

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY SPORT BOARD

MEETING 2/2014 – 8 May 2014

The minutes of meeting 2/2014 of the Melbourne University Sport Board were held on Thursday 8 May 2014 at 9.00am in the Pavilion Function Room.

PRESENT:

Mr. Geoff Rees (Chair)
Dr Lynne Williams
Mr. James Sutherland
Professor Richard James
Mr. Andrew Gillies

APOLOGIES:

Professor Margaret Abernethy
Dr Mitchell Anderson

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Tim Lee (Director)
Mr. Adrian Collette
Mr. Jean-Luc Garlick (sec)
Mrs. Julie Caundle (note taker)
Mr. Chris Harvey
Mr. Alex Affleck
Mr. Rod Warnecke
Ms. Joy Villalino

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND INTRODUCTION

1.1 Welcome

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and in particular new members Mr. Andrew Gillies and Professor Richard James.

The Director introduced Mr. Andrew Gillies as the new student member currently undertaking a Bachelor of Commerce (Finance/Economics) with a diploma in Languages (French). Mr. Gillies is a member of the Elite Athlete Program with a VIS Scholarship for Sailing and is also a member of the Rugby Club and previous captain of the under 20 side. Mr. Gillies has represented the University in Sailing, Rugby and Touch Football.

Professor Richard James has recently been appointed as the Vice-Chancellor's nominee replacing Professor Mark Hargreaves. Professor Abernethy completed her initial three year term in February but has agreed to continue for a further term.

Mr. Adrian Collette (VP Engagement) attended as MU Sport now sits within Engagement, rather than the Provost's portfolio.

1.2 Apologies

Professor Abernethy.

1.3 Minutes from previous meeting

Dr Williams suggested that the minutes had become more conversational rather than a record of important discussions and outcomes. The Chair asked that the minutes be sent to Dr Williams for input into the style and content.

Action: Send draft minutes to Dr Williams for comment.

Motion: The previous minutes were passed as a true and accurate record.

1.4 Confirmation of Circular Resolutions

There were no circular resolutions to confirm.

1.5 Action Item Updates

1.5.1 Sports Capital Infrastructure Plan (SCIP)

The Director reported that the SCIP had been with Property and Campus Services (PCS) since the plan was endorsed by the Board in July 2013. PCS had committed to considering the report in detail and providing a response but had not been able to do so as yet. The Director was in regular contact with PCS and would keep the Board informed on progress at future meetings.

The Board asked the Director to prepare and circulate to the Board a summary of key issues from the report. The Board agreed to invite Mr. Michael Tracey from PCS Planning to the next Board meeting to provide an update.

Action: That Mr. Michael Tracey present at the next Board Meeting and that the Director circulate a summary of the key issues to the Board.

1.5.2 Previous Student Board Member presentation

Mr. Marburg had been invited to attend the meeting for a presentation in recognition for his services to MU Sport.

1.5.3 Fitness Services Report

In response to the request at the previous meeting to provide regular reports on Fitness Services a template has been included in the Director's report for consideration by the Board.

1.5.4 2014 Operational Plan

Updates on the Operational Plan are contained in the Director's Report to the Board at each meeting, however, an additional report would be provided in the format presented to the Board at the last meeting.

2. STRATEGIC DISCUSSIONS

2.1 Growing Esteem Strategy Review

The Director presented a summary of the *Green Paper* distributed by the University to commence the review of the *Growing Esteem Strategy*. The paper was designed to invite discussion and feedback about the University's future direction and identify the key issues and challenges. The vision for the University remains centred on the Triple Helix: of research, education and engagement.

The paper also outlines that the University aspires to provide a transformative student experience and makes several references to sport in this regard. This is the first time that sport has appeared in a University strategic discussion paper.

The Engagement Portfolio (including MU Sport) submitted a response recommending an Engagement Commission to consider further the role that engagement plays in delivering the University's strategy. The response emphasised the importance of sport and regular physical activity in developing graduate attributes such as leadership and volunteerism, and the link between the quality of the cohort experience and philanthropy.

Professor James stated the Green Paper was an important document in guiding the University's strategic direction. Mr. Collette noted that Engagement would be crucial in bringing the strands of the triple helix together.

The Chair outlined the importance of actively participating in the review of Growing Esteem as an opportunity to present a case for sport to Senior University Management.

2.2 Review of the Strategic Plan for Sport

The Director outlined the proposal to review the *Strategic Plan for Sport* (2010 – 2015) including the plan to engage with key stakeholders in reviewing the current strategies and to identify new challenges and opportunities. The plan was developed in 2009 and adopted by the Board in early 2010. It is timely to review and update the strategies in line with the review of *Growing Esteem*. A detailed strategic discussion will be scheduled for a future Board meeting with the final draft of the new plan to be presented to the Board in early 2015 for endorsement.

Motion: The plan for the review of the Strategic Plan for Sport was noted.

3. MATTERS FOR DECISION

3.1 Club Funding Review

The Director outlined the proposal to conduct a major review of club funding this year for implementation in 2015.

Prior to the introduction of the Voluntary Student Unionism (VSU) in 2005 the 40 clubs received close to \$600,000 in financial support. This amount was reduced to \$130,000 in 2006, but has since increased to \$345,000 with the introduction of the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF).

The additional funding has coincided with an increase in participation but the performance of many competitive clubs has not improved. There is also a perception of a lack of equity and transparency in the current distribution of funds. The objective of the review is to develop transparent criteria for the future distribution of funds in line with the performance and participation objectives outlined in the *Strategic Plan for Sport*.

The Chair will announce the review at the upcoming Club Forum. He will also announce that an additional \$200,000 will be provided in 2015 to ensure that there is no reduction in individual club funding but that sufficient funds are available to support identified strategic initiatives. Sourcing the additional club funds will create budget challenges for MU Sport that will be addressed as the 2015 budget is developed.

The Director outlined the terms of reference and timeline of the review and requested that the Board endorse the Club Funding Review Proposal.

Motion: The Club Funding Review Proposal was endorsed.

4. MATTERS FOR NOTING

4.1 Financial Report

The financial report was prepared to enable the Board to consider all matters in regards to the current financial position.

Motion: The Finance Report was noted

4.2 Director's Report

The Director's report was accepted as read. The Fitness Services report template was endorsed and it was agreed to present this report at future Board meetings. The Board was shown a short video that University Marketing had prepared during the recent University Orientation program which prominently featured sport and sporting club activities.

5. MEETING FINALISATION

5.1 Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Thursday 3 July, 6.00pm in the Sports Centre Board Room.

5.2 Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 11.00am.

5.3 Tour of Pavilion

The Board where taken on a tour of the Pavilion.

Mr. Marburg arrived for the tour and at the conclusion the Chair presented him with a gift and thanked him for his time on the Board.

Signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record:



Mr Geoff Rees



Date