

*The University of Melbourne  
School of Behavioural Science*

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 01/06  
Tuesday 21 February 2006**

**Present:** M. Ainley, R. Bell, J. Boldero, M. Chandrakumar, C. Davis, P. Dudgeon, N. Haslam, V. Holmes, H. Jackson, A. Korajkic, P. Murray, P. Pattison, G. Robins, B. Rohrmann, D. Rawlings, I. Taylor, J. Trinder and A. Wearing

**Minutes:** Asmira Korajkic

Henry Jackson welcomed everyone and read apologies.

**A.1 Apologies:** V. Anderson, B. Reeve and N. Rushford.

**A.2 Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the previous School Committee meeting were confirmed. It was noted that no minutes are available on the shared drive (except for the School Committee ones) since mid last year.

*Action: Update the minutes on the shared drive*

**A.3 Starring of Additional Agenda Items**

Item C.2 VC's *Growing Esteem* document was starred for Richard Bell to report back. An update on ICRC was requested by Garry Robins.

**A.4 Matters arising from the minutes**

No matters were raised that weren't addressed elsewhere in the agenda.

**B General Business**

There was nothing to report under this item.

**C Report from the Head**

**C.1 Planning Days**

Henry Jackson informed staff that the Planning Days were well attended. Henry briefly reported on the days' structure. The first day comprised of Henry's overview, then budget and quality of teaching and learning and structuring courses in the light of the *Growing Esteem*. The second day was devoted to research, with Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor John McKenzie, giving a talk. On the research front the focus was on the department's ranking - whether we make it to the top three? Staff were advised that the notes were taken from the group discussions

and will be typed up and distributed in due course. Staff were reminded that the Operational and Strategic Plans will be revisited.

Henry also informed staff that the Faculty Planning Day was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> February. The focus of this meeting was again the VCs document. Reportedly, there is a lot of angst in the Faculty; with some schools clearly at greater risk than others. It was noted that the 4 years honors degree has been supported by the Dean.

## **C.2 VC's document – Growing Esteem**

It was suggested that in order to assess the impact of changes to courses offered by Arts and Science as a result of *Growing Esteem* a meeting needs to be set up with dean's representative of the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Arts.

Richard Bell reported on the Curriculum Commission's activities emphasising that our department has far stronger prerequisites than it's been envisaged. It was noted that Steven Harrop, the Faculty representative on the Curriculum Commission, is working on the Faculty's response document with Associate Professor Sue Elliott. It was suggested it would be good to have our departmental representative in the Faculty task forces.

## **C.3 Grants**

Henry Jackson emphasised that we were commended at two Faculty meetings for our grants success rate. Staff were reminded that the Department did very well in ARC Discovery grants, but less well in ARC Linkage grants. It was also noted that the Department had been less successful with NH&MRC grants. Henry wished for staff to maintain the success rate on discovery grants and to try harder on non competitive grants. It was also reported that Jason Mattingley's initiative for the staff to provide an expression of interest, when intending to submit an application, didn't get a great response.

## **\*C.4 AUQA**

Henry suggested that staff read and become familiar with the Australian University Quality Agency report on The University of Melbourne.

## **C.5 ICRC update**

Henry informed staff that there was not a strong business case for keeping the ICRC going. Although there was a possibility of the ICRC being re-established as University wide centre, the Law School representatives, Professor Michael Crommelin and Associate Professor Camille Cameron do not see it happening as it may raise an issue of competitiveness within their own school. The Faculty is very aware of the Researchers for Asylum Seekers formation within our department and are clearly very supportive of it.

**D**     **Executive Committee**

**\*D.1**   **Assoc Prof IO Psychology – Progress report**

Henry reported that three candidates have applied for the position and the reference checking was underway. The interviews will be conducted on Friday, 17 February.

**D.2**     **External Relations Manager position**

It was also reported that five people have been short listed to be interviewed for the External Relations Manager position.

**E**       **Environmental Health and Safety**

There was nothing to report.

**F**       **Any Other Business**

With nothing further to discuss, the meeting closed at 3.10pm.