

**EXTRACT OF MINUTES
BOARD OF GRADUATE RESEARCH
MEETING 2 2007**

A meeting of the Board of Graduate Research was held from 2.00pm to 4.00pm Friday April 20 2007, in the Meeting Room, Office of Research Services, Sandy Bay.

Present:

- Professor Carey Denholm, Dean of Graduate Research (Chairman/Dean of Graduate Research)
- Professor Allan Canty, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research)
- Professor Judi Walker, Deputy Chair Academic Senate
- Dr Kate Crowley, Deputy Dean of Graduate Research, Elected Member
- Associate Professor Margaret Barrett, Elected Member
- Associate Professor Natalie Moltschaniwskyj, Elected Member
- Associate Professor Diane Nicol, Elected Member
- Professor Frank Vanclay, Elected by Senate
- Professor Jonathan Holmes, Elected by Senate
- Mr Kevin Redd, TUPA Representative

Secretary:

- Dr Katherine Nesbitt

1. Apologies

- Dr Elaine Stratford
- Dr Frances Martin, Elected Member

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Board confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting (February 9 2007), as included in the meeting papers. The Board accepted the Chairman's suggestion that the extracts of these minutes, for posting on the university website, be approved by circular resolution before the next meeting.

3. Business arising from previous meeting

3.1. Mechanisms to facilitate candidates to study overseas (deferred: Item 22 previous meeting)

The Board discussed the mechanisms available across a number of faculties to support candidates in overseas-based study.

The mechanisms to support overseas conference attendance were also discussed. In summing up, The Dean undertook to urge schools to encourage overseas travel, to investigate the possibility of corporate-sponsored travel schemes, and to discuss funding options with the University Foundation.

3.2. Relationship of Honours students to centres and BGR (deferred: Item 21 previous meeting)

The Dean noted that the Board of Graduate Research has no formal responsibility for Honours students. Mr Redd noted that TUPA (Tasmanian University Postgraduate Association) was keen to involve Honours students in seminar programmes and events. The Board noted that a number of faculties do not have a formal Honours year, including Law and Medicine. The Board also discussed training for Honours supervisors. Professor Canty suggested that The Dean include a discussion on how research higher degree supervision differs from Honours supervision in his supervisor training sessions.

3.3. Discussion of significant policy/procedures for 2007 – Dean (deferred: Item 30 previous meeting)

The Dean noted significant policy developments for 2007 including the likelihood of the eventual introduction of oral examinations. He further noted that the inclusion of research training data in the RQF (Research Quality Framework), the impact of increased EDGE agenda targets on administration and resources, and the implications of a relatively low percentage (24%) of recorded university publications involving a research higher degree candidate in 2006. In relation to the latter point, the Board discussed the possibility of underreporting being a contributing factor.

3.4. Research Training Management Plan (RRTMP) (deferred: Item 25 previous Meeting)

The Dean drew the Board's attention to Goal 4 of the Research Training Management Plan (page 20 of the Plan). Professor Canty noted that the Vice-Chancellor is now working on "EDGE 2" and will be revisiting the existing plan from mid-2007.

3.5. Experiences of 2006 Annual Review and preparation for 2007 Annual Review – Dean (deferred: Item 32 previous meeting)

The Dean requested volunteers to run de-briefing and feedback sessions for Graduate Research Coordinators prior to commencement of the 2007 Annual Review process, to be coordinated by the Deputy Dean, Dr Kate Crowley. Associate Professor Moltschanivskyj, Professor Vanclay, and Associate Professor Barrett all volunteered, depending on their schedules. Dr Crowley offered to run a session in Launceston if required.

4. New Business

4.1. Proposed variation to MA Research (English) programme

The Board approved the proposed variation with the following amendment:

Paragraph 2 under "Information on Induction" be changed to read

"The major creative work or collection of works will be produced during candidature and will be in the genres of"

4.2. Supervision arrangements for candidates based at TAFI

The Dean informed the Board that a change to the supervision arrangements for candidates based at TAFI has been approved by the Director of TAFI, Professor Colin Buxton, and the

Head of the School of Zoology. The Dean will inform the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology and other Heads of School with candidates based at MRL.

4.3. Co-authorship scoring arrangements

The Board discussed the Co-authorship scoring system included in the meeting papers. Professor Vanclay noted that the University of Tasmania is already a signatory to the Vancouver protocol covering authorship. The Board requested that Professor Moltschaniwskyj bring the scoring system she currently uses to the next Board meeting. The Dean noted that this could be a useful tool on the website for current candidates.

4.4. Recommended changes to guidelines (Management of a C2 result)

The Dean noted that these changes had been discussed at the last Board meeting in February. The Board approved the changes to the guidelines.

4.5. Recommended changes to procedures (Supervision arrangements)

The Board approved the following changes to the Procedures of Graduate Research:

“5 Supervision Arrangements

(5) An employee of the University of Tasmania who is enrolled as a graduate research candidate at the University of Tasmania (not including those enrolled in higher doctorates), would not normally be appointed as a supervisor at the University of Tasmania”.

5. Standing Items

5.1. Dean’s Report

The Dean tabled the postgraduate activity report and presented a copy to the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research). The Dean’s report highlighted the following:

- Enrolments in the Commercialisation Training Scheme are progressing well with two students from the Australian Maritime College recently enrolling.
- The rule change regarding Confirmation of Candidature has been sent to the Senate Legislative Committee for drafting.
- The first MFA (Drama) examination process proceeded smoothly.
- 19 professional skills workshops for graduate research candidates are scheduled for Hobart in May and 12 for Launceston/Cradle Coast Campus.
- The CSIRO ICT Scholarship programme has been finalised and discussions held with the CEO, Stephen Guigni, regarding the adoption of two current candidates by July 2007.
- A candidate has lodged a complaint with the Dean regarding an internal School process. The Dean is currently investigating.

5.2. Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) Report

5.3. Deputy Chair (Academic Senate) Report

Professor Walker noted that discussions at Academic Senate had reiterated the concerns, felt by many, regarding the divide between the need for continued growth and the need to maintain high quality.

5.4. Load Activity Report and 2007 Targets

The Load Activity Reports were tabled.

5.5. Tasmania Postgraduate Association Report

Mr Redd reported that a number of workshops for graduate research candidates had been successfully delivered. Mr Redd briefly discussed the graduate research conference, including a poster session, as described under the Service Level Agreement between the student association and the University. He indicated that Honours students will also be invited to participate. Professor Molschaniwskyj noted the importance of including the Northern campuses in this event.

6. Other Business

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Graduate Research is scheduled for Friday June 29 2007, 1.30pm – 4.00pm in the Meeting Room, Office of Research Services, Sandy Bay.