

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY  
DIGEST OF SENATE MEETING  
HELD ON 18 JUNE 2009  
AT MCAULEY AT BANYO**

**Proposed review of University's governance arrangements**

Senate noted that the Members of the Company had agreed that a review of the University's governance arrangements was timely and had endorsed the establishment of a working party to progress the matter. Senate agreed that it would be appropriate to include the review of State Chapters as part of the proposed governance review.

**Development of Melbourne Precinct**

Senate received and noted the Vice-Chancellor's report in relation to the proposed redevelopment of the St Patrick's Campus as the *Fitzroy Precinct*. Professor Craven outlined the rationale for the expansion and explained that the proposed building works involved a three stage process spanning the years 2009-2015. Senate noted that a comprehensive plan in respect of the proposed redevelopment would be submitted for consideration at its next meeting following consideration by the Standing and Finance Committee on 6 August 2009.

**Establishment of the Faculty of Business**

Senate paid tribute to Professor Geoffrey Kiel for his excellent report in relation to the scoping of the establishment of the Faculty of Business. Senate approved the establishment of the Faculty of Business from 1 January 2010.

**Senior staff appointments**

Senate noted the following senior staff appointments:

- Professor Anne Cummins as Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Students, Learning and Teaching);
- Professor Anne Hunt as Dean of Faculty of Theology and Philosophy;
- Associate Professor Patrick McArdle as Director of the Institute for Catholic Identity and Mission and Campus Dean in Canberra.

The Vice-Chancellor reported that he would shortly be in a position to announce the appointment of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research). Professor Craven paid tribute to Professor Gail Crossley for her outstanding work while acting in this role.

**Status of enrolments for mid-year 2009**

The Vice-Chancellor was pleased to report increases in both domestic and international student enrolments for mid-year 2009. Senate noted tables illustrating the various increases across campuses and faculties.

**VOICE survey of staff**

Senate noted the executive summary of the results of the first staff opinion survey launched by the University in March. The Vice-Chancellor advised that the results would be released to staff shortly.

**Graduation Masses**

Senate noted that the Graduation Masses were received warmly by both students and their families.

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### **Funding resulting from the Bradley Review and Federal Budget**

The Vice-Chancellor reported that the Federal Budget for 2009-2010 was well received by the higher education sector and, together with certain recommendations contained in the Bradley Review, would be of assistance with respect to ACU's ongoing funding.

### **Diversity and Structural Adjustment (DSA) Funding Project – University of Ballarat and ACU**

Senate noted that the University of Ballarat and ACU had been awarded \$322,000 in DSA funding to investigate ways of collaborating to best serve the local needs in higher education. The Vice-Chancellor reported that the project was proceeding well.

### **John Paul II Pontifical Institute for Marriage and The Family**

The Vice-Chancellor reported regarding discussions about the possibility of future collaboration between the University and the Institute.

### **Casual vacancy on Senate**

Senate discussed the casual vacancy resulting from the resignation of Ms Susan Pascoe and the consequent election schedule approved by the Members Electoral Committee.

### **Revised financial delegations**

Senate approved the revised financial delegations upon the recommendations of the Standing and Finance Committee.

### **Approval of revised policy**

Senate approved the revised *Policy on Course Approval, Amendment and Review – Accredited Higher Education Courses* upon the recommendation of Academic Board. The revised policy can be accessed at: <http://my.acu.edu.au/38271>.

### **Course approval**

Senate, upon the recommendation of Academic Board, approved the course proposal for the fee-paying Graduate Diploma in Ministry and Graduate Certificate in Ministry for offering from semester 1, 2010 in Brisbane.

### **Committee and other Reports**

Senate received and noted reports from the following meetings:

- Goals Committee, 20 April 2009;
- Queensland Chapter Report, 28 April 2009;
- Academic Board, 13 May 2009;
- Standing and Finance Committee, 14 May 2009;
- Annual General Meeting, 22 May 2009;
- New South Wales Chapter Report, 29 May 2009; and
- Australian Catholic University Annual Report 2008.