

**UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONALISATION COMMITTEE – 18 JUNE 2009
MINUTES**

Minutes of the 2/2009 meeting of the University Internationalisation Committee held at 9.30am on Thursday 18 June 2009 in the Council Room.

PRESENT: Prof J Chicharo (Chair)
Prof P Chandler
Dr D Christie
Prof C Cook
Dr B Damachis
Mr P Day
Prof J Glynn
Dr C Hawksley
A/Prof D Kelly
Prof S Leitch
Prof L McNamara
Ms P Murray-Jones
Prof P Ogunbona
Mr P O'Halloran
A/Prof D Vance

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms R Acharya – Marketing & Admissions Officer (India)
Ms J Braithwaite - Senior Manager, Client Service
Ms T Tindall – Manager International Relations
Ms D Arnold – Executive Officer

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Mr S Chou

APOLOGIES: Prof R Castle
Prof J Raper
Prof J Patterson
Prof A Lawson
A/Prof G Noble
Prof W Price
Prof P Crookes

Prior to the commencement of official business, the Chair welcomed the Deans as members to their first University Internationalisation Committee meeting and Ms Deborah Arnold as the Committee's new Executive Officer.

Dr C Hawksley's term on Senate expires as at 30 June 2009 and as the Senate representative on UIC, his membership on UIC will also expire. This being his last meeting, the Chair took the opportunity to thank Dr Hawksley for his input into UIC.

PART A - OFFICIAL BUSINESS

A1 Apologies and Leave of Absence

Apologies were received from Prof R Castle, Prof J Patterson, Prof J Raper, Prof A Lawson, A/Prof G Noble, Prof W Price and Prof P Crookes.

A2 Arrangement of Agenda

A2.1 Confidential items

There were no confidential items.

A2.2 Starring of Items

*A4 *C2
*A5 *C3
*B2 *C4
*B5 *C5
*C1

A motion was passed for the adoption of the unstarred items.

A3 Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

***A4 Confirmation of Minutes**

RESOLVED 2009/05

That the University Internationalisation Committee minutes of 12 March 2009 are confirmed as a true record.

***A5 Chair's Report**

The Chair reported on the following matters:

International Student Barometer: a 37% response rate received. An early draft report received indicates some student concerns over safety (UOW ranked 11 out of 12 for safety) and medical assistance on campus. UOW will receive the full report and analysis in July 2009 and the International Student Experience Committee will be reviewing the report and co-ordinating a response on issues back to UIC.

Attendance to NAFSA: a team from Wollongong attended NAFSA, the major study abroad conference event in the USA. The number of study abroad students from the USA to Australia continues to fall even though the total study abroad numbers from the USA to other parts of the world is increasing, which is predominately in the form of short term programs.

Study Abroad Planning Day: a half day planning event on study abroad was held to address the decline in numbers. A number of good suggestions on how we might reposition ourselves in the study abroad market were raised, such as: developing and packaging a number of educational program themes, eg. green energy, pre-law and pre-medicine studies, digital arts and creative design and liberal arts; the need to have our subject outlines accessible on-line to facilitate credit transfer assessment and, the need to explore markets in other areas such as Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong.

Study Abroad Farewell Function: held on 20 May 2009 saw 132 students attend the ceremony (up from 45 attendees in Spring 2008). Feedback from international students towards this event has been positive.

University Australia's Action Plan for Student Safety: UA has issued a press release in response to the recent media regarding attacks against Indian students listing a ten point action plan. A copy can be found at the following link:
http://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/content.asp?page=/news/media_releases/2009/uniaus_media_09_09.htm

Whilst UOW is not experiencing any issues or attacks similar to those being reported in Victoria, our Security is working closely with Wollongong Police to address any opportunistic crime which affects both domestic and international students from time to time off campus.

Internationalisation Reporting Project: a project is being undertaken by the Performance Indicators Project Team on the management of data for international students. The project is currently in its embryonic stages and will be reported on further at future meetings.

Internationalisation Strategic Plan: have undertaken discussions with Lynn Woodley, Strategic Planning & Quality Unit, to identify ways to integrate each of the Faculties and Unit Plans within the current international strategic and management plan. Further discussions will take place at the University's mid-year planning conference.

Comments received on the Chair's report: a Committee member commented on the success of the Welcome to Wollongong event which was initiated by A/Prof Peter Kell, who is proceeding on LWOP, and the need to ensure this program continues. A Committee member also confirmed that the International Student Experience Committee had identified the importance of the W2W event and would be investigating ways to ensure the event continued. The Chair agreed that we would want to continue this event along with International Week.

Committee members also raised the issue of recent negative media focus on international students and the need to be proactive about pushing a positive message that international students are good for the University.

PART B – BUSINESS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES

***B1 International Alliances Committee**

RESOLVED 2009/06

That the University Internationalisation Committee receive the unratified International Alliances Committee minutes of the 24 April 2009 meeting, as attached to the agenda.

***B2 International Student Experience Committee**

The Chair of the International Student Experience Committee reported that the committee will be looking at the data from the International Student Barometer survey and co-ordinate a response back to UIC on any issues.

RESOLVED 2009/07

That the University Internationalisation Committee receive the ratified International Student Experience Committee minutes of the 18 February 2009 meeting, and the unratified minutes of the 21 May 2009 meeting, as attached to the agenda.

B3 International Student Experience Committee Terms of Reference

RESOLVED 2009/08

That the University Internationalisation Committee approve the revised terms of reference for the International Student Experience Committee, as attached to the agenda.

B4 International Student Experience Committee Membership

RESOLVED 2009/09

That the University Internationalisation Committee approve the revised membership for the International Student Experience Committee, as attached to the agenda.

***B5 Strategic International Partners List**

The Chair informed the Committee that the Strategic International Partners List in its current form had approximately 60 universities listed and the list was currently aligned to the UIC Grant Linkage Scheme. To ensure the SIP List was of value it needed to be condensed to a more manageable level. The Chair invited comment from the Committee on this issue, and general points raised by Committee members are summarised as follows:

- Perhaps there is a need for two lists: one within each Faculty to ensure recognition of Faculty partners and also a delineated UOW SIP list.
- See a need for further discussion on the issue to ensure that we address the purpose of having an SIP List.
- Need to have a clear view of what linkages the List will support and relevance to each Faculty.
- What is the intention of the List and what is the basis for inclusion or exclusion of the list? Is the intention to have an elite list?
- Perhaps need to address the word “strategic” as part of the reference to the list. Do we need to call it a “list”, perhaps refer to it as “Strategic Partners”.
- How do we maintain and satisfy these relationships?
- What is the strategy about maintaining these partnerships?

It was agreed by the Committee that a paper be prepared capturing the above comments be forwarded to IAC requesting further review of the SIP List, and answers to the questions raised by UIC is required before this matter can be actioned.

RESOLVED 2009/10

That the University Internationalisation Committee seek a response from the International Alliances Committee on questions raised by UIC members regarding the Strategic Partners List.

PART C – GENERAL BUSINESS

***C1 Country Analysis - India**

The Chair presented the Country Analysis on India, providing the Committee with a brief overview of trends from 2004 to 2008. A copy of the presentation was provided to members.

The Manager, International Student Recruitment presented a snapshot of issues facing marketing of Indian cohorts and highlighted the fact that the majority of Indian students

require loans to enable them to study abroad which often requires them to undertake work once they are here.

The Marketing and Admissions Officer (India) in UniAdvice reported on the Orkut Chat room that has been set up to assist in promoting the studying experience of Indian students at UOW. UniAdvice have selected a group of students to participate in sharing their real life stories on this chat forum.

Ms Acharya advised she is the moderator for this forum and encourages students to also list positive experiences. A Committee member asked if a list any issues raised on the forum be provided to Faculty Deans in an attempt to address any concerns.

The Senior Manager, Client Service provided the Committee with feedback from the Indian student focus group. An issue of concern to these students was their expectation that the Careers Service would assist them in finding a job. A Committee member stated that perhaps Faculties could provide a list of employers they have relationships with UOW that students may be able to contact.

Another issue raised by the student focus group was the possibility of extending the hours of the Library and ITS facilities for international students. A Committee member raised the issue of whether UOW could undertake some benchmarking against other Universities on their Library and IT services provided. The Senior Manager, Client Service understood that the Library had undertaken a benchmarking exercise against other Universities and would follow this matter up with the Library.

A copy of the presentation by the Senior Manager, Client Service will be circulated to UIC members.

RESOLVED 2009/11

That the University Internationalisation Committee note the Country Analysis presentation provided at the meeting.

***C2 UOW International website**

The Manager, International Relations presented on the international intranet webpage now available. The implementation of this website is an attempt to bring together all things international, a "one stop shop". Committee members were asked to forward any questions to Trish Tindall regarding the site and encourage staff to check the site to ensure items are up-to-date and if any other issues/items could also be captured on this site.

RESOLVED 2009/12

That the University Internationalisation Committee note the presentation provided by the Manager, International Relations.

***C3 Government Policy and issues impacting on Higher Education**

The Regulatory Affairs Manager spoke briefly to his report and noted even with the global financial crisis impact there had still been growth in the higher education and VET sector. Feedback was sought from members on the value and interest of the information provided in this report. The Chair confirmed that the information contained within the report was useful and would like to see it continue.

RESOLVED 2009/13

That the University Internationalisation Committee receive the report on Government Policy and issues impacting on Higher Education as provided in the agenda paper.

C4 UIC Work Plan Progress Update

To move forward and streamline the progress review process of the Work Plan, the Chair suggested to the Committee that a quarterly review of the Work Plan be undertaken. The Chair asked Committee members to provide to the UIC Executive Officer a progress report addressing relevant planned actions that fall within their responsibility at their earliest convenience to enable reporting at the next UIC meeting.

RESOLVED 2009/14

That the University Internationalisation Committee report on the UIC Work Plan on a quarterly basis with progress reports addressing planned actions provided to the UIC Executive Officer.

C5 UOWIA International Student Marketing & Recruitment Report

A Committee member had starred this item but in the interest of time constraints on the meeting, agreed to unstar the item and direct his comments/feedback regarding the report via email to the Chair for acknowledgement.

RESOLVED 2009/15

That the University Internationalisation Committee note the International Student Marketing & Recruitment Report, as attached to the agenda.

C6 Other Business

There were no items of other business.

C7 Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on 27 August 2009.

The meeting closed at 11.35am.

Signed as a true record:

Chairperson
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