Notes of Meeting 1/2007 of the International Committee that was held on Monday, 19 March, 2007 in the Conference Room, level 8, Raymond Priestley Building, commencing at 9.30am.

Present
Professor Frank Larkins, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) (Chair)
Professor Richard Roush, Dean of Land and Food Resources
Professor Glenn Browning, Acting Dean of Veterinary Science
Professor Geoffrey Stevens, Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
Associate Professor Bill Harley, Associate Dean International, Economics and Commerce (for Dean of Economics and Commerce)
Mr Bruce Bayley, Vice-Principal (International Development)
Dr Richard Frampton, General Manager, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences
Ms Kathe Kirby, Deputy Director, Asialink (for Director)
Ms Jennifer Mann, General Manager, Office of the Senior Vice-Principal
Ms Sally Beattie, President, University of Melbourne Postgraduate Association

Apologies
Professor Margaret Abernethy, Dean of Economics and Commerce
Professor Warren Bebbington, Pro Vice Chancellor (University Relations)
Mr Ian Marshman, Senior Vice-Principal
Ms Jenny McGregor, Director, Asialink
Mr Hubert Fong, President, Melbourne University Overseas Students Service

Invitation
Ms Chris Fyfe, Manager International Office Network – for item 6c at 10.00am

In attendance
Associate Professor Jane Munro, Head of International House
Ms Karen Barker, Office of Deputy Vice Chancellor (International)
Dr Carolyn O’Brien, International Relations Office
Ms Elizabeth O’Keefe, International Relations Office

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed new members of the Committee – Professor Richard Roush, Dean of Land and Food Resources, Professor Glen Browning, Acting Dean of Veterinary Science, and Ms Sally Beattie, President of the University of Melbourne Postgraduate Association. Associate Professor Bill Harley, Faculty of Economics and Commerce, was welcomed as the representative of the Dean of Economics and Commerce.

2. Starring of Items

It was agreed that all items with the exception of items 5.1, 5.2, 7.3 and 8 be starred for discussion. Papers relating to these items were received.

3. Notes of Previous Meetings

3.1 The notes of meeting 4/2006 of the International Committee, held on Tuesday, 24 October, 2006 were accepted as an accurate record.

4. Actions arising from previous meeting

4.1 The Committee noted the action sheet arising from Meeting 4/2006
5. **Report to Planning and Budget Committee**

5.1 The Committee received a copy of the report submitted by the International Committee to the November, 2006 Planning and Budget Committee meeting, following its meeting in October.

5.2 The Committee received a copy of the report submitted by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) to the March, 2007 Planning and Budget Committee meeting. This provided preliminary advice about the proposed establishment of the Australia India Institute at the University of Melbourne.

6. **Policy Discussion Items**

6.1 **International Plan Implementation**

The Chair advised the International Committee that Council, at its meeting in December, had approved the International Plan.

He referred the Committee to the document, *International Plan – Implementation*, which provided an update on action taken during 2007 to meet each of the targets. The paper would be updated on a continuous basis and brought forward to each meeting of the International Committee.

Comments on specific strategies included:

Strategy 1.4 – it was noted that the sum of $500,000 had been set aside by Planning and Budget Committee as an International Strategic Engagement Fund. The sum of $200,000 would be allocated on the basis of bids submitted through the Associate Deans International of faculties to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International). Professor Larkins agreed to raise this with Associate Deans.

Strategy 2.3 – it was noted that the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) and the Vice-Principal (International Development) planned to meet with the executive of the Melbourne University Overseas Student Service at least once a semester. It was agreed that this meeting should be expanded to include the International Officer from the University of Melbourne Postgraduate Association.

Strategy 2.4 – it was noted that the Vice-Principal (International Development) had commissioned an investigation into student mobility in the context of the proposal to significantly increase the opportunities for students to undertake part of their studies overseas. Mr Bayley advised that the first draft of the report by the consultant, Professor Tony Adams, had been received. As yet, the mode and mechanism for the consideration and dissemination of the report had not been decided.

Strategy 2.6 – Professor Larkins advised that the official opening of the Confucius Institute would take place on 25 June, 2007.

Strategy 3.3 – it was noted that only about 40% of academic staff had filled in the details of their international linkages on the Find an Expert (formerly Themis Researcher Profile). It was important that mechanisms were developed to support faculties in this area. The matter would be raised with Associate Deans International.

In approving the International Plan in December, Council had asked that a report on International Activities be presented to Council twice each year – in May and in December. It was agreed that the progress report on the implementation of the International Plan would provide a valuable guide in preparing this report.

**Action:** Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) – to update the progress report on the International Plan – Implementation
6.2 Australia India Institute

Professor Larkins referred the Committee to the project proposal to establish an Australia India Institute at the University of Melbourne to undertake policy studies, research and postgraduate training. Planning and Budget Committee had given in principle support to the proposal at its March meeting.

Discussions had been held with the Commonwealth and State Governments, and there was enthusiastic support for the proposal. Discussions had also been held with the Australia India Business Council. The initial task would be to identify potential sources of funding for the Institute. This was critical, as the establishment of the Institute would only go ahead if sufficient funding was available to ensure the operation of its core programs over at least a ten year period.

As yet, the mode of operation for the Institute had not been determined. Some parties favoured a stand alone model while others preferred a ‘hub and spoke’ model akin to the structure of the Melbourne Water Research Centre.

6.3 Operation of Offshore Offices

Ms Fyfe briefed the Committee on the establishment of University of Melbourne Offices in Kuala Lumpur, Singapore and Bangalore. The Offices in Malaysia and Singapore were already in operation while the office in Bangalore would commence operations on 2 April, 2007.

The existing offices in Thailand and Indonesia had been incorporated within the Offshore Offices Network, and would now be covered under the new arrangements for the management of offshore offices.

In response to a query about the basis for the selection of the offices, Professor Larkins advised that the rationale to establish an office varied across each office. Malaysia and Singapore, for example, were both major sources of students, the home to large numbers of alumni, and the locations for several key relationships – with government, universities, industry and research bodies.

Suggestions had been made about the future establishment of offices in Shanghai, Hong Kong, London, and the United States – San Francisco, Chicago and New York – possibly in conjunction with Victorian Government Offices. A submission would need to be referred to the annual planning meeting of the Planning and Budget Committee, if the University was to expand its network of offshore offices.

Action : Deputy Vice-chancellor (International) and Vice-Principal (International Development) to prepare a report and paper for Planning and Budget Committee on the possible establishment of additional offshore offices in 2008.

7. Reports

7.1 Report from Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International)

a) Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU)

Professor Larkins reported on the recent senior staff meeting of the APRU held at the National University of Taiwan from 11 to 13 March, 2007. A report would be circulated to the Committee.

b) Malaysian Split PhD Program

The Committee noted that the agreement to establish the Split PhD program between the University of Melbourne and the Malaysian Government was subject to Cabinet approval by the Malaysian Government.
c) Regional Strategy Groups

(c-1) Middle East Strategy Group

The Committee received the report from the first meeting of the Middle East Strategy Group held on 15 February, 2007.

(c-2) Asia Strategy Group

The Committee received the report of the first meeting of the Asia Strategy Group noting that the Vice-Chancellor had written to the Director of the Asia Institute, Professor Abdullah Saeed, regarding the development of a new strategic plan to guide the development of Asian Studies at the University of Melbourne.

d) International Research Collaboration Advisors

The Committee noted that the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) had recently recommended the appointment of the first International Research Collaboration Advisors. They would play a role in advising and supporting the Research Office and the International Relations Office.

7.2 Report from Vice-Principal (International Development)

a) International Strategy and Coordination Advisory Group (ISCAG)

The Committee received a report from ISCAG, focusing on its discussions about sponsorship and scholarships, market research, international application to offer turn around times, and student mobility.

b) Update Report on the International Shared Services Review

The Committee received the report summarising action taken by the International Division in response to the International Shared Services Review Recommendations of 2006.

c) 2007 Student Enrolment Data : International Students

Mr Bayley reported that in 2007 there had been an increase in the commencing load for postgraduate students, a slight decline in undergraduate, while the numbers of commencing students in the postgraduate research area had declined by about 20%. Taking into account the pipeline, there had been a slight increase in the overall load of international students.

7.3 Report from the Pro Vice-Chancellor (University Relations)

In the absence of Professor Bebbington, a report was not presented to the Committee.

7.4 Report from Manager International Relations


The Committee noted that the review of this statement had been deferred pending the report of the review on student mobility.

b) Establishment and Renewal of Bilateral Linkages

The Committee considered the proposals to establish new university level and faculty level linkages with academic cooperation and exchange and recommended as follows:

- That the University establish a linkage for academic cooperation with Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil; that the proposal be referred to the Academic Board and Council
for approval; and that the International Relations Office, upon completion of the approval process, negotiate the terms of the agreement between the two universities.

- That the University establish a linkage for academic cooperation with Universidad de Los Andes, Colombia; that the proposal be referred to the Academic Board and Council for approval; and that the International Relations Office, upon completion of the approval process, negotiate the terms of the agreement between the two universities.

- That the University, through the Faculty of Arts, establish a linkage for academic cooperation and student exchange with the Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, Italy, and that the International Relations Office negotiate the terms of the agreement between the two universities.

- That the University, through the Faculty of Veterinary Science, establish a linkage for academic cooperation and student exchange with the Ecole Nationale Vétérinaire de Toulouse, France, and that the International Relations Office negotiate the terms of the agreement between the two universities.

The Committee referred to proposals to renew several university level and faculty level linkages for academic cooperation and exchange and recommended the continuation of the following linkages for a further period of five years:

University level – with
- Seoul National University, Korea (member of APRU)
- University of California, United States (member of APRU)

Faculty level – with
- Faculty of Economics and Commerce: Washington University, St. Louis – John M Olin School of Business.
- Faculty of Economics and Commerce: University of Southern California – Marshall School of Business (member of APRU).
- Faculty of Engineering: University College London.
- Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry, and Health Sciences / Bio21: Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia
- Faculty of Music - National Music Therapy Research Unit (NaMTRU): Aalborg University - Research School in Music Therapy.

The Committee noted that further advice was awaited from the Faculty of Architecture Building and Planning about the future of the linkage with the Ecole d'architecture et de paysage de Bordeaux. This would be referred to the next meeting of the Committee.

Action: International Relations Office to take action to establish and to continue the above linkages, as recommended by the Committee.

7.5 Report from Senior Vice-Principal

a) Universitas 21

Ms Mann tabled a paper summarising the recent activities of Universitas 21, noting that the 2007 Annual General Meeting would be held at McGill University in Montreal from 18-20 April. The University would be represented by the Vice-Chancellor and the Senior Vice-Principal.
8. **For information**

The Committee received the copies of the following newsletters for information:

- International Highlights and Happenings Newsletter 1/2007
- International Relations Office : Update 1/2007
- Offshore Offices Newsletters – Volume 1 and Volume 2, 2007

9. **Any Other Business**

Professor Larkins, on behalf of the Committee, thanked Ms O’Keefe and Mr Bayley for their contribution to the international activities of the University. Both would be leaving the University at the end of April.

10. **Meeting Arrangements**

The next meeting of the International Committee will be held on Tuesday, 8 May commencing at 9.30am in the level 7 Conference Room, Raymond Priestley Building.

The meeting closed at 11.00am

As at 22 March, 2007