AGENDA: PARTS I – III

The next meeting of the Board of the Graduate Research School will be held in the Senate Room on Tuesday, 11 August 2009 at 2.15 p.m.

Parts I and II of the agenda are to be dealt with en bloc by motion of the Chair. Parts III and IV are for discussion. A member may request the removal of an item from Parts I or II to Part III.

Cheryl Wenninger
Executive Officer
Board of the Graduate Research School
1. CALL FOR DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST – REF: F34

The Chair will invite members to declare potential for conflict or perceived conflicts of interest, if applicable, with regard to items on the agenda.

2. MINUTES – REF: F36

Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of the Graduate Research School held on Tuesday, 14 July 2009.

3. ITEMS/BUSINESS IN PROGRESS FOR NOTING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM/BUSINESS IN PROGRESS</th>
<th>ACTION BY:</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change in format of printed thesis</td>
<td>GRSO</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsibility for Ensuring the Accuracy of Applications for Ethics Approval and for Negotiating with Ethics Committees</td>
<td>GRSO</td>
<td>Ongoing (Via Circulation)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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PART I – ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION TO BE DEALT WITH EN BLOC

4. REPORT – VISIT TO THE EUROPEAN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY LABORATORY, HEIDELBERG

Attached (Attachment A1- A2) for members’ information is a report from Professor Max King from Monash University on a visit to the European Molecular Laboratory, Heidelburg

For noting.

PART II – ITEMS FOR DECISION TO BE DEALT WITH EN BLOC

There are no items

PART III – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

4. PROPOSED JOINT AND/OR DOUBLE-BADGED TRANSNATIONAL PHD PROGRAMME BETWEEN THE AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY OF MADRID

Attached for members’ consideration (Attachment B1 – B49) is a proposed Joint and/or Double-badged transnational PhD Programme between the School of Psychology at The University of Western Australia and The Autonomous University of Madrid.

For discussion and approval.
5. THE RESEARCH “SUPERVISOR” vs “ADVISOR”

The research supervisor occupies a unique and key position in the structure of a research organisation. He/she is the major source of instruction, guidance, and assistance to Higher Degree Research Students.

Members will recall that at the last meeting of the Board of the Graduate Research School, held on 14 July 2009, Winthrop Professor Haskell raised the topic of whether UWA should adopt the term research Advisor to replace the current term Supervisor.

Professor Haskell has submitted the following points for consideration by the Board –

- The title “supervisor” has always been used at UWA because it is part of the University’s heritage from the British system and is used throughout Australia;
- In North America, the term “advisor” is preferred;
- The term “supervisor” suggests control of the work, as is held by the supervisors in commercial office sections et cetera;
- However, an academic working with a graduate student does not have this controlling role.
- It is the student whose work is examined and classified; the thesis and the intellectual property belong to the student;
- The academic’s role is to advise and recommend, whether to the student, the Graduate Research Coordinator, or to the Graduate Research School;
- I believe that the title “Advisor” more accurately describes the role academics play vis à vis their graduate students.

For members’ information, in The Australian Concise Oxford Dictionary, the definitions of the words “supervisor” and “advisor” are as follows –

- Supervisor – 1. [one who] superintend[s], oversee[s] the execution of (a task etc.). 2. oversee[s] the actions or work of (a person);
- Advisor – 1. a person who advises, esp. one appointed to do so and regularly consulted. 2. a person who advises students on education, careers, etc.

For discussion.