

**MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY SPORT BOARD**  
**MEETING 1/2020 – 14 May 2020**

The minutes of meeting 1/2020 of the Melbourne University Sport Board held on Thursday 14 May at 9:30am via Zoom.

**PRESENT:**

Professor James Angus (Chair)  
Professor Kerri-Lee Krause  
Professor Richard James (for 1.1)  
Professor Sarah Biddulph  
Ms Alex Lawlor  
Ms Lara McKay  
Ms Joanna Weston  
Mr James Marburg  
Mr Shawn Ingle  
Ms Anna Traill

**APOLOGIES:**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr Tim Lee (Director)  
Mr Jean-Luc Garlick  
Ms Julie Caundle  
Mr Eugene Toh (minute taker)

**1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND INTRODUCTION**

**1.1 Welcome**

The Chair welcomed all present noting Professor Kraus's appointment to the Board and that this was her first meeting. Professor James gave his apologies as he was due at another meeting but before he left thanked the staff for their efforts during the shutdown and provided a brief overview of the University's return to campus planning.

**1.2 Apologies**

No apologies were listed.

**1.3 Conflict of Interest**

No conflict of interests declared.

**1.4 Minutes from the previous meeting**

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

**1.5 Confirmation of Circular Resolutions**

There were no circular resolutions to confirm.

**1.6 Business Arising/Action Item Updates**

There were no business arising/action item updates.

**2. MATTERS FOR DECISION**

There were no matters for decision

**3. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

### **3.1 COVID-19 Update**

The Director commenced the COVID 19 presentation acknowledging the work of the staff and club office-bearers in managing the initial shutdown of all programs and facilities and then the transition to providing services remotely. The focus is now on four key areas:

- the provision of online exercise programs and advice for the University community to stay active at home;
- student athlete support;
- support for vulnerable student groups;
- and support for sporting clubs and office bearers.

This has resulted in an increased use of email and other online platforms to ensure that the University community is engaged. The Board were presented with the redesigned COVID 19 webpages and the University's online Campus Community Hub.

The Director provided an overview of the immediate financial impact of the COVID-19 situation and a more detailed report will be provided once the campus has reopened and a more accurate assessment can be made.

The University's return to campus will be phased cautiously and will involve modifying programs and services to accommodate federal and state government restrictions. MU Sport has developed a Framework for the Resumption of Sport for clubs that includes the relevant sporting association guidelines for managing activities.

Ms McKay indicated that the College Heads were keen on sport returning early in semester 2. The Director outlined that initially programs and services will be modified to meet the guidelines and Mr Marburg suggested that programs need to be scalable should restrictions be reintroduced.

Professor Krause commented that the University has embedded elements of scalability in the various stages of the plan and this could be considered in our planning. Professor Biddulph commended the quality of the on-line content and recommended that this continue to be provided.

#### **Resolution**

*The Board noted the Director's COVID-19 update*

### **3.2 2019 Review**

The Director presented the 2019 Annual Review containing the highlights and important strategic developments from the previous year. The number of students and staff involved in our programs and services continued to grow last year with over 24,000 students making close to 700,000 visits. This growth is largely due to the continued increase of targeted programs and a significant increase in students accessing the gym from the largest colleges, Trinity and Ormond. Data from the 2019 UniSport Australia national survey rank us 2<sup>nd</sup> in total student visits across the Go8 and first in total sporting club members across all 43 participating universities. Professor Krause expressed an interest in understanding the various student cohorts and asked if this data could be provided. The Director outlined that we were now collecting student numbers for the majority of participants and this could be used to determine more accurate cohort data. This would be provided at the next meeting.

The Director announced that student athletes Catriona Bisset and Jaryd Clifford will be awarded the Female Student Athlete of the Year and Most Outstanding Performance by a Student Athlete with a Disability respectively at the UniSport Australia AGM this afternoon.

The organisation also announced Australia's largest single university sporting scholarship, the Peter Jopling Rowing Opportunity Scholarship.

In 2019, MU Sport was announced as the joint National Winner of the Pride in Sport Index, recognizing our efforts in creating a safe and welcoming sporting environment. The Strong Women program was also launched including a mentoring program matching student-athletes with female leaders in the University community.

The Chair asked whether the organisation had any urgent maintenance requirements given the University's likely future financial position. The Director outlined that no urgent maintenance is required, however, it was likely that capital projects were less likely to be funded in the short-term future.

The Director concluded by thanking the staff, volunteers, sporting clubs and the Board on a successful 2019.

#### **Resolution**

*The Board noted the 2019 Annual Review*

#### **Action**

*To provide adjusted and segmented participation data to the Board.*

### **3. MATTERS FOR NOTING**

#### **4.1 Director's Report**

The Director presented the Director's Report. The Chair enquired how the organisation is keeping staff engaged as they are working remotely. The Director outlined that staff with significant operational roles have been allocated into various project groups to progress outstanding strategic tasks in addition to the considerable work already being undertaken in planning for the return to campus.

Mr Ingle commended the work of the organisation in supporting student athletes, however there is an ongoing opportunity to reach a larger number of students generally. This was echoed by Ms Traill who also supported the student co-design project currently being undertaken by the University in relation to the return to campus planning. Professor Krause referenced the project group and noted that there is a mix of feedback being provided by students.

#### **Resolution**

*The Board noted the Director's Report.*

#### **4.2 Finance Report**

Mr Garlick presented the finance report. The Chair asked whether there was any progress on an issue in regards to the funds currently held externally to the University. Mr Garlick outlined that no progress has been made as a result of the Clubs Forum being postponed.

Ms Lawlor asked how funds are being provisioned for the return to campus and Professor Biddulph asked whether forecasting for 2021 has been undertaken considering the COVID-19 impact. Mr Garlick explained that our 2021 position would be dependent on the recovery of the international student market.

The Chair made special mention of the donations received for the Peter Jopling Scholarship and Boat, Athletics and Rugby clubs. Unfortunately, the COVID impact may affect the number of donations received this year. Professor Krause commented that despite this, there is an opportunity to identify donors through Advancement who are willing to give due to the tough time faced by community members.

**Resolution**

*The Board noted the Finance report.*

5. **OTHER BUSINESS** – None

6. **MEETING FINALISATION**

6.1 **Meeting Close**

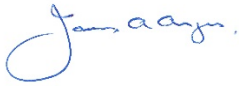
The meeting closed at 11:30am.

6.2 **Next Meeting**

Next meeting on Thursday 25 June at 9:30am – 11:00am.

7. **IN CAMERA SESSION**

Signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record:



6 July 2020

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**Chair Professor James Angus**

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**Date**

