

University of Tasmania
FACULTY OF BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES

Meeting 1/2008 of the Faculty of Business Advisory Board was held at the Australian Innovation Research Centre, 33 Salamanca Place, Hobart on Thursday 27 March commencing at 5.30pm

PRESENT

Mr. Mike Blake – Tasmanian Auditor General (Chair – elect)
Professor Gary O’Donovan – Dean, Faculty of Business, University of Tasmania
Mr. Stephen Porter - Director of Searson Buck
Mr. Chris Lock - Director, Economic Policy - Department of Treasury and Finance
Ms. Jayne Wilson - Director, Wilson Management & Administration
Professor Victoria Wise - Head, School of Accounting and Corporate Governance
Dr. Sarah Jennings - Head, School of Economics and Finance
Dr. Martin Grimmer - Head, School of Management
Mr. Craig French, Business Manager, Faculty of Business
Dr. John Byrom, Associate Dean, Launceston and Cradle Coast Campuses, Faculty of Business,

In attendance

Ms. Tania Fothergill as secretary

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Dean, Professor Gary O’Donovan welcomed the Board and advised that he wishes to achieve a geographic and gender balance on the Board.

Professor O’Donovan advised that Mr Mike Blake had agreed to be the Chair of the Board.

2. Apologies

Ms. Angelique Klasan - IBM Consulting Services

Ms. Jo Archer - Launceston Engagement and Development Manager, University of Tasmania

3. Terms of Reference

Draft Terms of Reference for the Board were circulated prior to meeting. Comments, suggestions and input were requested from the Board as to the suitability of the ToR. In response to member questions, Professor O’Donovan advised that the Board would be responsive to member suggestions and advice and that it was primarily designed to feed information regarding course advice, market needs and demands back to the Faculty so that the Faculty could continue to strengthen its reputation and quality. Professor O’Donovan advised that work for the Board

would come from the Faculty, for example via formal University processes such as School and Course Reviews that the Faculty would seek Board participation in, but in addition members should also bring issues and ideas to the Board for discussion and development so that the Faculty could make use of the combined expertise of Board members.

The Board agreed that re-ranking of the terms of reference was needed to better reflect the core business of the Board and that a mechanism of reporting outcomes should be included so that the achievements of the Board could be monitored. Other amendments to the ToR included:

- A travel allowance to be provided to members who travel from other areas of the state
- A change to the secretariat name
- The rename of the committee to Course Advisory Board (the minutes have been altered to reflect this change).
- The Board quorum to include “or nominee” for the Dean and the Chair, and to include “not less than half of the external members.”

It was agreed that at least 3 meetings a year should be held.

ACTION

1. Suggestions / amendments for the ToR should be submitted to Gary O’Donovan via the Secretary as soon as possible.
2. The Secretary to liaise with chair regarding the setting of the next meeting date

4. Dean’s report

Professor Gary O’Donovan reported on the University’s strategic plan, EDGE Agenda 2, as the basis of future developments for the University and the Faculty. Whereas previously the University had a priority of growth, under EDGE 2 the emphasis had shifted to the qualities of excellence and distinctiveness. Achieving and improving these qualities would therefore inform much of the Board’s work in relation to the Faculty.

Professor O’Donovan advised the Board of future activities and issues that would be of interest and importance to the Board, particularly in terms of involvement and advice. These included the upcoming School and Course Reviews, the Tasmania Tomorrow Pathway program recently introduced by the State government as a way to segue secondary education into university courses and the Faculty Corporate Internship program which the Faculty would like to extend to post graduate students. Professor O’Donovan also advised of an increasing emphasis being placed on distance and flexible learning in response to market demands and the need for more workplace based internship opportunities.

Professor O’Donovan provided a summary of Faculty enrolment and load figures and brief outline of how the Faculty is funded.

ACTION

Professor O'Donovan to provide a written report to elaborate on particular elements of his report, in particular enrolment loads and student figures, changes since the last Faculty Review in 2003, recent developments and achievements in the Faculty and future opportunities and issues that Faculty will face.

5. Appointment of Chair

Mike Blake, Tasmania Auditor General, agreed to be the Chair of the Board

6. Other Business

In his role as Tasmanian President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Mike Blake would circulate to the Board a proposal to deal with the recruitment of post graduate students. Such a proposal could be broadened to encompass the engineering and IT industries.

7. Next Meeting

The Secretary will liaise with Board members to determine a suitable date in approximately three months time.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm