University Research Committee

Minutes of meeting 01/07 of the University Research Committee held on 28 March 2007 at 9:30am in Kemira Rooms 3 & 4, Building 11.

**PRESENT:**
- Professor M Sheil (*Chair*)
- Dr T Coyle
- Professor S Dodds
- Professor S Dolnicar
- Professor S Dou
- Mr K Finlayson
- Ms J Green
- Professor D Griffiths
- A/Professor N Hudson
- Ms S Hughes
- Professor D Iverson
- Professor S Jones
- A/Professor P Keller
- Dr M Lerch
- Dr A Macris
- Ms H Mandl
- A/Professor T Marchant
- A/Professor L McNamara
- Dr Y Mu
- Dr D Nolan
- Professor J Norrish
- Professor P Ogunbona
- Mr C Peden
- Dr M Rix
- A/Professor S Robinson
- Ms K Roser
- Professor A Rozenfeld
- Professor A Schultz
- Dr T Scrase
- Professor J Steele
- Prof L Tapsell
- Ms T Tindall
- Dr C Too
- Professor A Wells
- Professor R Whelan
- Professor M Wilson
- Professor J Wright

**SECRETARY:** Susan McGaffín

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**PART A - PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**
A1 Welcome and Apologies

The following members were welcomed or noted as being their first University Research Committee meeting:

- Directors of Research Strengths - Professor A Rozenfeld, A/Professor P Keller, Professor D Steel, Professor P Ogunbona
- Professor S Dodds in her new role as DVC(R) nominated member
- Professor B Ferry as new Chair of the University Ethics Policy Committee
- A/Professor T Marchant as Chair of the Thesis Committee.

Apologies had been received from Professor L Astheimer, Professor J Chicharo, A/Professor D Considine, Professor C Cook, Professor P Crookes, Mr P Day, Ms E Ens, A/Professor B Ferry, Professor J Glynn, Professor B Harper, Professor S Leitch, Professor R Lewis, Dr L Lockyer, Mr S Needham, Mr C Patch, A/Professor P Sharrad, Professor D Steel, Professor M Tsamenyi.

Ms J Green was representing Professor K Eagar, A/Professor T Marchant was representing Professor S Bouzerdoum, Ms H Mandl was representing Ms F McGregor, Dr D Nolan was representing Professor G Spinks, Dr C Too was representing Professor G Wallace.

A2 Arrangement of the Agenda

The following items were starred (*) for discussion:

A3.2 Business Arising from Minutes
A4 Chairs Business
B1 Research and Innovation Division Report
B3 Research Strength 2007 Performance Funding Allocations
B4 RQF Update
C1 Matters from Thesis Committee

A3 Business from the Last Meeting

A3.1 Minutes of previous meeting (6 December 2006)

RESOLVED (01/07)

That the minutes of the University Research Committee meeting held on 6 December 2006 (05/06) be confirmed as a true record.

ACTION: Susan McGaffin

A3.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

Working Party on Code of Conduct Research

At its last meeting the Committee approved the establishment of a Working Party to review the University’s Authorship Policy in anticipation of the new Joint NHMRC/AVCC Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research which will now be released in June 2007. The Code will impact on how the university deals with research misconduct across a number of areas, not just the UOW Authorship Policy. It has therefore been decided that Dr Troy Coyle and Ms Kim Roser will conduct an analysis of the new Code and coordinate changes to UOW policies in consultation with the URSC, URC, Deans of Faculties, Faculty Research Chairs and Directors of
Research Strengths as appropriate. Working Parties may be established for specific issues if appropriate.

**RESOLVED (01/07)**

*That analysis of, and policy changes associated with, the new Joint NHMRC/AVCC Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research will be undertaken in consultation with the URSC, URC, Deans of Faculties, Faculty Research Chairs and Directors of Research Strengths as appropriate.*

**ACTION:** Dr Troy Coyle, Ms Kim Roser

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**A4 Chair’s Business**

**A4.1 Appointments/Awards**

- Congratulations to Gordon Wallace for being awarded a Fellowship of the Australian Academy of Science. This elite award is the first to be received by a University of Wollongong academic for work conducted at UOW.
- New research appointments: Prof David Officer (IPRI), Prof Nick Dixon (Chemistry) and Prof Mike Morwood (GeoQuest).

**A4.2 General**

- Accenture, a global management, consulting, technology services and outsourcing company, has signed a contract to establish an IT development and client support at UOW (building 39). The facility will initially create about 100 new IT jobs with potential to increase to 150 jobs.
- Space will be an ongoing issue on campus until April 2008 when the first occupants move to the Innovation Campus.
- Congratulations were extended to the RSO Grants Team for their hard work and dedication during the ARC Discovery application process.
- The Vice-Chancellor expressed his sentiment at the recent UOW Planning Day that 2006 was a great success in terms of research outcomes, and acknowledged and thanked everyone for their efforts.

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**PART B – GENERAL BUSINESS**

**B1 Research and Innovation Division Report**

Noted

**B2 UOW Fellow, Volunteer and Visiting Student Assignment of Intellectual Property Policy**

**RESOLVED (02/07)**

*That the University Research Committee endorse the Fellow, Volunteer and Visiting Student Assignment of Intellectual Property Policy and associated Explanatory Guidelines and forward them to the Academic Senate Standing, Academic Senate and University Council for approval.*

**ACTION:** Sharon Hughes

**B3 Research Strength 2007 Performance Funding Allocations**

Tabled and noted.
B4  RQF Update

The document “RQF Update” was tabled and noted, in particular the following:

- The DVC(R) has been appointed as a member of the national RQF Reference Committee.
- DEST will be releasing summaries of these meetings on their website.
- The RIS is being set up to accept top publications and esteem factors for RQF groups
- RQF specifications are scheduled to be released July 2007.
- A number of UOW staff participated on RQF workshops in early 2007.
- The university has submitted an Expression of Interest for the DEST RQF Pre-implementation Trial, with three UOW groups proposed to participate which meet DEST testing criteria.
- RQF team is growing with the commencement of Tracy Garlick and a proposal to the Vice Chancellor for expansion of the RQF team over upcoming months.
- The Chair encouraged members to respond to enquiries seeking their input to identify journal/conference rankings for their disciplines. These professional groups/societies will have significant input into ranking lists for the RQF.

PART C – MATTERS FOR NOTING

C1  Matters from Thesis Committee

C1.1 Minutes from Thesis Committee Meeting

It was noted that the Thesis Committee has revised the selection criteria for thesis examiners. There was some discussion of this issue and members were advised to correspond directly with the Research Student Centre.

RESOLVED (03/07)
That the University Research Committee receive the minutes of the Thesis Committee meetings of 8 November and 13 December 2006.

ACTION:  Julie King

PART D – NEXT MEETING AND OTHER BUSINESS

D1  Next meeting – 9.30 am, Wednesday, 20 June 2007, Function Rooms1 & 2 (Unicentre).
The meeting closed at 10.15am.

ACTION ITEMS:

Action A2  S McGaffin to file previous URC minutes.
Action A3  T Coyle, K Roser to coordinate analysis and review of new Australian Code for Responsible Conduct of Research
Action C1.1  J King to file previous Thesis Committee minutes.

Signed as a true record  ......................................................
Chairperson            ..../..../ 07