THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Minutes of the meeting of the Senate held at the University Club, The University of Western Australia, Crawley on Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 February 2012

PRESENT:

the Chancellor (Dr M Chaney) in the Chair, the Pro Chancellor (Dr P Flett), the Vice-Chancellor (Professor P Johnson), Mr J W Biggs, Dr S Boyd, Professor S Bunt, Mr R Cooper, Mr S Dawkins, Ms E Greeney, Dr L Hayes, Dr J Inverarity, Dr S Juniper, Mr J Langoulant, Professor N Laing, Mr M McKenzie, Professor A McKinley, Mr L Rowe, Ms H Silbert, Professor K Simmer.

By Invitation: Mr F Cooper, the Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Professor W Louden), the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor R Owens, the Executive Director (Finance and Resources) Ms G McMath, the Director, Planning Services (Mr R McCormack), the Chief of Staff, Vice-Chancellery (Ms N Mast).

Secretariat: Acting University Secretary (Ms D de Souza), Executive Director (Academic Services) and Registrar (Mr P W Curtis)

APOLOGIES:

Dr A Howarth, Ms A Blackmore.

1. SENATE MEMBERSHIP – REF 02/08/007/001

The Chancellor welcomed Mr Frank Cooper who will succeed Mr Lyndon Rowe as a co-opted member of Senate for a four year term from 28 February 2012 to 27 February 2016. He noted that Mr Lyndon Rowe and Professor Stuart Bunt were attending their last meeting and thanked them for their contributions. Senate resolved to record their appreciation.

The Chancellor advised the meeting that Dr James O’Shea had been elected (unopposed) as the Academic Staff Member of Senate under Section 8(c)(i) of The University of Western Australia Act 1911 for a four year term and would replace Professor Stuart Bunt from 1 March 2012.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST - REF F4815

No declarations were made.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED – 1

that the minutes of the meeting of the Senate held on 12 December 2011 be confirmed.

The Chancellor referred members to item 16 in the Minutes and Resolution 86/11 to appoint Mr John Langoulant as Acting Pro-Chancellor on 28 and 29 March 2012 with the authority under Statute 14 to confer degrees on behalf of Senate at the graduation ceremonies on those dates. He reported that Mr Langoulant will now be in China on 28 and 29 March 2012 and that the Vice-Chancellor had agreed to confer degrees on behalf of Senate at those graduation ceremonies. Senate therefore

RESOLVED – 2

to rescind Resolution 86/11 recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2011.
4. PERTH INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL BOARD – MEMBERSHIP – REF F941

The Constitution of the Perth International Arts Festival (PIAF) Board provides under clause 3(1) for seven members to be appointed by the Senate for three-year terms who have expertise across a range of relevant areas including arts, marketing, media, accounting and business.

The Chair of the PIAF Board had advised in late December 2011 that Emeritus Professor Margaret Seares’ term on the Board expired on 1 January 2012. The Board recommended that Professor Seares be reappointed to the Board of the Perth International Arts Festival for a further three years from 2 January 2012 to 1 January 2015. The recommendation had been considered by the Executive Committee of Senate by circular and it was

RESOLVED – 3

that Emeritus Professor Margaret Seares be reappointed to the Perth International Arts Festival Board for a further three year term from 2 January 2012 to 1 January 2015.

5. REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences – Master of Laboratory Medicine – Refs F6560, F36807, F36114

RESOLVED – 4

that Senate approve the rescission, effective 2012, of the program in Clinical Biochemistry in the Master of Laboratory Medicine subject to students currently undertaking a course leading to the Master of Laboratory Medicine (Clinical Biochemistry) being able to complete their course and graduate in accordance with the relevant rules and policies.

6. STATUTE NO. 2 – SEAL OF THE UNIVERSITY – UPDATED POWER OF ATTORNEY – REFS 05/07/002/001, 02/07/003/001

Changes in personnel and titles had made the current general Power of Attorney for The University of Western Australia out of date and rendered it necessary for Senate to authorise an updated version and lodge it with Landgate.

RESOLVED – 5

(a) that the Executive Director (Academic Services) and Registrar be authorised to affix the Common Seal of the University to the Deed of Revocation of Power of Attorney I329021 granted pursuant to Senate Resolution 25 of 2009.

(b) that the Executive Director (Academic Services) and Registrar be authorised to affix the Common Seal of the University to the Power of Attorney attached to this Resolution and made in favour of any two persons being one of each of classes A and B specified in the attached Power of Attorney and to thereby permit the signing under that Power of Attorney of all documents otherwise required to be sealed.

(c) Subject to paragraph (f) below, that in all cases where commercial documents are required to be executed but there is no legal requirement for execution to be under seal so that it is not therefore appropriate to execute such documents pursuant to the Power of Attorney, then any one of Paul Arthur Johnson, Vice-Chancellor; William Raymond Louden, Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor; Robyn Owens, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research); Gaye Marie McMath, Executive Director, Finance and Resources; and Peter William Curtis, Executive Director (Academic Services) and Registrar, are authorised to sign on behalf of the University.

(d) That where documents are executed pursuant to the Power of Attorney referred to in paragraph (b) the Registrar be required to enter in a register, details of those documents similar to the details required under Statute No. 2 Section 4 for documents executed under the University seal.
(e) That in all cases documents executed on behalf of the University be copied and appropriately filed.

(f) That the Vice-Chancellor may direct that certain classes of commercial documents, other than those required to be executed under seal, be only executed by particular officers taken from amongst the class of officers referred to in paragraph (c) and subject to such limitations and conditions as the Vice-Chancellor requires.

7. UNIVERSITY CENTENARY FUND

The University Centenary Fund was established when the Senate resolved at its meeting on 26 May 2003 to approve the recommendation Res.14/03 of the Strategic Resources Committee that $100,000 per annum be allocated from 2004 to 2011 to the University Centenary Fund from Senate Reserves. The fund had been set up to support a series of celebratory programs, events and activities from 2011 to 2013. The Centenary Planning Committee recognised in 2006 that the budget set aside and approved by Senate would be insufficient to fund the program of activities that had been planned. The Centenary Planning Committee requested that an additional $100,000 per annum for 2012 and 2013 be allocated to the Fund.

RESOLVED – 6

to approve the proposal that a sum of $100,000 per annum in 2012 and 2013 be allocated from the Senate Reserve to the University Centenary Fund.


The Financial Management Act 2006 requires that the University submit an annual report including financial statements and performance indicators to the Minister for Education for subsequent presentation to State Parliament within 90 days of the end of the financial year. Prior to this, the Auditor General is required to audit the financial statements and performance indicators.

Senate had before it the full text of the Draft Annual Report together with the Financial Statements and Key Performance Indicators. The Audit and Review Committee will also consider the 2011 Financial Statements and Performance indicators at its meeting on Thursday, 23 February 2012. Members were advised that they would be provided with an extract of the minutes of the Audit and Review Committee’s discussion of this item. The Chair, Mr Lyndon Rowe assured Senate that there was nothing significant of any concern in the documents before the meeting.

Members were also advised that a report on the audit by the Auditor General including any comment on Key Performance Indicators would be presented to Senate in due course.

RESOLVED – 7

(i) to receive the draft Annual Report of The University of Western Australia for 2011, including the Financial Statements and the Performance Indicators, subject to audit by the Office of the Auditor General;

(ii) to approve the certification of the draft unaudited Financial Statements and Performance Indicators for submission to the Auditor General; and

(iii) on completion of the audit by the Office of the Auditor General to –

(a) authorise the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor to effect minor amendments arising from the audit; and
(b) authorise the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor to sign off and transmit to the Minister the Annual Report including the audited Financial Statements and Performance Indicators.

9. STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SEMINAR

In accordance with the Timetable of Events in the Cycle of Planning and Accountability approved by Senate in 2002, the second part of the meeting was devoted to a seminar on Strategic Directions which was conducted in Closed Senate. Details of the consideration of these items are contained in the Minute Book.

Confirmed

CHAIR

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