&gt;, Applied Molecular Biology Techniques (PgDipAppMolBiol), Arts (PgDipA), Asian Studies (PgDipAsianSt), Asian Sustainable Development (PgDipAsSDev), Business Administration (PgDipBusAdmin), City Policy (PgDipCityPol), Community Development (PgDipCommDev), Consulting Psychology (PgDipConsultPsych), Development Studies (PgDipDevSt), Ecological Public Health (PgDipEcolPubHlth), Ecologically Sustainable Development (PgDipESDev), Education (PgDipEd), Educational Computing (PgDipEdComp), Electronic Business (PgDipEB), Energy and the Environment (PgDipEnEnv), Energy Studies (PgDipEnSt), Environmental Forensics (PgDipEnvFor), Environmental Impact Assessment (PgDipEnvImpAss), Environmental Management (PgDipEnvMan), Extractive Metallurgy (PgDipExtMet), Games Technology (PgDipGamesTech), Human Resource Management (PgDipHRM), Information Technology (PgDipIT), Internetworking and Security (PgDipIntwkSecur), Knowledge Management (PgDipKnowlMngt), Mental Health Nursing (PgDipMHNurs), Mental Health Nursing (Registration) (PgDipMHNurs[Reg]), Neuromusculoskeletal Rehabilitation (PgDipNeurRehab), Physics (PgDipPhys), Policy Studies (PgDipPolSt), Professional Experience (fieldname) (PgDipProfExp[fieldname]), Psychology (PgDipPsych), Public History (PgDipPubHist), Public Management (PgDipPubMan), Public Policy (PgDipPubPol), School Management (PgDipSchMangt), Science (PgDipSc), Science and Technology Policy (PgDipScTechPol), Social Research and Evaluation (PgDipSocResEval), Social Science (PgDipSocSc), Sports Chiropractic (PgDipSportsChiro) Telecommunications Management (PgDipTelMan).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**BACHELOR DEGREE REGULATIONS**

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Academic Council recommendation:</th>
<th>25/01/2006</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Council resolution number:</td>
<td>AC/23/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Legislation Committee endorsement:</td>
<td>13/02/2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation Committee resolution number:</td>
<td>LC/01/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed amendment:</td>
<td>1(1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(all changes to be shown in mark-up)

The following bachelor degrees shall be offered by the University:
- Bachelor of Animal Science (BAnimSc), Bachelor of Applied Economics (BAppEcon), Bachelor of Applied Information Technology (BAppIT), Bachelor of Applied Science (BAppSc), Bachelor of Arts (BA), Bachelor of Asian Area Studies (BAAS), Bachelor of Asian Studies (BAsianSt), Bachelor of Asian Studies (Specialist) (BAsianSt), Bachelor of Biotechnology (BBiot), Bachelor of Business Administration (BBusAdmin), Bachelor of Business Informatics (BbusInformatics), Bachelor of Business Information Technology Studies (BBusITSt), Bachelor of Chiropractic (BChiro), Bachelor of Commerce (BCom), Bachelor of Community Studies (BCommSt), Bachelor of Computer Studies (BCompSt), Bachelor of Development Studies (BDevSt), Bachelor of Divinity (BD), Bachelor of Economics (B Econ), Bachelor of Education (BEd), Bachelor of Education Studies (BEdSt), Bachelor of Engineering (BE), Bachelor of Engineering Science (BEngSc), Bachelor of Environmental Impact Assessment (BEIA), Bachelor of Environmental Science (B EnvSc), Bachelor of Extractive Metallurgy (BExtMet), Bachelor of Finance and Economics (BFinEc), Bachelor of Health Sciences (BHSc), Bachelor of Information Systems Studies (BInfoSysSt), Bachelor of International Business (BIB), Bachelor of Journalism (BJour), Bachelor of Laws (LLB), Bachelor of Legal Studies (BLS), Bachelor of Literature and Communication (BLittComm), Bachelor of Marketing and the Media (BMM), Bachelor of Mass Communication (BMassComm), Bachelor of Media (BMedia), Bachelor of Media Production (BMedPr), Bachelor of MultiMedia (BMMedia), Bachelor of Nursing (BNurs), Bachelor of Nursing Conversion (BNursConv), Bachelor of Policy Studies (BPolSt), Bachelor of Professional Studies (Education) (BProfSt), Bachelor of Psychology (BPsych), Bachelor of Science (BSc), Bachelor of Technology (BTech), Bachelor of Theology (BTheol), Bachelor of Tourism (BTour), Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVMS), Bachelor of Women's Studies (BWomSt).
# Master by Coursework Degree Regulations

## Proposed Amendment

| Date of Academic Council recommendation: | 25/01/2006 |
| Academic Council resolution number: | AC/22/2006 |
| Date of Legislation Committee endorsement: | 13/02/2006 |
| Legislation Committee resolution number: | LC/01/2006 |

### Proposed amendment:

- **1(1)** The following Degrees of Master by Coursework shall be offered by the University: joint Master of Applied Psychology/Doctor of Philosophy (MAppPsych/PhD), Master of Applied Psychology (MAppPsych), Master of Arts (MA), Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Education (MEd), Master of Education Studies (MEdSt), Master of Electronic Business (MEB), Master of Electronic Commerce (MEC), Master of Engineering (ME), Master of Human Resource Management (MHRM), Master of International Business (MIB), Master of Laws (LLM), Master of Medical Engineering (MME), Master of Ministry (MMin), Master of Natural Systems Engineering (MNatSysEng), Master of Pharmacy (MPharm), Master of Professional Accounting (MPA), Master of Science (MSc), Master of Science in Environmental Architecture (MScEnvArch), Master of Theology (MTheol), Master of Transport Studies (MTransSt), Master of Veterinary Studies (MVS), MBA in Aviation Management (MBAAvnMan), MBA in Health Services Management (Nursing Leadership) (MBAHSM) and MBA in International Business (MBAIntBus).

### 2(1)

To qualify for the ordinary degree of master a student shall complete the points shown below:

- **Master of Applied Psychology**
  - 48 points
- **Master of Arts**
  - in Asian Studies: 48 points
  - in Asian Sustainable Development: 48 points
  - in City Policy: 48 points
  - in Community Development: 48 points
  - in Development Studies: 48 points
  - in Ecologically Sustainable Development: 48 points
  - in Globalisation and Governance: 24 points
  - in Literature and Communication: 24 points
  - in Local Governance: 48 points
  - in Public Administration: 48 points
  - in Public History: 48 points
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>in Public Policy</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in Science and Technology Policy</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in Social Research and Evaluation</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in Theological Studies</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Business Administration</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Education</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Education Studies</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Electronic Business</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Electronic Commerce</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Engineering</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Human Resource Management</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of International Business</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Laws</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Medical Engineering</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Ministry</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Natural Systems Engineering</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Pharmacy</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Professional Accounting</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science in Environmental Architecture</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science in Extractive Metallurgy</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science in Information Technology</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science in Renewable Energy</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science in Telecommunications Management</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Theology</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Transport Studies</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Veterinary Studies</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Veterinary Studies in Conservation Medicine</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Veterinary Studies in Veterinary Surveillance</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MBA in Aviation Management</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MBA in Health Services Management</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MBA International Business</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed amendment: (all changes to be shown in mark-up)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Academic Council recommendation:</td>
<td>02/11/2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Council resolution number:</td>
<td>AC/170/2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Legislation Committee endorsement:</td>
<td>13/02/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation Committee resolution number:</td>
<td>LC/01/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed amendment: (all changes to be shown in mark-up)</td>
<td>15(1) Each School shall have a School Committee, except where the Divisional Board determines that two or more Schools shall have one common School Committee. The Committee has the following responsibilities:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(a) to advise the School Head on resource and strategic academic issues;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) to recommend to the Divisional Board on the structure of the courses and majors in the School; any alterations to their requirements; and on the units to be offered by them, including their title, points value and enrolment options;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(c) to determine the content, prerequisites and teaching and assessment methods of individual units offered by the School;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(d) to ensure the assessment methods of individual units comply with the Assessment policy;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(d) to ensure that the assessment methods of individual units comply with the University’s Assessment Policy in force from time to time;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(de) to exercise academic oversight of the units offered by staff of that School;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(ef) to approve the School Role Statement for the School Review, and to determine the School’s response to the report of that review;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(fg) such other responsibilities as may be assigned by Regulations, Rules, Academic Council, the Divisional Board or by the Executive Dean;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## STATUTE 5 – ACADEMIC COUNCIL

### PROPOSED AMENDMENT

| Date of Academic Council recommendation: | 25/01/2006 |
| Academic Council resolution number: | AC/3/2006 |
| Date of Legislation Committee endorsement: | 13/02/2006 |
| Legislation Committee resolution number: | LC/01/2006 |

**Proposed amendment:**

(all changes to be shown in mark-up)

2. The members of the Academic Council shall be:

   (b) The persons holding the following offices, ex officio—

   - Vice-Chancellor;
   - Executive Deans of Divisions;
   - President of the Guild of Students;
   - Pro Vice-Chancellor (Academic);
   - Pro Vice-Chancellor (Regional Development);
   - Pro Vice-Chancellor (Corporate);
   - Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research);
   - Pro Vice-Chancellor (Strategy);
   - Education Vice-President of the Guild of Students
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Action officer</th>
<th>Action required</th>
<th>Completed on</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S/01/2006</td>
<td>Chancellor</td>
<td>Letter of appreciation sent to Allison Hymus.</td>
<td>13/03/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chancellor</td>
<td>Letter of appreciation sent to John Pease.</td>
<td>13/03/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/02/2006</td>
<td>Acting University Secretary</td>
<td>Letter sent to Governor requesting Ms McPherson’s co-option.</td>
<td>13/03/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr Donna Dabala, Acting General Counsel, Acting University Secretary and Legislation Committee</td>
<td>To adopt the process for dealing with statutory amendments necessitated by the Higher Education Support Amendment (Abolition of Compulsory Up-front Student Union Fees) Act 2005 (C’th).</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/03/2006</td>
<td>Mrs Gerry Dunne</td>
<td>Notify Academic Council of Senate’s approval of legislative amendments</td>
<td>23/02/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/04/2006</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>None required</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/05/2006</td>
<td>Mrs Julie Keene</td>
<td>Payments and debts administered</td>
<td>23/02/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/06/2006</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>None required</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/07/2006</td>
<td>Mr Craig Spence</td>
<td>Contract negotiations initiated</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. MINUTES

Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2005 subject to the following amendment:

Item 28. Transfer and New Enrolments for Existing Students between Courses, Majors, Minors, Campuses and Funding Source Policy was withdrawn prior to the commencement if the meeting. It was incorrectly reported in the minutes as having been passed. Resolution AC/168/2005 should now read “deliberately blank”.

Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2006 subject to the following amendment:

Professor Andris Stelbovics is to be listed as an apology.

2. VICE CHANCELLOR’S STRATEGIC PLANNING AND ACADEMIC QUALITY REPORT (SPAQ)

The President of Academic Council spoke to the Vice Chancellor’s report.

Members were alerted to the information contained in Table 1 Graduate Employment Outcomes and advised that little had changed since the Vice Chancellor’s report last year. The Course Evaluation Questionnaire results displayed in Table 3 and the Student Survey of Units – Overall Unit Satisfaction displayed in Table 4 indicate that Murdoch is performing well, with good outcomes based on national and state levels.
Undergraduate admissions data displayed in Tables 6 & 7 indicate that growth is at best flat, or slightly declining. This is due, in large part, to the flat demographics in the school leaver population which will continue for some years. Whilst Murdoch’s TISC 1st preferences indicate stability, it is important that this does not decline. The President congratulated the Prospective Students and Admissions Centre and Professor Gary Martin for managing so well within a difficult environment.

Research funding allocations in Table 5 showed the total number of dollars per active research staff. The PVC(R) advised that the Federal Government has instituted a process to replace the existing system with the Research Quality Framework (RQF) by 2008 which will have implications for all Universities.

In response to a question on the results of a research audit the Pro Vice Chancellor (Research) advised it was a University wide audit initiated by his office. Results had shown Murdoch compared favourably with other Universities who took part in the exercise.

Resolved: to note the Vice Chancellor’s Strategic Planning and Academic Quality (SPAQ) Report as attached to the agenda.

3. WHOLE OF UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE SURVEY 2005

The Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic) spoke to the Whole of University Experience (WUE) survey report. She commenced by acknowledging the efforts of Christina Ballantyne who had prepared a very professional and informative report which provided Murdoch with more sophisticated information on which to base decisions.

The PVC(A) highlighted the following points:

- WUE was initiated in 2003, the 2005 version had separate questions requesting more detail from postgraduate coursework students, which indicated this cohort was not well serviced.
- 5,204 responses were received providing information on what Murdoch students think about Murdoch and what they want.
- Full time students are averaging 15 hours of paid employment per week placing pressure on students.
- Overall satisfaction for undergraduates of the University has increased, however, attention needs to be paid to the quality of computer facilities and access to these for students.
- Generally postgraduate students were seeking alternative modes of delivery, eg online, external etc. This correlates to information from the Postgraduate Experience Working Party.

The PVC(A) provided members with some observations from the Postgraduate Experience Working Party that had been initiated by her and chaired by Grant Robertson. The final report from the working party was presented to the PVC(A) and the Senior Executive Group in November 2005.

- Long term trend data from all students from 1975 to 2004 revealed that 43% (6,539) of students that enrolled (13,191) discontinued their studies
- Of those discontinuing 8% either transferred course or took an alternative exit, 28.5% withdrew and 56% simply allowed their enrolment to lapse, so effectively drifted away.
- Most students who discontinued did so within the first 6 months of study.
- With few exceptions Program Chairs advise that teaching double coded units with undergraduate classes is one of the most frequent cause for complaints from postgraduate coursework students.
Anecdotal evidence suggested that courses/units might be run in non-standard (non undergraduate) modes including short course, week intensive courses and weekend courses etc. The PVC(A) recommended Academic Council consider these suggestions and that Murdoch encourage the development of alternative delivery modes, investigate locations, timings and the markets for postgraduate coursework students.

The PVC(A) put forward the following concept for consideration by Council:

- Competent undergraduate students could enrol in intensive modular graduate offerings during the course of their three year bachelor degree;
- This would incorporate the summer term and require a winter term,
- This may result in 12 week semesters;
- This could mean that some students would graduate with a bachelor degree and a graduate certificate;
- It would be available to bachelor students from other universities;
- It would be dependent on excellent design of a modular curriculum; and
- It may allow for large units to be repeated to allow fast tracking or to decrease infrastructure pressure.

The PVC(A) told members that as Murdoch is operating in an increasingly competitive environment the undergraduate and postgraduate awards must have an edge to those of our competitors. She suggests that whilst Murdoch is doing well the University needs to strive to do better and provide a range of products that are high quality and distinct whilst taking into account:

- Workload issues for staff; and
- A variety of teaching strategies and the learning outcomes for the different cohorts of students, eg online, intensive etc.

The PVC(A) asked Council to consider a return to a more liberal general 1st year. The PVC(A) suggested Council consider a variety of teaching strategies and learning outcomes for all cohorts, not just undergraduates, and strive for an even higher level of excellence.

The President thanked Professor Thomas for the excellent and detailed survey with high response rates that provides data to enable Murdoch to better understand its students.

**Resolved:** to note the Whole of University Experience Survey 2005 as attached AC/29/2006 to the agenda.

4. **SETTING OF KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION BY COUNCIL**

The President advised the meeting that some key issues would be identified for discussion and debate at the next meeting. Members were given the opportunity to consider discussion from the previous 2 items when finalising key issues. At the next meeting the Vice Chancellor will provide further information including trends and government direction.

The President advised that the key issues should come from the Vice Chancellor’s SPAQ report, the WUE report and the Vice Chancellor’s address.
He reiterated that the University is operating in a changing environment and that the pace of that change has increased.

Key points raised by the President included:

- Competition for Federal Government funds is increasing.
- The introduction of the RQF will further impact on how funds are distributed.
- Funding for undergraduate places is now based on student numbers in the specific fields of education. The University must meet both student number targets as well as individual targets in each of the funding bands. Failure to do this results in funding being ‘clawed-back’ by the Commonwealth.
- Continued lack of indexation of Commonwealth funding causing funding to fall short of inflation.
- Increased competition for students, particularly with private providers entering the market teaching popular, low cost, high profit courses.

Academic Council has an important role in achieving the balance between continuing as an excellent University, sustaining the business and considering how Murdoch should respond to changes. The challenge for Murdoch and Academic Council is to be creative, innovative and provide clear direction in a proactive manner. With the strategic plan currently being revised Academic Council has the opportunity to engage in this process.

Commenting on a query raised by a student member the President confirmed the importance of the Rockingham campus acknowledging that Murdoch has a social responsibility to the community.

Members were reminded of the financial hardship for students who were suffering from increasing living costs such as rising petrol prices. The advice from the PVC(A) that students are working an average of 15 hours per week should force the University to consider greater accessibility and more block teaching to assist students to meet their work and study commitments. The President advised that the Classroom Management Group was investigating block teaching and a range of choices to provide flexibility.

A member suggested that it is apparent students have little knowledge of how Austudy works and told the meeting that Curtin University has an Austudy office on campus. Members were asked to consider the point value of Murdoch units as Austudy regarded 9 points as a full time load. In some disciplines Murdoch students are faced with doing 2 units at 4 points in one semester giving them 8 points and not meeting the Austudy full time load criteria. A member suggested the full time load definition had implications for both international and domestic students.

Mr Darren Munday was asked to address the meeting on how information on Austudy and other matters is currently being disseminated by the Office of Central Student Administration. Mr Munday advised that flyers are distributed on a weekly basis advising students of timely information, for example, to withdraw by week 4 to avoid penalty.

A member suggested that Murdoch must give students an employment edge and welcomed the appointment of Mr John LeCras and his focus on establishing a brand to enable Murdoch to build a stronger public image. A member suggested units be made available to assist students into self employment, rather than presuming students will work for large corporations.
In answer to a question about the rigidity of the academic planning process the PVC(A) advised that she had recently sent a letter to Executive Deans advising that APC would consider applications outside of the traditional planning phases. However, there will still be a requirement to report to DEST and TISC by certain dates.

The President summarised possible priorities for discussion by Academic Council in 2006 as:

- Academic excellence in a changing environment – staff, courses, outcomes.
- How to measure excellence?  Benchmarking? Is quality different from excellence?
- How to achieve an edge in a competitive and changing environment?

Members were asked to provide further suggestions to the President by Friday, 31 March 2006. It was agreed to let the draft motion lie on the table.

5.  **2007 ACADEMIC PLANNING PHASE II**

**NEW MAJORS/COURSES, INCLUDING ANY ASSOCIATED NEW UNITS AND/OR AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING UNITS AND DISCONTINUATION OF EXISTING COURSES/MAJORS/MINORS**

The Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic), in her role as Chair of the Academic Policy Committee (APC) introduced APC’s report on Phase II of the 2007 academic planning round. She advised that except where noted all proposals were compliant with policy and academically robust. Members were reminded that new course applications had to submit a business plan for approval by the Senior Executive Group before gaining final approval.

A member raised concern that decision making was more commercial than collegiate with less consultation with Heads of School and Program Chairs. The President advised that according to University policy a key element in the process was the Divisional Board approval role. The President acknowledged that there is tension between the business aspect and the academic aspect. The PVC(A) responded that APC only see new course recommendations that have a Divisional Board resolution. The PVC(A) added that APC often returned proposals requesting more information.

5.1  **NEW COURSES**

**Resolved:**

AC/30/2006

(i) to approve the introduction in 2007 of the following courses with the structures as attached to the agenda and located within the Division of Science and Engineering:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Engineering in Environmental Engineering</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Forensics in Forensic Biology and Toxicology</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(ii) to approve the availability of Honours within the Bachelor of Engineering in Environmental Engineering:
(iii) to approve prescribing more than 12 Part I points in the Bachelor of Engineering in Environmental Engineering

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Part I points prescribed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Engineering in Environmental Engineering</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(iv) to approve an exemption from the requirement that there must be at least 36 points specified at Part II for a named degree for Bachelor of Forensics in Forensic Biology and Toxicology;

(v) to approve the introduction from 1 July 2006 of the 12 point Graduate Certificate in Australian Migration Law and Practice with the structure as attached to the agenda and located within the Division of Arts;

(vi) to approve the introduction from August 2006 on a trimester basis the 24 point Graduate Diploma in Pharmaceutical Health Sciences with the structure as attached to the agenda and located within the Division of Health Sciences;

(vii) to RECOMMEND to Senate to amend the following regulations as indicated below [additions in bold]:

- Certificate Regulation 1.(c)
  Insert: Graduate Certificate in Australian Migration Law and Practice (GradCertAusMigLaw)

- Degree Regulation 1.(1)
  Insert: Bachelor of Forensics in Forensic Biology and Toxicology (BForensics)

- Diploma Regulation 1. (1) (b)
  Insert: Graduate Diploma in Pharmaceutical Health Sciences (GradDipPharmHSc)

5.2 NEW MINORS

Resolved: AC/31/2006 to approve the introduction in 2007 of the following minors, with the structures as attached to the agenda and located within the Division of Arts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acting and Screen</td>
<td>18 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative and Popular Media</td>
<td>18 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screen and Sound</td>
<td>18 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriptwriting</td>
<td>18 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.3 COURSE TITLE AMENDMENTS

Resolved: AC/32/2006 (i) to amend the title of the Bachelor of Science in Conservation Biology to the Bachelor of Science in Conservation and Wildlife Biology; and

(ii) to amend the title of the Bachelor of Science in Energy Studies to the Bachelor of Science in Sustainable Energy Management.

5.4 DISCONTINUATION OF EXISTING COURSES

Resolved: AC/33/2006 Academic Council is requested to approve the discontinuation of the following courses with effect from 2007, as located in the Division of Science and Engineering:

- Bachelor of Science in Forensic Biology and Toxicology
- Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Molecular Biology Techniques
- Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Molecular Biology Techniques

6. VICE CHANCELLOR’S REPORT

The Pro Vice Chancellor (Research) spoke to the Vice Chancellor’s written report highlighting the following points:

- The involvement of Professor Brian De Garis in negotiations for funding of the Europe Centre;
- The National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) priorities were identified. The two priorities of most interest being the evolving bimolecular platforms & informatics and the evolution of the Australian continent;
- Dr Jim Peacock was congratulated on his appointment as Australia’s new Chief Scientist; and
- Members were advised of the appointment of John LeCras as Director, Corporate Services with specific focus on brand management.

The Pro Vice Chancellor (Research) on behalf of the Vice Chancellor gave a special vote of thanks to Professor Kateryna Longley who has recently retired from Murdoch. Her long association and outstanding contribution to Murdoch University saw her in many roles, particularly as teacher, administrator, Pro Vice Chancellor (Research) and most recently Pro Vice Chancellor (Regional Development). Professor Longley will continue her association with Murdoch as an Emeritus Professor and will contribute to research as well as remaining Chair of several vital Committees. These comments were met with acclamation.

At this point the Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic) moved the following formal motion that was enthusiastically passed with acclamation:

Resolved: AC/34/2006 to thank Professor Kateryna Longley for her diverse and valuable contribution to the growth of Murdoch University and wish her well in the future.
The Pro Vice Chancellor (Research) listed those members of staff who had received teaching awards and research supervision awards. The President moved the following formal motion that was passed unanimously.

Resolved: to congratulate the following teachers for receiving the Vice Chancellor’s Excellence in Teaching Awards:

Ms Johanne Klap
Ms Susan Hansen
Dr Mike van Keulen

and the following supervisors for receiving the Vice Chancellor’s Excellence in Research Supervision Awards:

Associate Professor Lenore Layman
Associate Professor Mike Calver.

7. RESCISSION OF AWARDS

The School of Engineering had previously recommended the students listed below for the award of Bachelor of Engineering. Two of these awards were conferred by Council on 2 November 2005 with the others conferred on 25 January 2006. The School has now advised that these students are eligible for the award of merit honours. Therefore, the original award must be rescinded.

Resolved: to rescind the awards of:

AC/36/2006

(i) Bachelor of Engineering (Conferred 2 November 2005):

30054453 Denis Frederick PHILLIPS
30076649 Stephen TORDOFF

(ii) Bachelor of Engineering (Conferred 25 January 2006):

30182839 Paul Alexander COULL
30149716 Bryn DURRANS
30054373 Brenton John JACKSON
30170154 Pei Xiong KEE
30044512 Cheryl Leanne LOONE
30199783 Antony Graham MCDONALD
22019392 Miika Topias RAUTAVIRTA
30247497 James Raymond STANFORD

(iii) Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Commerce (Conferred 25 January 2006)

30056026 Stephanie Jane DANES

8. AWARD OF DEGREES, DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES

On the recommendation of the Divisional Boards and the Research and Development Board, Council

Resolved: to approve the award of degrees, diplomas and certificates on the attached list.

AC/37/2006
9. DEVELOPMENTAL TRANSCRIPTS – FURTHER 2006 APPLICATIONS

The President approved the late submission of proposals from the Physics Clinic, Murdoch University Postgraduate Students Association (MUPSA) Executive Committee and Murdoch University Psychology Association.

Resolved: to approve the following Volunteer Programs as attached to the agenda for inclusion in 2006 Developmental Transcripts:

- Division of Health Sciences
- Murdoch University Psychology Association
- Division of Science & Engineering
- **Physics Clinic
- President of Academic Council
- **Murdoch University Postgraduate Students Association (MUPSA) Executive Committee
- **New Program

10. ACADEMIC STAFF PROMOTIONS

Attached to the agenda was a list of academic staff granted promotion with effect from January 2006. This included a gender breakdown.

Those promoted include two members of Academic Council - Assoc Prof Michael Borowitzka (to Professor) and Ms Marian Kemp (to Senior Lecturer C).

Resolved: to note the Academic Staff Promotions Report as attached to the agenda.

11. MEMBERSHIP PROFESSORIAL PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE

The membership of the Professorial Promotions Committee includes 2 members of academic staff (Associate Professor or above) appointed by Academic Council. The term of office of one of those members, Associate Professor Jenny Davis, has expired.

Resolved: to appoint Associate Professor Parisa Arabzadeh-Bahri to the Professorial Promotions Committee for a term of 3 years with the term of office expiring on the last day of February 2009.

12. MEMBERSHIP - PROCESS OBSERVERS – LECTURERS PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE & PROFESSORIAL PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE

Following a recent review of the Promotions Committee membership was changed to replace the representative from the National Tertiary Education Union with a process observer appointed by Academic Council.

In accordance with Clause 1.8.1 of the Promotion to Lecturer policy the membership of the Lecturer Promotions Committee must consist of a process observer appointed by Academic Council who may attend meetings but shall not have voting powers.

In accordance with Clause 4.8.1 of the Promotion to Professor policy the membership of the Professorial Promotions Committee must consist of a process observer appointed by Academic Council who may attend meetings but shall not have voting powers.
Resolved: (i) to appoint Dr Steven Ward to the Lecturer Promotions Committee as a process observer commencing from 1 March 2006 with the term of office expiring on 28 February 2009; and

(ii) to appoint Associate Professor Laurence Hartley to the Professorial Promotions Committee as a process observer commencing from 1 March 2006 with the term of office expiring on 28 February 2009.

13. MEMBERSHIP STUDENT APPEALS COMMITTEE

Following the resignation of Dr Shane Raidal from the University his position as a panel member on the Student Appeals Committee representing the Division of Health Sciences has become vacant. The Executive Dean nominated Mr Christopher Lee to fill the casual vacancy.

Resolved: to approve the appointment of Mr Christopher Lee from the Division of Health Sciences to the Student Appeals Committee with his term of office expiring at the commencement of second semester 2008 (replacing Dr Shane Raidal).

14. MEMBERSHIP FLEXIBLE LEARNING IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE II (FLIC II)

At its 15 June 2005 meeting Academic Council approved (AC/98/2005) the membership structure for FLIC II. As the library plays an important role in the provision of e-resources the President proposed that the Director of Library Services be included in the membership structure.

Resolved: to amend the membership structure of the FLIC II Committee as indicated below (additions in bold):

Representative from (President’s Nomination)
Division of Academic Affairs
Division of Science & Engineering
Divisional Executive Officer
Teaching & Learning Centre
Division of Arts
Division of Health Sciences
Director of Central Student Administration
Director of Library Services
Guild Education Vice President (or nominee)

The Committee may co-opt other persons as they see fit.

15. STRATEGIC PLANNING AND ACADEMIC QUALITY (SPAQ) REPORTING TO ACADEMIC COUNCIL [FORMERLY SPPI REPORTS]

The President advised the 14 September 2005 meeting of Academic Council that the reporting requirements for the Vice Chancellor, Pro Vice Chairs (Academic) & (Research) and the Executive Deans would be clarified and updated. Attached to the agenda for the 2 November 2005 meeting were recommendations prepared by the President.
Following members concerns raised at the 2 November 2005 meeting the President subsequently revised the reporting requirements. Members will note that the Pro Vice Chancellor (Strategy) has been included and the timetable for reporting has been adjusted.

Resolved: to adopt the proposed reporting format and schedule for Strategic Planning and Academic Quality (SPAQ) reports as attaché to the agenda.

16. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH DEGREES REGULATIONS

Members discussed the proposed changes to the Postgraduate Degree Regulations that were proposed by the Research & Development (R&D) Board in consultation with the General Counsel.

Concern was expressed that Clause 20 restricted the ability for students to work. The PVC(R) advised members that the intent was to assist students complete within 3 ½ years and to protect them from leaving too little time for their research. The clause was intended to set a check point for students to enable the R&D office to provide support or advise them to change to part time study. A member suggested the clause as it was proposed did not reflect that sentiment. A member felt that this suggested micro management of students and that students should have the authority and responsibility on their own shoulders.

The draft motion was amended.

Resolved: to change Clause 20 back to as it was prior to the proposed changes as follows:

A full time candidate may undertake up to 240 hours of employment per year during office hours, but normally no more than 8 hours in any one week. If the part time employment consists of tutoring and/or lecturing, the total includes the time required for preparation and marking. Any employment beyond these limits requires the approval of the student’s supervisor and the Manager. There is no limit on employment during annual leave, public holidays, weekends and outside office hours.

Discussion moved to Clause 25 (2) (d) when a member questioned the reasoning behind regulating that “examiners must be currently active researchers”. This was felt to be too restrictive. The PVC(R) advised this was to ensure a higher quality product, to encourage employment prospects through networking and ensure the work gets promoted. A member pointed out that if no one was currently working in a field it would preclude those recently retired or conducting lectures from examining.

A draft motion was put to the meeting to alter Clause 25(2)(d) to read “all examiners must have current expertise in the general area of the thesis”. The motion was lost.

Resolved: to RECOMMEND to Senate to amend the Postgraduate Degree Regulations as attached.
17. REVIEW OF ACADEMIC COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEES WORKING PARTY


Resolved: to adopt the following recommendations of the Review of Academic Council Standing Committees Working Party:

(i) to approve the President of Academic Council commissioning the drafting of an ‘Academic Council Statement of Governance Principles’ similar to the Senate Statement of Governance Principles, including a Charter, a Code of Conduct and Standing Orders; and

(ii) that the draft first be reviewed by the Chairs of the Standing Committees of Academic Council before being considered by Council for final approval.

18. ACADEMIC ORGANISATIONAL UNIT REVIEW PROGRESS REPORT - SCHOOL OF CHIROPRACT

At its 15 June 2005 meeting Council adopted the recommendations from the School of Chiropractic review panel. In accordance with clause 7 of the Academic Organisational Unit Reviews policy, attached to the agenda was a report on the progress of implementing the review recommendations. Members acknowledged that further monitoring of progress will be undertaken by the Academic Quality Audit Committee (AQAC).

Resolved: to note the March 2006 progress report attached to the agenda from the School of Chiropractic in response to the March 2004 review.

19. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DEST ENABLING COURSES, CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES AND AWARD TRANSITION UNITS POLICY

At its meeting on 17 February, 2006 Academic Policy Committee (APC) agreed to recommend to Academic Council to approve amendments to the DEST Enabling Courses, Continuing Education Courses and Award Transition Units policy. This policy had been flagged for review by APC’s policy review register. Following extensive consultation the policy has been updated to reflect current practice and DEST requirements.

Resolved: (i) to approve the attached revised ‘DEST Enabling Courses, Continuing Education Courses and Award Transition Units’ policy; and

(ii) to rescind the ‘DEST Enabling Courses, Continuing Education Courses and Award Transition Units’ as previously approved via resolution AC/128/2003 (ii).
20. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO UNIT OFFERINGS POLICY

At its 24 February, 2006 meeting APC resolved to recommend to Academic Council to amend the Unit Offerings policy following a review of double coded units.

Members noted the policy advises that several examples of how double coded units might meet the requirements for completely different learning experiences for higher and lower level student cohorts are to be provided (Clause 2.3 [iii]) to a future meeting for addition to this policy.

In accordance with Standing Orders for Academic Council and Subordinate Bodies Clause 30 an absolute majority of members agreed to consider this proposed recommendation as the Unit Offerings policy has been amended within the past 6 months.

Resolved: (i) to approve the attached revised ‘Unit Offerings’ policy; and AC/50/2006

(ii) to rescind the ‘Unit Offerings’ policy as approved by AC/167/2005.

21. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ACADEMIC STAFF PROMOTIONS POLICY AND PROCEDURES - PART 1 LECTURER LEVEL B

At the last meeting members approved amendments to the Academic Staff Promotions Policy and Procedures - Part 1 Lecturer Level B to reflect changes in procedures to enable a new online application process. This followed advice from the Professorial Promotions & Probationary Review Committee.

The same changes are required for the Academic Staff Promotions Policy and Procedures – Part 2 Promotion to Lecturer Level C; Part 3 Associate Professor Level D and Part 4 Professor Level E.

Resolved: to RECOMMEND to the Vice Chancellor to approve the following AC/51/2006

(i) Academic Staff Promotions Policy and Procedures – Part 2 Promotion to Lecturer Level C, as attached;

(ii) Academic Staff Promotions Policy and Procedures – Part 3 Associate Professor Level D, as attached; and

(iii) Academic Staff Promotions Policy and Procedures – Part 4 Professor Level E, as attached.
22. BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE, GAMES TECHNOLOGY, INTERNET COMPUTING, INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT, MULTIMEDIA INFORMATION SYSTEMS AT KDU COLLEGE, MALAYSIA PETALING JAYA.

Resolved: AC/52/2006 to note approval by the President of Academic Council, Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic) and Chair of the Committee on University Entrance (CUE) for the introduction in 2006 of the following courses at KDU College, Malaysia Petaling Jaya with the structures as attached to the agenda and located within the Division of Arts;

- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
- Bachelor of Science in Games Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Internet Computing
- Bachelor of Science in Information Systems Development
- Bachelor of Science in Multimedia Information Systems.

23. MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND MASTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – SMA SINGAPORE

Resolved: AC/53/2006 to note approval by the President of Academic Council, Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic) and Chair of the Committee on University Entrance (CUE) for the introduction in 2006 of the following courses at SMA in Singapore with the structures as attached to the agenda and located within the Division of Arts;

Courses:
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Human Resource Management

24. BACHELOR OF COMMERCE IN MANAGEMENT, HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING MANAGEMENT AT AUCKLAND WISE INSTITUTE IN NEW ZEALAND

A member expressed concern that, as a member of the School putting these proposals forward he was unaware of them. The President advised that they had been recommended by the Divisional Board and had gone through the rigorous offshore course process.

Resolved: AC/54/2006 to note approval by the President of Academic Council, Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic) and Chair of the Committee on University Entrance (CUE) for the introduction in trimester 2, 2006 of the Bachelor of Commerce in Management, Human Resource Management and Marketing Management at Auckland Wise Institute in New Zealand with the structures as attached to the agenda and located within the Division of Arts.
25. **BACHELOR OF COMMERCE IN HOSPITALITY & TOURISM MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING MANAGEMENT AT THE ASIA PACIFIC MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (APMI) IN SINGAPORE AND HONG KONG**

*Resolved:* to note approval by the President of Academic Council, Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic) and Chair of the Committee on University Entrance (CUE) for the introduction in trimester 2, 2006 of the Bachelor of Commerce in Hospitality and Tourism Management and Bachelor of Commerce in Marketing Management at the Asia Pacific Management Institute (APMI) in Singapore and Hong Kong with the structures as attached to the agenda and located within the Division of Arts.

26. **BACHELOR OF COMMERCE IN HOSPITALITY & TOURISM MANAGEMENT AT KDU COLLEGE, MALAYSIA, PENANG**

*Resolved:* to note approval by the President of Academic Council, Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic) and Chair of the Committee on University Entrance (CUE) for the introduction in semester 2, 2006 of the Bachelor of Commerce in Hospitality and Tourism Management at KDU College, Malaysia, Penang with the structure as attached to the agenda and located within the Division of Arts.

27. **REVISED PLANNING AMENDMENTS**

At its meeting on 17 February, 2006 APC noted academic planning amendments approved by the President of Academic Council.

Concern was raised that the decisions being noted below had impact on staffing levels and resources and they had not been discussed within Schools. A member questioned the discontinuation of some units within the revised course structure in particular units that had high enrolments. The President advised that Divisional Boards had the power to discontinue units regardless of their financial viability.

The President advised the meeting that he would discuss with Executive Deans the matter of consultation with Schools to ensure that the spirit of the set process is being followed and report back to the May meeting of Council.

*Resolved:* to note the following amendments approved by the President of Academic Council in accordance with the Academic Planning Guidelines:

(i) the amended structures of the following courses as attached and located within the Division indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Economics</td>
<td>Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Engineering</td>
<td>DSE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Engineering + Bachelor of Commerce</td>
<td>DSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Engineering + Bachelor of Science</td>
<td>DSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering Technology (BTech)</td>
<td>DSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of International Business</td>
<td>Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Asian Studies</td>
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AC/57/2006
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Division</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Public Policy</td>
<td>Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science in Environmental Architecture</td>
<td>DSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing (Bachelor of Nursing)</td>
<td>HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Certificate in Policy Studies</td>
<td>Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law (Four-Year Degree) (LLB)</td>
<td>Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law (Graduate) (LLB)</td>
<td>Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law (LLB) + Other Bachelor Degree</td>
<td>Arts</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(ii) the amended structure for the Bachelor of Commerce in Electronic Business as attached and located within the Division of Arts; and

(iii) the amended structures for the following minors as attached and located within the Division indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minors</th>
<th>Division</th>
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<tr>
<td>Asian Languages</td>
<td>Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Economics</td>
<td>Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese Business</td>
<td>Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy Economics</td>
<td>Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Policy and Management</td>
<td>Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewable Energy Technology</td>
<td>DSE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

28. SENATE

The minutes of the meeting on 22 February 2006 of Senate had not been approved therefore the recommendations generated from the Academic Council meeting of 25 January 2006 will not be reported until the next meeting of Academic Council.

Meeting concluded at: 4.10pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUTURE MEETING DATES</th>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 12 April 2006</td>
<td>Friday 31 March 2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17 May 2006</td>
<td>Friday 5 May 2006</td>
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<td>Wednesday 14 June 2006 (Rockingham)</td>
<td>Friday 2 June 2006</td>
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<td>Wednesday 19 July 2006</td>
<td>Friday 7 July 2006</td>
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<td>Wednesday 13 September 2006</td>
<td>Friday 1 September 2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1 November 2006</td>
<td>Friday 20 October 2006</td>
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</table>
Signed as a true record of the meeting of the Academic Council held on

PROFESSOR MICHAEL BOROWITZKA - CHAIR

Dated:
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
NOTES OF MEETING

**Date of meeting:** Thursday 09/03/2006

**Present:**
- Mr Ian Callahan (Chair)
- Professor John Yovich
- Dr Martin Anda
- Prof Nick Costa
- Ms Carolyn Jakobsen
- Professor Phil Jennings
- Assoc Prof Jim Macbeth
- Dr Melanie Strawbridge

**Secretary:** Samantha Summerton

**Apologies:**
- Mr Garry Hunt

**Official attendees:**
- Mr Mal Bradley

**Observers:**
- Mr Craig Spence

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1. **APOLOGIES**

Mr Garry Hunt was an apology for the meeting. Mr Ian Callahan chaired the meeting. The Committee welcomed Prof Nick Costa and Assoc Prof Jim Macbeth to their first Environmental Committee meeting.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (SENATE STANDING ORDERS CLAUSE 4.2)**

Nil.

3. **BEELIAR WETLANDS REPORT**

The Committee resolved to approve the Beeliar Wetlands Report, tabled at the 27/07/2005 meeting that was inquorate.

**Resolved:** To approve the Beeliar Wetlands report.

EC/01/2006

4. **CORPORATE SERVICES UPDATE**

The Director, Commercial Services, briefed the Committee on the following topics:

4.1 **Banksia Court**

Planted in 2 parts, an upper and lower, Banksia Court was established in 1995 to celebrate the University’s 20th anniversary. It has fallen into disrepair and plans have been drawn up to remove the dead and decaying banksias, ring fence the area and showcase the flora. New labels will identify the various species and a walk will be established, in keeping with the University’s botanical and educational heritage.

**Resolved:** For Prof Jennings and Director, Commercial Services to review Banksia Court, gather feedback from the site designer Adjunct Prof Alex George, and report back to the committee on options to improve the site.

EC/02/2006

4.2 **CCIBS / Mental Health building**

The Director, Corporate Services briefed the committee on potential locations
for the CCIBS and Mental Health facilities.

4.3 University ring road

Options for an amendment to the current ring road were presented to the Committee. The road needs to be moved for public transport reasons and to ensure effective commercial development of the University’s campus. The Committee highlighted the need for a balance between commercial development and the necessity of significant bushland and trees. Prof Jennings and the Director, Commercial Services agreed to physically examine the area in order to establish the required balance.

4.4 University landscaping

The University has employed landscape architects and species specialists to review the campus and design a landscaping plan. The Committee requested plan includes landscaping principles to ensure any additional development to the University complies with the landscaping plan.

4.5 Richard Hobbs’ research site

Prof Hobbs has acquired 4 separate sites on the University’s South Street campus to conduct research on recovery of degraded bushland sites.

4.6 Significant trees register

Landscape architects and environmental scientists have been invited to tender to the University to establish a register of significant trees and flora on the University’s campuses. The Committee has requested that the successful consultants speak with members of the University community when identifying significant flora, particularly as some of the introduced trees have become important breeding areas for indigenous fauna.

4.7 Agricultural Department site (including glasshouses and field plots)

There is currently a short term requirement for additional shadehouses and field plots. The University would like to utilise all of its existing facilities, relocate new ones to the area identified in close proximity to the Veterinary farm, Sandalinc and the State Animal Research Centre, and eventually move some of the these facilities to Medina.

4.8 Murdoch Drive road realignment

Murdoch Drive needs to be realigned in order to create greater access to the proposed Fiona Stanley Hospital. In doing so, the road will be moved closer to the Beeliar wetlands. The Committee has been asked to raise any questions or comments on this possible outcome to the Director, Commercial Services.

5. 2005 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

The committee discussed the timing of the presentation of the Environmental report to Senate and resolved the following

Resolved: To recommend to Senate that the Environmental report for 2006 be tabled at the March 2007 Senate forthwith to prevent an 11 month lag on the information contained within. The 2005 report will be completed as soon as is possible endeavouring to be done by the July Environment Committee meeting.

6. RENEWABLE ENERGY

Mr Mal Bradley spoke to his paper to the Committee. The Committee recommended that the Director, Commercial Services review the paper and report back to the
Committee at the 13/04/2006 meeting on the best methods to achieve the goals outlined in the document.

7. **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**

The Committee discussed its terms of reference requirement for a student with an interest in environmentalism to join the committee. It resolved as follows:

**Resolved:** To accept the nomination of Mr Mal Bradley and a student representative nominated by Prof Nick Costa to fill the vacant position. The Chair will decide which nomination to proceed with at the 13/04/2006 meeting and notify the successful party of his or her position on the committee.

8. **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE DATES FOR 2006**

The Environmental Committee will meet at 16:00 in room 4.1A of the Chancellery Building on the following dates:

- Thursday 13/04/2006;
- Thursday 18/05/2006;
- Thursday 22/06/2006;
- Thursday 17/08/2006;
- Thursday 05/10/2006;

Signed as a true record of the meeting of the Environmental Committee held on 09/03/2006

__________________________________________
Mr Ian Callahan
Acting Chair

Dated: April, 2006
### Senate Meeting Dates 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Future Senate Meeting Dates</th>
<th>Deadline for Agenda Items</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Wednesday, 25/10/2006</td>
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*All Senate meetings will commence at 4.30 pm.*
MISSING STUDENTS BLOW UNI BUDGETS

A DROP-OFF in undergraduate demand has pitched another two regional universities into multimillion-dollar budget black holes. Stringent belt-tightening measures, including job cuts, are almost certain to follow.

Edith Cowan and James Cook this week are the latest universities to concede they cannot fill their student quotas and will have to hand back commonwealth-funded places. ECU has abandoned its forecast of 8 per cent revenue growth while JCU has had to hand back more than 500 places it could not fill, at a cost of $5 million to $10 million.

At ECU, funding to faculties and service centres had been quarantined in an effort to counter a $12 million shortfall. Central Queensland University had to hand back 490 places at a cost of $5 million in January. The announcement last week by federal Education Minister Julie Bishop that universities could accept fee-paying students into popular disciplines before less-popular disciplines had achieved their quota of commonwealth-funded places was welcomed by metropolitan universities, but regional universities said it was unlikely to help them.

They said there would not be enough students in country areas with the money to pay for places and those with money would rather attend city universities.

ECU vice-chancellor Kerry Cox said: "This type of thing is happening to a lot of the newer universities as people default to a brand that has been around for decades." He predicted a painful future for ECU and said in a statement that its projected 8 per cent revenue growth for this year would not eventuate. "It is estimated that the university's revenue will fall short of the budget target by about $12 million in 2006," Professor Cox said. "Sensible, if in part painful, measures" were needed "to protect [ECU's] long-term operation".

JCU vice-chancellor Bernard Moulden also warned of pain. "The university needs to reshape itself ... in the expectation that demand will not recover over the next five years," he said in a statement. "Nothing will be off the agenda in our determination to [cut costs], including our management structures."

A planning group at JCU would look at merging schools, "putting the squeeze on employment" and cutting expenditure on travel.

JCU deputy vice-chancellor Harry Hyland said that while the university was handing back commonwealth-funded places from unpopular courses, it was turning applicants away from courses that had filled quickly. He said JCU would ask the federal education department for a change of profile, "so we can take more in the areas of allied health and swapping them for places in some of the other areas, such as IT and the humanities".

Australian Vice-Chancellors Committee figures show that applications for this year fell by 1 per cent from 2005, which was lower than 2004. Nationwide, between 2005 and 2006, applications from school-leavers fell by 2 per cent. Applications from people with higher education experience fell by 6 per cent.

CQU executive director of corporate services Ken Window said there were many reasons for the decline. "Record high levels of employment are an alternative to full-time study; an apprehension by prospective students to take on significant student debt; and access to other education options, including TAFE, which lead to lucrative trade and other jobs," he said.

ECU has instigated two groups for cost reduction and revenue generation. It will put a freeze on hirings and will defer some building projects.

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<th>Inside this issue:</th>
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<td>Australia</td>
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<td>India</td>
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<td>Malaysia</td>
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DEPUTIES IN NEW POWER PLAY

A new layer of management is being introduced to universities with DVCs getting greater responsibility.

A reshuffle at the top at the University of Sydney confirms a shift to US-style business managerialism at Australian universities in which a new layer of management, deputy vice-chancellors, wield unprecedented executive power. Sydney vice-chancellor Gavin Brown has appointed a layer of six deputies to handle the day-to-day running of the university. He is just one of 38 vice-chancellors now forced to focus on “visioning”, “positioning” and getting money through the door in the highly competitive market environment created by the Nelson reforms. "I'm responding to the fact that increasingly in Australia the chief executive has to be doing a lot of political lobbying, external connections, fundraising and so on," he said. From next month Sydney will have deputy vice-chancellors in six portfolios: provost, chief financial officer, international, infrastructure, research and community. The latter two positions are yet to be filled.

Professor Brown said in a letter to staff the university required "a quantum leap in performance". "Nobody should feel threatened and everybody should feel stimulated," he wrote. But it appears three pro-vice-chancellors formerly in charge of the university's academic colleges have effectively lost power.

Victoria University vice-chancellor Elizabeth Harman said the move confirmed a shift, even among the sandstone universities, to a flat structure of specialist senior management in which deputies were responsible for broad functions right across the "business" rather than confined to separate academic disciplines.

Once simply the vice-chancellor's assistant, deputy vice-chancellors over the past 15 years have assumed formidable authority, often overseeing billion dollar budgets. About 150 positions in Australian universities are designated deputy and pro-vice-chancellors or their equivalents, up from 99 in 1996. Less than a third of them are women.

They are variously tagged heads, executive directors, vice-presidents and provosts, most with a specialist portfolio attached. PVCs, the next rung below DVCs, jokingly call themselves either plastic gods or protectors-of-the-vice-chancellor. "As the complexities of universities have increased it's been necessary to divide up the overall functional responsibilities," education consultant Gregor Ramsey said. The Australian Vice-Chancellors Committee's list of DVCs and PVCs reveals an expanding range of portfolios. The core ones, and often the most powerful, are DVC research and DVC academic or teaching and learning. But in the past decade international has also become a standard portfolio. The number of DVCs quality have increased, as have equity, technology and development. A number of registrars are also calling themselves PVCs or DVCs administration. And as universities strive for stronger external links a DVC community has emerged. Some universities have a senior DVC who has automatic responsibility for the university when the VC is away and is more likely to rise to chief executive level.

The deputy vice-chancellor, usually on a salary package worth $200,000-$350,000, was once considered a vice-chancellor on training wheels. But their prospects for elevation to the top job are diminishing, not just because the field is so crowded, but because their skills are becoming too specialised.

Universities are increasingly recruiting leaders from business, government or even lower in the university ranks. "So the poor old DVCs have heavy competition to go to the next step", Professor Harman said. (Glyn Davis, now at Melbourne University, went to Griffith from a senior public service post. Richard Larkins went from dean of medicine at Melbourne to VC at Monash. Helen Garnett at Charles Darwin was head of the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation.)

Rob Southey, partner with executive recruiters Cardner King, said there was huge diversity in the roles of deputies across the sector, and the job was not an assured path to chief executive. "I think some of the
DVC jobs are narrow so I think we might increasingly find people planning their careers to encompass more than one DVC role ... to avoid becoming type cast and to broaden their credentials,” he said. "Some people would assert that being dean is actually a better grounding for being VC than being a DVC or PVC. While there are a lot of splendid DVCs there are also some who you feel will finish their careers as DVCs."

Senior deputy vice-chancellor at the University of Queensland Paul Greenfield, often touted as a future vice-chancellor, is one of a handful of deputies in the system without a designated portfolio. He said he split his time evenly between external and internal roles. And unlike at some institutions, the DVCs at UQ have a level of budgetary control and the authority to make decisions on behalf of the vice-chancellor.

Professor Greenfield said the DVC was often the bearer of bad news, particularly when it came to university restructures. They also influenced senior promotions. "The hardest thing about the job is that you get to tell all the people who apply for professor why they did not get promoted," he said. One of the best things was "you can avoid going to AVCC meetings".

Brown said as more demands were placed on universities they had to consider their roles as businesses. That required more professionalism from DVCs than in the past. "One of the big challenges is to respond to this while at the same time not converting the university into a managerialist sort of organisation,” he said. "That's why the demands on the job are really heavy. You need to have people who balance the traditional academic objectives and the professional delivery aspects.”

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**GRADUATES LACKING JOB SKILLS**

**UNIVERSITIES and TAFE colleges are turning out graduates who are not “job-ready” and have skills better suited to academic pursuits, warn leading Australian business groups.**

The Business Council of Australia accuses universities of stifling the "culture of entrepreneurship", producing graduates without adequate problem-solving skills.

The group, which represents the nation's 100 biggest companies, says this failure is choking creativity and limiting Australia's competitiveness in the global market.

In a major report backed by companies across many industries, the BCA will urge academics to put greater emphasis on communication skills and to ensure that students are given a solid grounding in the basic skills required in the workplace.

The BCA report, due for release today, comes as federal Education Minister Julie Bishop considers proposals to introduce a "job-ready" rating into Year 12 certificates.

"Employers are concerned about the lack of skills regarding creativity, initiative, oral business communication and problem-solving among graduates," the report says. "Research still shows a significant lack of entrepreneurial skills among Australians. There is increasing recognition of the importance of delivering 'employability skills' associated with communication, teamwork and problem-solving for innovative business."

"Courses and programs needed to be practice-based, relevant and appropriate for business innovation needs -- rather than suiting particular academic interests and pursuits."

The report also says that red tape, infrastructure gaps and Australia's tax system all work against innovation.

Companies warned that the tax system requires reform to encourage business innovation and the personal taxation system was a "major constraint" in attracting talented workers from overseas.

The BCA argues for a broader definition of innovation that includes business strategy and training. "Many companies also raised various concerns about the ability of the education and training system to deliver the skills that were essential for business innovation success," the report warns.

"Many companies noted that the education and
training systems were not providing graduates with the technical skills appropriate to industry innovation needs. For example, a number of companies noted that university engineering graduates were not skilled in simulation techniques that were being increasingly used throughout business."

The claims prompted an angry response last night from one of the nation’s most respected university chiefs, Melbourne University vice-chancellor Glyn Davis, who urged business to “produce the evidence” that graduate quality was in decline.

The chairman of the Group of 8 “sandstone universities”, Professor Davis said the opinions of the BCA did not constitute evidence.

“The fact is that 95 per cent of graduates are snapped up within three months of leaving university,” he said. “I don’t know if there’s much graduate-bashing around but I do know we track performance. I do know our graduates get jobs and they are highly skilled. One of the big issues for Australia is the big number of graduates who head overseas and have no trouble getting jobs in the UK, China and India.”

In a separate report also due for release today by the BCA, Changing Paradigms, one of Australia’s biggest car manufacturers, Holden, says engineering graduates are a particular concern. “Holden Innovation considers that universities have fallen behind in the ability to meet industry needs,” the report says.

Australia’s biggest independent oil and gas exploration company, Woodside, also notes that the education system is “not turning out enough skilled people”. Insurance Australia Group also raises concerns about the shortage of workers in the panel-beating and motor vehicle repair trades.

Opposition industry spokesman Stephen Smith said the report underlined the federal Government’s failure to tackle the skills crisis. “At a time when the Australian economy is benefiting from an unprecedented minerals and petroleum resources boom, the Howard-Costello Government is doing nothing for Australia’s innovative future,” he said.


$2M FUNDS CUT AS UNI AXES UNION

A VICTORIAN university has dumped its student union and withdrawn almost $2 million in funding after political infighting left thousands of students without services at the start of the academic year.

Swinburne University yesterday cancelled funding to the Student Union, which had been paid to provide services and amenities, after weeks of turmoil left a handful of staff servicing 40,000 students across six campuses.

“The university’s confidence in the SSU to deliver student services such as clubs, weekly social activities and student advocacy has been undermined,” Swinburne vice-chancellor Ian Young said yesterday.

The crisis in the Student Union became public last week after its former executive officer Balamra Krishnan - an employee of more than 20 years - launched action in the Industrial Relations Commission over his sacking in a row over the union’s reorganisation.

Mr Krishnan took the union to the IRC for unjustified dismissal. The Weekend Australian understands police were called to the campus before Mr Krishnan left the university last week of his own accord.

According to an email written by a union staff member, and obtained by The Weekend Australian, staff were angry at Mr Krishnan’s dismissal. “The police were called in by Vicky Kasidis (Student Union president) to escort him off the premises. We, the staff, were appalled,” as never in the history of the Swinburne Student Union have the police ever been called, and especially not to remove a member of staff who has dedicated over 26 years to this union,” the email says.

While many universities are still negotiating the number of jobs that will be lost as a result of the Howard Government’s legislation on voluntary student unionism, the Swinburne student body has been in tatters since it cut more than half of its 35 positions. A new student association, set up by the university in the Under the VSU legislation, which comes into force on July 1, universities are banned from charging a fee for any non-academic service. The Government has provided $80million to institutions over three years to help cover the shortfall in fees of about $160 million.

Professor Young said the situation at Swinburne was not VSU-related but was part of student politics. “It is an internal Student Union matter, it is not connected to VSU legislation,” Professor Young said. “Swinburne is totally committed to ensuring student services are provided, and is monitoring the situation to ensure students are not affected.”

lead-up to the introduction of voluntary student unionism, will take over the union’s duties.

However, Ms Kasidis denied student services had suffered
because of the staff cuts and said the union would still be operating next week. "Because we're delivering what we said we would, I can only take it ... this is a political move to basically destroy the organisation," she said.

"We're certainly not going to take this lying down, and we're going to do everything in our power to make sure the university continues to work with us in terms of our funding. They've made an agreement with us, and we expect they will fulfil that agreement."

McNamara, Lisa '52m funds cut as uni axes union'

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MATHS MORALE PLUMMETS

UNIVERSITIES are second-guessing the effect of the proposed research quality framework to run down departments they consider will not be money-spinners, especially mathematics, the discipline’s national society has told the HES.

Yet already employers said they could not get the graduates with the quantitative and analytical skills they needed, Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute executive officer Ian Thomas said. "The CSIRO can't get the statisticians and mathematicians it needs, BHP Billiton can't get the graduates it needs, the Australian Bureau of Statistics can't get the people it needs," Ms Thomas said.

Universities were being short-sighted about maths and its sister discipline, statistics. "[They] are starting to second-guess what the RQF will be like and saying, 'If maths is not a strength, well, we won't bother too much about filling positions. We'll build up somewhere where we think we might get a few more bikkies out of the RQF,'" Ms Thomas said. "Nobody knows how the RQF is going to operate. Some universities are being very short-sighted about that because they're all dependent on having good statistical advice to do most of their research successfully."

AMSI said maths and statistics were being mishandled at many universities, particularly at Central Queensland, New England, Canberra and Charles Darwin, where Ian Roberts is the last research mathematician.

AMSI director Philip Broadbridge said "cash-driven" universities had a "counter basic sciences and arts mentality". "They are looking only at their own cash supply and they seem to think that if you get rid of basic sciences and humanities, and bring in extra professional degrees, then there's a surer supply of cash from full-fee-paying students," Professor Broadbridge said. "They fail to recognise a lot of their ARC grants go to mathematicians."

UCQ mathematician Russel Stonier said senior mathematicians had been replaced with more junior staff in recent years. After a restructure, mathematicians had been spread around a number of faculties. "I was never asked which faculty I would like to go to," he said.

The number of mathematicians at the University of Canberra had fallen from about 12 three years ago to 5.6 now, lecturer Mary Hewett said. "We've had redundancies kind of enforced. We're very much depleted," Ms Hewett said.

"It's been really difficult to be positive. The morale ... you can imagine."

An internal review had recommended that the remaining mathematicians stay together as a service teaching unit with a discipline head. "One outcome of the review was to increase the profile. It did wake people up to mathematicians and statisticians here and what we can do," Ms Hewett said.

The university's bachelor of science degree contained no maths and only introductory statistics, Ms Hewett said.

The university's pro vice-chancellor of business, law and information science Deborah Ralston said the review had "supported the work of the maths and stats group". "They've started to talk to the divisions they are servicing and student numbers are picking up."

A University of New England proposal to cut its 6.5-position maths department down to four full-timers, reported in the HES on March 1, will go to the NSW Industrial Relations Commission on Friday.

Ms Thomas said the problem with maths nationwide went back to the 1980s, when a federal government "relative funding model" considered maths cheap to teach.

"The model predated maths departments having to run extensive computer facilities and to offer much more differentiated courses to cater for the variety of students coming in," Ms Thomas said. "It has been stuck with a funding model that says it is cheap to teach, whereas in fact it's anything but cheap to teach and should be funded at, at least, the level of computer science."

O'Keeffe, Brendan 'Maths morale plummets '
U.K.

LONDON MET 'THREATENING INDEPENDENCE OF STUDENT UNION'

THE students’ union at London Metropolitan protested today against plans by the university to end its autonomy. The university said it was seeking to make the union more democratic and accountable to students.

The union said management was trying to neuter its role as a watchdog and prevent it from challenging the university in the interests of students. A suggested constitution which goes to the board of governors next week for approval proposes that senior managers from the university take overall charge of the students’ union.

Last year the students’ union issued a statement in support of industrial action by lecturers against London Met but then withdrew it ”for legal reasons” under pressure from the university. "Under the new constitution, taking such a standpoint in the future could see the students' union being automatically shut down," said the union.

The current student union leaders fear that managers could cut funds to clubs, societies and advice centres if they see fit. A university spokesman said: “The university and the students’ union agreed last year that a review of the constitution was required. A process and timetable were agreed and have been followed. The union has been fully consulted on possible changes and offered the opportunity to put forward proposals which it failed to do. A committee of the board of governors considered proposed changes last week and agreed without dissent on recommendations to the board. The president of the union is a member of that committee and was present at the meeting."

"The changes proposed are all within the law and centre on encouraging the participation of students in the Union (currently only 3% vote in annual elections), and the accountability of elected Union officers to the membership, a feature currently lacking and something the current officers seem unhappy about. It will actually give the members of the union more control. "The legal status, number of officers and functions of the Union remain unchanged.""

Michelle Louise Harris, the president of the London Met union, said: "We've been calling for reform of the students' union for some time and put forward some sensible suggestions which would ensure we could continue to operate in the best interests of students and offer improved services and facilities."

"The university have chosen to ignore these and have seized the opportunity to move in and take charge which completely contradicts the ethos behind a strong, democratic and independent students' union. Under their proposals, the union could be completely wiped out if we take a decision that doesn't agree with their policies and practices. This completely undermines the autonomy all students' unions should have from their institution.”

The National Union of Students said the proposals were "out of step with the sector" and breach the 1994 Education Act, which makes it clear that universities which are dependent on public funding must have a democratic, effective students’ union which is independent of the university.

The proposal will go before the board of governors on March 22 and if approved would come into effect from August.


CONCERN OVER CHEMISTRY COURSE CLOSURE

SUSSEX University’s decision to close its chemistry department has alarmed scientists and industrialists.

The Society of Chemical Industry (SCI) said today that coordinated action by government, industry and academia was needed to protect the UK economy by ensuring there were enough qualified scientists to meet the demands of industry.

Students are not informed well enough about the career benefits of a science degree, believes the SCI. A distinguished past, including two Nobel prize-winners, did not save the Sussex department. It has not been attracting enough students (there are 20 a year) to make it viable, according to the vice-chancellor, Alasdair Smith, who has followed Exeter, King’s College London, Queen Mary University of London and Dundee in cutting back on chemistry.

Andrew Ladds, the SCI chief executive, said: “The threat posed by inaction on these warnings will not be confined simply to chemistry but will touch almost all parts of our everyday life - food, healthcare, electronics, energy, transport and construction to name but a few.”

Sussex, with a small department that has lost leading researchers to other universities in recent
years, plans to concentrate on organic chemistry and chemical biology which it hopes will fit in with biochemistry and genome research, and biology and environmental science which will be expanded. From 2007 the department will be renamed chemical biology. The university’s decision was strongly criticised by Sir Harry Kroto, a Nobel chemistry laureate, who last year quit Sussex for Florida State University.

A statement from the university said that if the plans were approved by the governing bodies, the current staff of 14 academics in chemistry would reduced to seven through voluntary severance.

All current students will be able to finish their degrees at Sussex.

Macedo, Donald. “Concern over chemistry course closure.” The Guardian 13 March 2006 Electronic http://theguardian.co.uk

THE TESTS TO SELECT THE BEST

BE prepared for the aptitude exams, and you’ll have a vital advantage

Competition for entry to university is at its most intense among the professional classes, particularly would-be lawyers and doctors. Law and medicine remain the most demanding and competitive courses. Oxford, Cambridge and Manchester dominate, but Bristol, once among the elite, has sunk to 16th in law and 19th in medicine.

Five of the top six in law — Manchester is the exception — received 5* research ratings. So did Queen Mary in 19th place and Keele in 23rd, although both have entry requirements that are lower by as much as an A-level A grade.

Medicine’s requirements may seem uniformly forbidding, as none of the top ten accepts much below four A grades. But there is greater variation in teaching and research quality. Of the top five, Oxford and Cambridge have the lowest teaching scores, 21 each, compared with the maximum of 24 at the other three. Both, however, are the only ones in the top ten rated 5* in three of the four research areas.

As the A level pass rate climbs for the 22nd consecutive year, the most popular universities have embraced aptitude tests to cope with the overwhelming number of applicants clutching straight As in all their examinations. For the past five years Cambridge has used admissions tests to weed out the brilliant medics from the merely very good. Critics complain that such tests favour wealthier students who can afford coaching, but Geoff Parks, director of admissions, says that this is simply not the case. He advises applicants to try out the sample questions on the website instead.

“Performance rates have not risen since it’s been in circulation, which is reassuring,” he says. “The differences between independent and state-educated students have also diminished in recent years, so all indications are that it is coaching-proof.”

Dr Parks says that though most students score in the top third, interviews at Cambridge are equally important because the tests are limited to “identifying potential in scientific aptitude, but not whether you would be a good doctor with a good bedside manner”.

For those balking at further exams, Southampton’s medical faculty, which ranks third equal with Cambridge, relies entirely on Ucas information to assess applicants. There are 4,500 applications for 240 places, and tutors say that interviews tend to favour girls who have been coached, rather than boys. Southampton, before making an offer, emphasises
that non-academic criteria, including work experience, are as important as grades.
To distinguish between hundreds of A-grade candidates in law, 11 top faculties are sifting candidates with the aid of
the new Law National Admissions Test. University College London (UCL) is fourth in this year’s list, but tipped by insiders as
the best law faculty in the country. Rodney Austin, who oversees law admissions, swears by the test.
He says: “It has enabled us to distinguish between candidates. But obviously we still take into account all the other factors, such as
the reference, GCSEs, predicted A-level grades, work experience and of course, whether they read The Times Law Report.” The test was
useful at UCL in whittling down the 2,500 wannabe lawyers who applied for a mere 150 places.
Of 4,700 candidates who sat the test at universities that require it, only four scored the top mark of 21 out of a possible 24, 100 scored 20 and about 200 scored 19. The
average national score is 13.5 and candidates with less than 15 points are marginal.
Again, the test does not appear to discriminate against either state or privately educated students, but 29 applicants from lower-performing schools were made
slightly lower offers by UCL as a result of exceptionally high scores.
Controversially, the Law Society has recently suggested that the legal profession would be more accessible if law
degrees were scrapped altogether. Graduates holding any honours-level degree would instead be required to fulfil a series of assessments, followed by an
Budding dentists face a similar challenge and, among the 13 universities that offer
dentistry, only Queen Mary and Cardiff consider those with fewer than 400 Ucas points. Applications were up by
25 per cent this year to almost 11,000, so competition is intense. But employment is virtually guaranteed as regular
reports of patients queueing to register with new NHS dentists attest.
The increasing complexity of nursing has made it a graduate profession, and 60 universities offer degrees.
There are five applicants for every place, and almost two thirds of students arrive without A levels.
Cardiff heads this year’s table for architecture and also requires fewer Ucas points than Sheffield, Cambridge or
Nottingham. And because Wales has ruled out tuition-fee increases for 2006, Cardiff looks a particularly attractive opportunity.
Cambridge, which successfully fought off attempts to

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Blair, Alexandra "The tests to select the best" The Times 26 May 2005 Electronic http://timesonline.co.uk
HARVARD'S ALLSTON CAMPUS

IT'S good news for the economic prospects of Boston that Harvard, despite its troubles, is continuing to expand into Allston.

Just before Lawrence Summers announced his decision to resign as president, the university unveiled plans to relocate its Stem Cell Institute. But a better test of Harvard’s ability to create a vibrant space comes with its attempt to move the Charlesview apartments off a crucial site.

Charlesview, 213 units of subsidized housing built in the 1970s, is due for replacement, but the tenants are concerned that they get better apartments in a convenient location. Early this month, Harvard proposed a site, where a Kmart is now located at a shopping plaza on Western Avenue. The tenants’ reaction was tepid at best. A meeting with abutters provoked opposition to the notion that a large complex would be put in a neighborhood of two-family houses.

There's a shortage of affordable housing in Allston, and the Kmart site is well-suited for it. Densities at the site have to be higher than they were when the existing homes were built.

Abutters thought they heard that 300-400 units are to be built there. That’s too much for the five-acre parcel. Harvard ought to provide land elsewhere for a couple of hundred apartments, reasonably priced, beyond the 213 at Charlesview.

Relocation of Charlesview would offer Harvard a site, at the intersection of North Harvard Street and Western Avenue, that is ideal for a museum or other building for use by both the university and Allston communities. Charlesview ought to be moved to a site acceptable to tenants and its board of directors.

The Boston Redevelopment Authority, which is enthusiastic about the Kmart site, needs to push the process to successful resolution and the creation of housing. University development in Allston holds the promise of job growth for the region and, with prodding by the city, an expansion of opportunities to live in this changing neighbourhood.

MEMBERS of a Bush administration commission on higher education heard testimony yesterday from seven Massachusetts college presidents on issues affecting their institutions, including accountability, cost, and quality.

In remarks at the forum, the presidents spoke of a need for curriculum innovation, the complexity of financial aid, and the role of universities in student life. "Our institutions should be motivating students to become active, engaged, and effective citizens," said Lawrence S. Bacow, president of Tufts University. "This is the role of a liberal education, not just to convey knowledge, but to convey values also."

The presidents largely steered clear of the most controversial issue before the commission: standardized testing for college and university undergraduates. The chairman of the commission, Charles Miller, former head of the regents of the University of Texas, has suggested that a nationwide performance-comparison system would foster greater accountability in higher education.

Susan Hockfield, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, said testing would harm universities. "Standardized curricula or testing would limit our ability to educate, to develop new curricula, and to train the innovators we need," she said.

Bacow said, "I would ask the commission . . . that you not recommend changes to the system that would . . . impose uniform or common standards such as exist in many other nations."

There is growing pressure from some political and education sectors to require standardized testing for college students. The No Child Left Behind Act, which was enacted under the Bush administration in 2002, requires standardizing testing in public schools from kindergarten through grade 12 and penalizes schools whose students do not improve their grades.

The commission is expected to discuss testing more fully as accreditation comes to the fore on its agenda, said Cheryl Oldham, the panel's executive director. "No one is talking about mandating testing," she said in an interview. "But it could be tied to accreditation," Oldham said.

The public hearing at the Fairmont Copley Plaza was
conducted by five members of the 19-member Commission on the Future of Higher Education, which was appointed last fall. The commission has until August to make a report.

In addition to Bacow and Hockfield, the college and university presidents who spoke yesterday included Jack M. Wilson of the University of Massachusetts, Dennis Berkey of Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Robert Brown of Boston University, Richard Miller of Olin College of Engineering, and Mary Fifield of Bunker Hill Community College.

Schweitzer, Sarah ‘Campus leaders discuss major issues’ The Boston Globe 21 March 2006 Electronic http://boston.com

COLUMBIA GETS $200M FOR NEUROSCIENCE CENTER

NEW YORK --Columbia University announced Monday that it has received a record $200 million from the widow of a distinguished graduate and will use the money to build a research center devoted to the study of the brain.

The donation from Dawn Greene and the Jerome L. Greene Foundation is the biggest gift ever received by the Ivy League university.

The Jerome L. Greene Science Center will study such disorders as Parkinson’s, Alzheimer’s, autism, dementia and schizophrenia. It will be led by neurobiologist Thomas Jessell and Nobel laureates Richard Axel and Eric Kandel.

Greene, who graduated from Columbia College in 1926 and from the university’s law school in 1928, was a lawyer and real estate investor. He died in 1999.

*Columbia gets $200m for neuroscience centre* The Boston Globe 13 March 2006 Electronic http://boston.com

GEORGIA COLLEGE PUSHES FOR IPOD INGENUITY

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga. -- The campus of Georgia College & State University boasts traditional college fare: spacious greens, historic architecture and a steady stream of students with the familiar white headphones of iPods dangling from their ears.

But here in the antebellum capital of Georgia, students listening to iPods might just as well be studying for calculus class as rocking out to Coldplay after the school’s educators worked to find more strategic uses for the popular digital music and video players.

Apple Computer Inc. Chief Executive Officer Steve Jobs speaks as he launches Apple’s music download service, the iTunes Music Store, in Tokyo, Japan, Thursday, Aug. 4, 2005. Apple Computer Inc. faces a serious challenge in France, where lawmakers have moved to sever the umbilical cord between its iPod player and iTunes online music store, threatening its lucrative hold on both markets, Friday, March 17, 2006. (AP Photo/Shizuo Kambayashi) (Shizuo Kambayashi - AP)

QUIZ

What Disney film was released on iTunes, making it the first feature-length film to appear on the popular download At least 100 of the rural school’s employees are turning iPods into education or research tools impressive for a college with only about 300 faculty. But it’s more than simply making class lectures available a practice now routine at many colleges and even a few high schools. History professor Deborah Vess asks students to download 39 films to their video-capable iPods so she doesn’t have to spend class time screening the movies. Psychology professor Noland White has found a new-age answer to office hours: a podcast of the week’s most asked questions. And the 5,500-student campus has organized a group of staff and faculty to conjure up other uses for the technology. Called the iDreamers, the team bats around ideas that could turn iPods into portable yearbooks and replace campus brochures with podcasts.

“The more you free up your classroom for discussion, the more efficient you are,” said Dorothy Leland, the school’s president.

Campuses throughout the nation have transformed the gadgets into education tools, a trend iPod maker Apple Computer Inc. hopes to capitalize on with “iTunes U,” a nationwide service that makes lectures and other materials available online. And GCSU isn’t the only school that wants the music players to be more than just a tool for catching up on missed lectures.

At North Carolina’s Duke University, where incoming freshmen have been handed the devices as welcoming gifts,
foreign language students use iPods to immerse themselves in coursework.
Administrators at Pennsylvania’s Mansfield University want to use podcasts _ broadcast messages that can be downloaded to iPods and other players _ to recruit high schoolers to the 3,000-student campus. The school also used a podcast to address student and faculty concerns after a New York man who had contracted anthrax visited campus with a dance troupe.
Yet few campuses have embraced the new technology as doggedly as GCSU, which was rewarded for its iPod ingenuity when it was chosen to host Apple’s Digital Campus Leadership Institute in November.
The school has been a leader in “integrating the iPod into the curriculum to enhance teaching and learning in creative ways going all the way back to the original iPod,” said Greg Joswiak, Apple’s vice president of iPod product marketing.
After Leland and Jim Wolfgang, the school’s chief information officer, began seeing iPods around campus in 2002, they decided to explore educational applications for the devices. They started by farming out 50 donated iPods to faculty who offered the best proposals
Soon Wolfgang’s office was flooded with applications from educators suggesting new uses. Now some 400 college-owned iPods are floating around campus _ some loaned to students in certain classes, others available for checkout at libraries.
The iPods run the technology gamut, from the bulky first-generation devices to the latest video-capable models.
Apple Computer Inc. Chief Executive Officer Steve Jobs speaks as he launches Apple’s music download service, the iTunes Music Store, in Tokyo, Japan, Thursday, Aug. 4, 2005. Apple Computer Inc. faces a serious challenge in France, where lawmakers have moved to sever the umbilical cord between its iPod player and iTunes online music store, threatening its lucrative hold on both markets, Friday, March 17, 2006. Hank Edmondson, a government professor known around campus as “The Podfather,” was among the first to use iPods to supplement his course lectures. Edmondson now makes lectures, language study programs, indigenous music and thumbnail art sketches available for download to the iPods of students in a three-week study-abroad program he leads.
During a recent visit to the Prado in Madrid, he recorded a 20-minute lecture on the museum’s artwork. Downloading it in advance will let students spend their time at the museum exploring, not listening to Edmondson talk.
“You want to pack everything in, but you’ve got a lot of travel time,” he said.
Vess said having her history students screen films on their iPods allows her to dedicate class time to discussion and analysis. Ditto for the weekly graduate course on historical methods that she teaches.
“Now I can devote my whole three hours to Socratic dialogue,” she said with a grin.
While iPods can be useful tools for reviewing coursework, some critics argue donning a pair of earphones is not the same as actively engaging with material in a classroom.

“Learning is through interaction, discussion, critical questioning and challenging of assumptions,” said Donna Qualters, director of the Center for Effective Teaching at Northeastern University in Boston. "Those cannot be duplicated on an iPod _ you have to be there to experience that learning."
GCSU officials say the school makes sure its iPod lessons supplement classroom work.
“We don’t have any project that repeats what’s going on in the classroom,” Wolfgang said. "All this is value-added.”
He said the school’s iPod ingenuity is helping promote GCSU’s decade-old effort to remake itself as Georgia’s only public liberal arts college. Long a school that attracted a regional crowd of students who often left for other schools after a year, Wolfgang believes the focus on iPods is helping retain more students.
This school year, it started iVillage, a virtual community that encouraged incoming students to start communicating before the start of classes. The first dozen freshmen recruited for the effort were asked to think up innovative uses for the iPods.
The team is creating an iPod-based freshmen survival guide that includes advice on classes, dorms and nightlife in this sleepy community 100 miles south of Atlanta.
Bobby Jones, a freshman from Rome, said he’s found life in a “virtual community” surprisingly satisfying.
“(You) think it will never get the same sense of community living together, but we definitely found that sense of belonging,” he said.

IT IS often heard that India is fast emerging as a knowledge economy. But is it really? Different educational boards across the country are incurring an annual loss of over Rs 9,000 crores due to high failure rates in the standard X board examinations.

Industry experts believe that if these numbers are to be brought down, vocational education must be introduced right from the pre-primary level. The National Council for Educational Research and Training’s (NCERT) Curriculum Review Framework 2005 too, laid emphasis on vocational education. Union Ministry for Human Resources Development (MHRD) is also planning to strengthen vocational education and training to boost our country’s unskilled labour force, which amounts to a staggering 85 per cent of our population. According to MHRD sources, the ministry is planning to make vocational education compulsory from the pre-primary level onwards, as well as linking community colleges with the help of NGOs to integrate vocational studies.

Established under the aegis of NCERT in 1960, Pandit Sunderlal Sharma Central Institute of Vocational Education (PSSCIVE) acts as an apex level research and development organisation in the field of vocational education. It provides academic support to the various programmes. Says M Sengupta, joint director, PSSCIVE: "When such a huge number of students fail to qualify in their class X exams, either they are useless or the system is not providing the type of education required. They may have certain inherent talent and may do well in other areas. It is the responsibility of our education system to provide opportunities to such students.” Policymakers are now advocating vocational education right from the school level. The CBSE at present, offers 36 courses that fall under vocational studies, which can be either optional or a complete vocational stream. Explains G Balasubramanium, director academics, CBSE, “The 36 vocational subjects are a package. Either students can take three vocational subjects and two languages or one vocational subject along with conventional subjects.

In the class XII boards, certification for vocational studies is on par with conventional subjects. “Post-school, universities like the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) offer a number of vocational and awareness courses.

However, there are concerns about vocational studies in its present form. Stating that vocational education has been a big failure in the country, Dinesh Singh Bist, secretary, National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), says: “There is no link between our education system and market economics. With the emergence of newer industries, jobs generated require different skill sets, which we haven’t been able to provide due to time-lag. We churn out skilled personnel in various sectors without realising its demand in the market, leading to a mismatch.” According to Garg, “The treatment given to vocational studies and training in our educational system leave much to be desired. The emphasis has been diluted.” The present scenario reflects what the experts opined. The national Policy on Education (NPE)-1986 had set a goal of covering 25 per cent of the +2 enrolments in the vocational stream by the year 2000. However, today, less than 5 per cent of the students have registered.

Sengupta opines that even though the scenario is not
encouraging diversification at the +2 level has helped. Even if it is less than 5 per cent students, the diversification has helped. In Tamil Nadu for instance, about 20 per cent enrolments are in the vocational stream. At least vocational education has not faded away,he adds. Vocational education and training (VET) is also a viable option for women and the physically challenged. PSSCIVE has developed several courses especially for the disabled and for women. NVTI offers basic, advanced and post-advanced courses for women. "VET equips students with industry-relevant skill-sets. A lot of our students are pursuing their graduation through correspondence and are taking our courses simultaneously to increase their employability and entrepreneurial skills," claims Vidyeswari.

NIOS has been offering vocational education programmes since 2002. Presently, it offers over 100 courses in different subject areas through its 750 accredited vocational institutes spread across the country. "Our target audience is students out of school, several of whom dropped out of regular school years ago and are now coming back to education. Others are employed and undertake VET to improvise upon their employability and income generation capability," says Bist.

NVTI and NIOS are now working towards encouraging greater industry involvement in VET. "We are holding conferences with FICCI and the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) to have a better interaction with the industry and understand their requirements," Bist adds.

Based on the UNESCO document of 1974, vocational education was demarcated under six categories: Engineering and technology, business and commerce, home science and home economics, healthcare and para-medical, humanities science and education and agriculture and agro-based industries.

"Medical transcription, institutional housekeeping, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, air-ticketing, multimedia and mobile industry are among the new avenues which have emerged," concludes Sengupta.

Mishra, BK "Science College closure imminent?" The India Times 22 February 2006 Electronic http://indiapress.org

SCIENCE COLLEGE CLOSURE IMMINENT?

PATNA: Patna Science College, a premier institution of higher education in the state, may have to be closed soon following a directive issued recently by Patna University.

In the directive to the principals of all colleges and heads of post-graduate departments, the university has reportedly asked them to terminate immediately the services of all class three and four employees working on daily wages or on ad hoc basis failing which the university would lodge an FIR against the heads of the institutions concerned and deduct from their salaries the amounts paid to such staff.

Principal of Patna Science College S N Guha, when contacted, told TOI here on Tuesday that if the directive of the university is followed, there would be no sweeper or night guard in different departments. Consequently, the college would have to be closed, he added.

Most of the class three and four posts in the college have been lying vacant for the last several years and no effort whatsoever has been made by the authorities concerned to fill these posts.

Hence, the college was forced to appoint some necessary staff to protect its property and pay them from its own resources. Many of these casual staff were being paid at the rate of Rs 25 per day only. Can any department or college function without having a single sweeper? Guha asked.

Mishra, BK "Science College closure imminent?" The India Times 22 February 2006 Electronic http://indiapress.org
GOING GLOBAL: MONASH UNIVERSITY EXTENDS ITS REACH

AUSTRALIA’s Monash University was one of the few foreign universities from Down Under that decided to make its mark in Malaysia by setting up a campus in Kuala Lumpur in 1998.

Money was not the main reason for its expansion to Asia, explains university vice-chancellor and president Professor Richard Larkins. Rather, the university was interested in providing quality education to Malaysian students, as well as to reach out to as many students in the region as possible.

By getting out of Australia and going international, Monash gives students the opportunity to learn about various cultures and other countries’ experiences. “We gave it careful thought before deciding to spread our wings to this region,” Larkins says. “There are a lot of things to consider when you want to go international.”

Larkins, who was in Kuala Lumpur recently to attend a seminar on international education, says that going global benefits universities but there are, of course, challenges that come with it. Maintaining the quality of education, for instance, is crucial to ensure that students, despite their location, learn the same things.

“It is a difficult task to ensure that Monash Malaysia students get quality education, just like those at our campuses in Australia. And we also have to make some adjustments to the syllabus here (in Malaysia) to suit the local environment and culture.”

Apart from Monash University Malaysia (which is the university’s first off-shore campus), Monash has also set up a campus in South Africa in 2001. “If we can overcome the challenges, setting up an off-shore campus can benefit more students from all over the world. Imagine... students studying in Malaysia learn the same thing as those in Australia. This makes their degrees globally recognised and the students globally marketable”

And because Monash has campuses in Australia, Malaysia and South Africa, our students learn things that are important in all three countries, giving them the chance to understand issues from an international perspective. Students also have a choice to continue their studies at any of Monash’s campuses worldwide.” Going global also encourages healthy competition among tertiary institutions in a particular country.

“Monash making its appearance in Malaysia somehow encourages other universities in the country to provide good education as well.”


BRAND IT LIKE UKM

YOU entertain visitors to Malaysia and jet around the world. It sounds like a job with the tourism board to promote Malaysia but Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)’s Centre for Public and International Relations (PUSPA) undertakes these tasks to bring the university to the world’s attention

“PUSPA has the job of enhancing UKM’s image in the local and international arena,” says director Professor Yang Farina Abdul Aziz. The centre was set up on January 2002, as part of the university’s efforts to boost internationalisation but Yang Farina, who took over the helm in 2004, can testify that the job is not all cushy. “There’s a fair bit of travelling but there’s a lot of work too. We’re constantly promoting the university.”

Currently, PUSPA is busy compiling information on all research conducted at the university for a yet-to-be setup website. “One of the ways to promote the university is by highlighting its achievements, particularly those pertaining to research.”

Already, the centre has compiled the curriculum vitae of all UKM’s academic staff at www.ukm.my. This effort, Yang Farina hopes, will publicise the scholars’ expertise. “We can no longer work alone. We have to
engage in smart partnerships.” Yang Farina and her team have been busy globe-trotting, attending education fairs and introducing UKM to the world.

Last year alone, the team went to Australia, Germany, Belgium and Ireland, visiting renowned universities such as the University of Western Australia, Druisberg-Essen University, University College Cork, University of La Rochelle and Bremen University to look at possible collaborations.

The trip to Australia saw the participation of student leaders from UKM to see what Australian education is all about.

“Not only that, we produce Resonance, an in-house magazine to share university news. Editors of major publications, embassies and high commissions, international education offices and public and private libraries get Resonance monthly.”


GOING GLOBAL: LITTLE AMBASSADORS OF EDUCATION

‘INTERNATIONALISATION’ is a household word in the Malaysian education sector. ARNI ABDUL RAZAK looks at how it has helped some universities achieve recognition beyond the country’s shores.

PROFESSOR Datuk Mohd Salleh Mohd Yasin was delightfully surprised when several Singaporean academicians told him recently that they are now “watching closely” the progress Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) is making in terms of research.

“That’s good news to me,” says Mohd Salleh, who has been UKM vice-chancellor since 2003. “Because of our internationalisation efforts, people outside Malaysia are beginning to pay attention to the university and acknowledging our work.”

Getting recognition is important to UKM. For months now, Mohd Salleh has been travelling around the world to promote UKM in a move to attract foreign students to Malaysia and to seek partners for various research projects. He even presented a paper on Internationalising a National University at Oxford University last year. The paper highlighted UKM’s strategies on going global. "With globalisation, we now have no choice but to internationalise our programmes and promote the university to the world. These days, many realise that Malaysian education is of high standing," Mohd Salleh says.

But UKM is not the only tertiary institution in Malaysia that is scrambling to present itself to the world. Ever since the government introduced the policy in the early 1990s, public higher learning institutions in the country have been busy promoting themselves abroad. Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), the University of Malaya (UM), Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, International Islamic University and many others have seen a rise in foreign student intakes following internationalisation efforts in early 2000.

This phenomenon has indeed taken the country by storm. Datuk Seri Effendi Norwawi’s appointment as a Special Envoy to the Higher Education Ministry in 2004 underscored the importance of the exercise. Though Effendi is now holding a different portfolio, these efforts show no signs of abating. In fact, universities are doubling their efforts to brand themselves in other parts of the world.

Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), for instance, designed a programme to disseminate information about the university for ambassadors and high commissioners to the country. “We invite officials from foreign missions in Malaysia to UPM and we brief them about our programmes. We hope they will spread the word about the university,” says UPM public and international relations director Associate Professor Jambari Ali.

The programme, introduced last year, is already a success. A delegation from the University of Zagreb in Croatia will be visiting UPM soon to look at potential joint research initiatives.

“We also go on promotional trips to encourage more people to come and study or work with the university. We will be going to Libya as well as Iran,” Jambari says. In the case of UKM, its lecturers and students sometimes act as “little ambassadors”. UKM Professor Dr Lokman Saim, who performed the nation’s first cochlear implant in 1995, is now busy conducting surgeries not only in Malaysia but also in Pakistan, Indonesia and the Philippines.
Mohd Salleh says: "I think research is pivotal for us to compete globally. Dr Lokman, for example, travels extensively to help with surgeries overseas. This shows that his expertise is recognised and needed overseas as well."

Internationalisation as a concept is one thing, implementing it is another matter, says Professor Datuk Shamsul Amri Baharuddin, director of both the Institute of the Malay World and Civilization and the Institute of Occidental Studies (IKON) at UKM. A recent public lecture organised by IKON, which featured Dr Leslie Sklair, Emeritus Professor of Sociology at the London School of Economics and Political Science, is a good example of internationalisation in practice. Sklair was invited to kick-off IKON’s public lecture series.

Sklair was also one of the main discussants at a round-table discussion after his talk. The session centred on Professor Datuk Abdul Rahman Embong’s professorial inaugural lecture entitled Development and Well-Being which was presented at UKM in September, 2003. UKM deputy vice-chancellor Professor Datuk Sukiman Sarmani adds that the university is also looking at opportunities to develop programmes with foreign universities. “At the moment, UKM is conducting a double degree programme at the undergraduate level with the University of Duisberg-Essen in Germany where students can choose to study in either country. "We are also looking at more of such collaboration with universities in Indonesia,” Sukiman says.

For USM, the university’s outreach programme has gone beyond Europe and the United States. The university has strong ties with Cuba, especially in research dealing with vaccinology. And UM has gone a step further by housing the Asia-Europe Institute in 2000. The institute offers international master’s programmes in regional integration, small and medium enterprise, Asean studies and information management. Public universities are also participating in international associations such as the Association of Commonwealth Universities, Southeast Asian Institutions of Higher Learning, Asia University Federation, Global University Network for Innovation and the Association of Universities of Asia and the Pacific while IIUM is a member of two Islamic organisations – the Federation of Universities in Islamic World and the Rabitah (the league) of Islamic Universities. Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) dean of the Institute of Graduate Studies Professor Datin Zubaida Syed Alwi Alsree says the university has long forged linkages with other foreign universities and professional bodies back when it was known as Rida College, offering the United Kingdom based London Chamber of Commerce Institute in the 1960s. Since then, the university has always offered programmes of international professional bodies such as the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (UK), Chartered Institute of Transport (UK), Chartered Institute of Marketing (UK) and Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (UK).

UiTM also has tie-ups with professional bodies, such as the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (US) and the Chartered Institute of Building (UK), to gain international recognition. This means students can acquire recognised professional qualifications without leaving the country. "We also send students and lecturers overseas to present papers at international conferences and seminars. Students can also conduct research overseas but it is normally up to the faculty to look for partner universities who are willing to work with it and fund the projects,” Zubaida says. "Universities are redesigning their curricula to make them competitive worldwide.”