

**MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY SPORT BOARD
MEETING 2/2015 – 7 MAY 2015**

The minutes of meeting 2/2015 of the Melbourne University Sport Board was held on Thursday 7 May 2015 at 9.00am in the Boardroom at MU Sport.

PRESENT:

Professor Richard James (acting Chair)
Mr Andrew Gillies
Mr Grant Williams
Ms Kate Roffey
Professor Jim Angus
Mr James Marburg

APOLOGIES:

Professor Margaret Abernethy
Mr Adrian Collette

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Tim Lee (Director)
Mr Jean-Luc Garlick (Secretary)
Mr Chris Harvey
Mr Rod Warnecke
Mr Alex Affleck
Ms Joy Villalino
Ms Julie Caundle (note taker)

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND INTRODUCTION

1.1 Welcome

Professor James, as acting Chair, welcomed members and observers to the meeting and incoming Chair Professor Jim Angus and new Board member Mr James Marburg. As this was the first meeting that Professor Angus had attended it was agreed that Professor James would Chair. The acting Chair asked Professor Angus to give a brief summary of his background for the benefit of the Board members.

1.2 Apologies

Apologies were noted.

1.3 Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes were passed as a true and accurate record.

1.4 Confirmation of Circular Resolutions

There were no circular resolutions to confirm.

1.5 Business Arising/Action Item Updates

1.5.1 Strategic Plan Review

The Director outlined that he and Mr Collette had decided to defer the release of the Sport Discussion Paper until after the University had released the Growing Esteem Strategy 2016 - 2020 to allow any issues relevant to sport to be included. The acting Chair noted that he, along with the Director, had attended a Planning Day on the University's Engagement Strategy.

1.5.2 Sporting Club Funding Review

The Sporting Club Funding Review discussion paper was not ready for presentation at the May Board meeting.

2. MATTERS FOR DECISION

There were no matters for decision.

3. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

3.1 2014 Review and 2015 Strategic Objectives

The Director noted that the presentation had been held over from the November 2014 meeting and as a result many of the 2015 Strategic Objectives had already been progressed.

The 2014 Sport Video was presented. The Director noted that the video presented visually the highlights and the vast range of sport activities at the University during 2014. Professor Angus noted that the 2015 video could be presented to Academic Board in December to underline the important role that Sport plays at the University. The Director committed to ensuring that the production was moved forward to enable this to occur.

The Director presented the 2014 Review. The key environmental issues impacting on Sport and the University during 2014 included the federal government continuing to reduce funding and the consideration of greater deregulation of the sector. Deregulation has now been deferred as it was unlikely to get support in the Senate.

The University Campaign has continued to progress towards the \$500M target and the review of Growing Esteem was deferred whilst the University undertook the Business Improvement Plan (BIP). There was also a significant change to the University operating structure and as a result Sport now sits in the Engagement Portfolio under VPE Mr. Adrian Collette.

The Director reported on the performance against the key performance indicators agreed to by the Board in late 2013. Sport participated in the review of the Growing Esteem with a response to the *Green Paper* included in the Engagement Portfolio paper. The review of the Strategic Plan for Sport commenced in early 2014 but is still ongoing. Four new board members were appointed but the review of the Board Terms of Reference has been deferred to this year.

The long term capital plan (SCIP) was completed but not formally endorsed with ongoing capital funding for sport projects confirmed (\$.5M per annum) in the University 10 Year Capital Plan. The Ernie Copley Pavilion was refurbished and building depreciation was removed from the balance sheet. The University agreed to proceed with a feasibility study with Melbourne City Council to manage Princes Park but this proposal has not progressed. Over \$800,000 in donations was raised for the Pavilion and the boat club chapter established.

Participation increased by 14% with several new events including the Melbourne v Monash Varsity Challenge and Big Play Day launched. The first Australian University Sport benchmark survey was undertaken with UoM the leader for Go8 student participation in 2013.

The Elite Athlete Entry Scheme proposal was developed after broad consultation but is experiencing significant resistance. The club funding model review commenced with an additional \$200,000 allocated to support club development in 2015. The budget position continues to improve but little progress was made to address the impact of the EBA on the cost of business in particular in the fitness services area.

Several strategic items have been deferred until this year but generally the performance of the organisation in completing or progressing key strategic goals during 2014 has been noteworthy.

2015 Strategic Priorities

The Director outlined the Strategic Priorities for 2015 as a combination of the remaining objectives and actions from the current strategic plan and emerging strategies from the review that will appear in the next plan. The key strategic priorities include:

- Ensure that Sport aligns with the updated Growing Esteem Strategy.
- That the Strategic Plan for Sport 2016 – 2020 is completed and presented to the University Executive.
- Maintain or improve the level of funding from the Student Services and Amenity Fee but ultimately position Sport for direct funding.
- Grow student participation by a further 5% and better understand and address hurdles to participation. Improve data collection on student participation and measure satisfaction.
- Develop and implement further strategies to improve club performance.
- Increase the range of University competitions providing spectator opportunities for students and alumni.
- Ensure sport capital projects appear in the Campus Development Framework and increase support for capital development and facility maintenance.
- Continue negotiations with Melbourne City Council on long term access and management of Princes Park.
- Review and develop workforce staff plan in line with strategic initiatives.
- Develop more comprehensive student leadership and volunteerism programs.
- Increase programs that raise aspiration amongst under-represented groups.
- Advocate for improvements to the Elite Athlete Entry Scheme and expand student/athlete recruitment.
- Continue to identify and steward potential donors and expand the frequency and level of support for sport alumni events.

The acting Chair thanked the Director for his report and noted that there was general support for the key strategies for 2015. Discussion followed on reducing the reliance on the SSAF by securing direct funding from the University. The Director outlined that the funding would need to replace the SSAF but the strategy should focus on consideration of the services and facilities that a University should provide at no cost as part of the student experience.

Professor Jim Angus and Mr James Marburg left the meeting at 9.30am.

The acting Chair outlined for the Board the emerging strategies in the Growing Esteem Review to expand the student population and increase student

accommodation from 2,500 to 6,000 beds. This would present both an opportunity and a challenge for Sport.

3.2 Advancement Report

Mr Harvey presented the Sport Advancement report prepared for the University Executive and presented at the March 2015 meeting. The report was an important opportunity to outline to senior University Management the role that Sport plays in ongoing engagement with the alumni and the performance during 2014 in generating benefaction. Much of this information has been reported to the Board previously but Mr Harvey presented on the key highlights.

In 2014, 285 donors, a 25% increase on 2013, donated \$985,000 to Sport and \$1.1M in income was raised. Five club chapters have now been established as part of the Melbourne University Sport Foundation and as reported the Melbourne University Boat Club launched a significant fundraising initiative and to date have raised more than \$485,000. In addition just over \$202,000 was raised to support the day to day operations of the sporting clubs.

More than \$1.4 million was raised through a combination of realised significant bequests and donations to the Ernie Cropley Pavilion. One donor committed to match donations raised for the "Pavvy" on a dollar for dollar basis.

4. MATTERS FOR NOTING

4.1 Finance Report

Mr Garlick presented the finance report.

Mr Williams asked that financial information over the last couple of years be provided in a graphical format. The Director stated that Mr Garlick would liaise with Mr Williams to ensure that the information requested was contained in the next Finance Report.

The Finance report was noted.

Action: That additional financial performance data be included in future reports.

4.2 Director's Report

The Director's report was noted.

4.3 Fitness Services Report

The Fitness Services report was noted.

5. MEETING FINALISATION

5.1 Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 10.20am.

5.2 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 23 July at 6.00pm

Signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record:

Richard H James

Acting Chair Professor Richard James

4 August 2015

**MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY SPORT BOARD
ACTION SHEET 2/2015 – 7 May 2015**

Minute no.	Item Title	Action	Person/s Responsible	Current Status
MUS Board 5/14 Item 3.3.1	Strategic Plan Review	The Discussion Paper Executive Summary to be updated.	Director	The Growing Esteem Strategy was released in early July but the Discussion Paper has yet to be updated to include relevant information.
MUS Board 5/14 Item 3.3.2	Sporting Club Funding Review	The Discussion paper to be updated.	Mr Warnecke	The summary was provided to the Club Forum in May but the completed report has not yet been released.
MUS Board 2/15 Item 3.1	2014 Review and 2015 Strategic Objective	That additional financial performance data be included in future reports.	Mr Garlick	Format checked with Mr Williams and included in reports for July meeting