UNIVERSITY RESEARCH COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Minutes of meeting 02/06 of the University Research Committee held on 3 May 2006 at 9:30am in Lecture Theatre 20.5, Building 20.

PRESENT: 
Professor M Sheil (Chair)
Professor H Brown
Professor J Chicharo
Dr T Coyle
Professor S Dodds
A/Professor S Dolnicar
Professor S Dou
Ms E Ens
Mr K Finlayson
Mr R Gordon
Professor B Harper
Ms S Hughes
A/Professor S Jones
Dr A Macris
Ms H Mandl
Dr M Rix
A/Professor S Robinson
Prof G Rose
Professor R Safavi-Naini
Mr A Skorulis
Professor G Spinks
Professor D Steel
Professor J Steele
Ms T Tindall
Professor B Uy
Professor G Wallace
Professor R Whelan
Professor M Wilson
Professor C Woodroffe

SECRETARY: Susan McGaffin

PART A - PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

A1 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies had been received from Professor L Astheimer, A/Professor D Considine, Professor P Crookes, Mr P Day, Professor J Glynn, Professor D Griffiths, Professor A Lawson, Dr M Lerch, Dr L Lyons, Professor J Norrish, Professor J Patterson, Mr C Peden, Ms K Roser, A/Professor P Sharrad, Professor L Tapsell, Professor M Tsemenyi, Professor A Wells and Professor J Wright.

Mr R Gordon was representing Professor K Eagar, Ms H Mandl was representing Ms F McGregor and Professor B Uy was representing Professor C Cook.
The Chair welcomed Mr Ken Finlayson, President of WUPA as the new HDR Student Representative member.

A2 Business from the Last Meeting

A2.1 Minutes of previous meeting (29 March 2006)

RESOLVED (07/06)
That the minutes of the University Research Committee meeting held on 29 March 2006 (01/2006) be confirmed as a true record of the meeting.

ACTION: Susan McGaffin

A2.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

French Cotutelle Scheme at UOW

The French Cotutelle Scheme has been approved by Academic Senate and will be forwarded to the University Council meeting of 23 June 2006.

Revised University Research Committee Terms of Reference

The revised University Research Committee Terms of Reference will be forwarded to Academic Senate Standing Committee on 24 May 2006. In line with this the Chair advised the DVC(R) nominees on the Committee that they will receive a letter regarding their membership.

A3 Chair’s Business

A3.1 Awards/Appointments

Congratulations to:
- A/Professor Bev Derewianka (Faculty of Education) as recipient of this year’s Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Research Supervision.

- Ms Eve Steinke (Ethics Officer at the Research Services Office) as recipient of the Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Outstanding Services for General staff.

Appointments:
- Ms Giselle Coltman has accepted the position of RQF Officer, commencing 15 May 2006.

- Ms Rhondalee Cambareri has accepted the position of Commercial Research Officer.

- The recruitment process for the newly created MICD position is currently underway.
PART B – GENERAL BUSINESS

B1 Revised IP Policy Framework

The Committee discussed the revised IP Policy Framework documents as follows:

**Intellectual Property Policy and Explanatory Guidelines**

- Insertion of statement that UoW will allow Creators the right to commercialise if UoW is not interested in the IP, provided that the Creator has fully disclosed and cooperated (Section 12).
- Insertion of continued commitment to pay ongoing patent fees when providing notice not to continue with a patent (Section 12 and section 5.2 of the Guidelines).
- Clarification that Staff Members do not have the right to grant sub-licences to Teaching Material (section 4.2 of the Guidelines).
- Clarification that UoW does not want a prior assignment of IP where the student is developing the IP solely and there is no relevant contract (Section 10, section 4.7 of the Guidelines).
- Clarification that external organisations could include other Universities, in the context of considering third party ownership of student IP (section 4.1 of the Guidelines).

**Student Assignment of Intellectual Property Policy and Explanatory Guidelines**

- Clarification that we will not remove students from projects that have already commenced if they do not choose to assign their IP to UoW (section 5).
- Reinforcement that UoW does not want a prior assignment of IP where the student is developing the IP solely and there is no relevant contract (sections 4 and 5, sections 2.5 and 6 of the Guidelines).
- Clarification of what various agreements would make a project a category 2 project (section 7 of the Guidelines).

Greg Rose suggested seeking external legal advice on asking students to sign upfront agreements to assign their IP, if commerical IP is developed in exchange for a share of returns to be based on relative contributions to IP development and then submitted to binding arbitration to determine relative contribution.

**Note:** The following revisions were made to the IP Policy Framework following the URC meeting as a result of further staff and student consultation.

**Commercialisation Revenue Policy and Explanatory Guidelines**

- Statement that UoW would normally follow the recommendations and agreed proportions of the Creators (section 10 of Guidelines).
- Insertion of new section relating to conflicts of interest (section 5.7 of Guidelines).

**RESOLVED (08/06)**

That pending clarification of the above matters, the University Research Committee endorse the revised Intellectual Property Policy, Student Assignment of Intellectual Property Policy and Commercialisation Revenue Policy and forward them to the Academic Senate and University Council for approval.

**ACTION:** Troy Coyle
PART C – NEXT MEETING AND OTHER BUSINESS

C1  Next meeting – 9.30 am, Wednesday, 21 June 2006, Kemira Rooms 3 & 4, Building 11

The meeting closed at 10.40am.

ACTION ITEMS:

Action A2  S McGaffin to file previous URC minutes.
Action B1  T Coyle to forward IP Policy Framework to Academic Senate

Signed as a true record ..........................................................
Chairperson ....../..../ 06